

# SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

Newsletter September 2020

## Fáilte romhaibh ar ais!

We were delighted to welcome the children back to school on 26th August. A big welcome to our new pupils:



**Junior Infants:** *Lorcan Browne, Isabelle Byrne, Grace Clarke, Micheál Corrigan, Aoibhe Cumiskey, Éabha Donnelly, Eimear Gorman, Rachel Hynes, Shea Kelleher, Joe Laverty, Danann Lynch, Callie Mackin, Hollie McArdle, Esther McConville, Harley McConville, Dylan McCreesh, Eli McEneaney, Oscar McGowan, Donncha McKenna, Marie Mulholland, Brianne Mulligan, Samuele Pasta, Kiera May Rafferty, Alyssa Ryder, Sarah Short, Anayah Smyth, Daimhin Stacey, Harry Trimble*

**5th Class:** *Ronan McGeown*

**6th Class:** *Patrick McGeown*

## Teaching Staff 2020-21

Principal—Mrs Kirby

Deputy Principal—Ms Fahy

Assistant Principal II—Mrs Donnelly

Assistant Principal II—Mrs Kelly

6th Class—Ms Condon

5th Class—Mrs Kelly

4th Class—Mrs Halpin

3rd Class—Mr Loughran

2nd Class—Mrs Cumiskey

1st Class—Ms O'Hanrahan

Senior Infants—Mrs Curran-Butler

Junior Infants—Ms Tansey

SET—Mrs Donnelly, Ms Fahy, Mrs Johnston

Inclusion Support Assistants —Mrs Cath Turnbull, Mrs Sarah Mulligan

School Chaplain: Fr Brian MacRaois

## Message from Mrs Kirby

Due to Covid-19, health is top of everyone's priority list. While it is accepted that good school attendance is linked to pupil progress, we must make exceptions this year. We thank you all for erring on the side of caution; keeping children at home who are unwell, getting advice from your GP when the symptoms are on the Covid-19 list, and observing HSE guidelines around isolation etc. This will mean that our monthly attendance figures will be lower than previous years. However, if we manage to keep our classes and school open, and keep each other well, it will be worth it.

Please keep letting us know details of absences via phonecall/email/filling in the form on our website under Covid-19 <https://www.kilkerleyns.com/covid-19.html>

We appreciate your cooperation and support on this matter.

Le dea ghuí,

Donna Kirby



## Graduation 6th Class 2020



On Wednesday 2nd January, we were delighted to be able to hold a graduation ceremony for our 6th class of 2020.

Fr Brian, our school chaplain, opened the evening with a warm welcome to all present. A short prayer service was held, followed by a reflection read by Ms Condon and speeches by Mary Gilmore, mother of Eve, and Mrs Kirby. Gold and silver medals were awarded for attendance, with a special award reserved for Eve Gilmore in acknowledgement of an outstanding 8 years of perfect attendance at Scoil Mhuire gan Smál!

Graduation certificates and copies of 'I Believe' were presented to each pupil, along with a DVD kindly donated by Brian Donnelly, which captured key moments in the pupils' journey from Junior Infants to 6<sup>th</sup> Class. This was viewed to much delight of all present and will be treasured for years to come.

Finally, thank you to Adrian Conlon, father of Robbie, who donated the services of 'The Brew Crew' while the pupils enjoyed an ice cream and a final play in the playground as the 6<sup>th</sup> Class of 2020.

Go n-éirí an bóthar libh a pháistí!

## Enrolments

From 1st October, we will be taking enrolments for Junior Infants 2021-22. Please see our website <https://www.kilkerleyns.com/enrolment.html> for details of our Admissions Notice and Policy.

## GAA/Tennis



3rd-6th Class have been keeping up with their GAA skills with Louth GAA coach Craig Lynch. Thank you to Kilkerry Emmets G.F.C. for offering us the use of their pitches.



1st-4th Class children are enjoying tennis lessons with coach Gary Rodriguez. Junior and Senior Infants and 5th/6th class will have tennis lessons in the summer term.

## 5th Class Roche Castle

Mrs Kelly, Ms Catherine and the children in Rang 5 recently visited Roche Castle. Mrs Kelly helped the children to explore all of the different parts of the castle and they learned lots about our local history. They carried out some map work in small groups, and had a role play with the O'Neills and the Normans going head to head defending their lands!



## First Holy Communion

On Wednesday 16th September, the pupils of 3rd class celebrated the Sacrament of First Penance. It was a lovely, reverent ceremony, and we thank Fr. Brian and Fr. Gerry for helping the children prepare.

The sun shone as the long awaited celebration of First Holy Communion was held on 25th September. Fr Brian MacRaois, our school chaplain, was chief celebrant at the beautiful ceremony, with Fr Gerry Campbell, our Parish Priest, as concelebrant.

Due to covid restrictions, immediate family only were allowed in the church, while grandparents and other family members watched online at <https://www.churchmedia.tv/camera/church-of-the-immaculate-conception-kilkerry>

A huge thank you to Mrs Cumiskey and Mr Loughran for all of the hard work in preparing the children for both sacraments. Thank you also for the wonderful music which was provided by Susan Mulholland, organist, and Mrs Donnelly, Mr Loughran and Ms Fahy. , and to the 12 pupils who volunteered and sang so beautifully in the choir.

And finally, thank you to our hardworking PA who organised outdoor refreshments provided by the Brew Crew in the Community Centre car park following the ceremony. Congratulations to the boys and girls of 3rd class!



## Cash 4 Clothes

We are running a clothing recycling drive to raise funds for the school. Please leave clean, dry, re-wearable items of clothing, towels, and bed linen (no pillows or duvets please) in the Community Center foyer before Thursday 1st October, 9:30am. Thank you for your support.

## Jersey Day



Thank you to all who supported the Kilkerry PA Jersey Day on Thursday 24th September. The children enjoyed the chance to wear football jerseys or Kilkerry colours in support of Kilkerry Emmets who were runners-up in the Intermediate Final.

Here's to next year!

## New Faces

We welcome **Aoife Copas** and **Luke Savage** to our staff.

Aoife and Luke are final year students in DKIT and will be working with us here in Scoil Mhuire gan Smál and hopefully gaining lots of experience. We thank them for sharing their skills with us.

## School Photos



Please note that **Brian Donnelly** will be taking school photographs on **Monday 5th October**.

These will be available for purchase, if desired, at a later date.

## Morning Procedures

A reminder that our school yard is supervised from **9:10-9:20am** each morning before school.

Please do not drop off your child before then.

## Parent Teacher Meetings

We are awaiting guidance from Department of Education and Skills on the scheduling of Parent Teacher Meetings for this academic year.

## Mid-term Dates

The school will be closed from **Monday 26th—Friday 30th October** for mid-term break.

