

SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

Newsletter October 2020

Enrolment 2021

We are now accepting applications for admission for **Junior Infants 2021**.

Please see the school website www.kilkerleyns.com/enrolment.html for details.



Standardised Tests

All primary schools have been advised by the DES that no standardised testing is to take place until after Easter 2021.

Trick or Treat for Temple St

As usual, our school is supporting Trick or Treat for Temple Street on Friday 23rd October. Donations of €2 per child are requested, with all funds going to Temple Street Children's Hospital.



New Faces

We welcome **Ms Cora Ryan** who will take over from Mrs Curran-Butler as the Senior Infant teacher for this school year. We welcome **Ms Eilis Kilkenny** and **Ms Tara Duffy** from St Patricks/DCU who will work with us this term.

Reminder

Please ensure that you inform the school of any changes to your contact details, i.e. phone number, email or home address. You can keep up to date with school activities on

- the closed Facebook group: Kilkerley National School Parents Association and
- the private Twitter feed [@KilkerleySchool](https://twitter.com/KilkerleySchool)



COVID-19

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Well done to everyone on helping us get safely through our first half term.

We fully expect to return to school on Monday 2nd of November, and be assured we have heard nothing to the contrary from the Dept. of Education.

However, we still feel that it is better to be prepared for all eventualities, and so have decided to send home school books/packs with each child. In the event of a pod/class/school closure, work will be sent to your child through the Seesaw app on a regular basis as per the last closure.

It is our genuine hope and expectation that our preparations are unnecessary and that the children will simply return the books/packs to school when we re-open on November 2nd. Additionally, we do not expect any schoolwork to be done over the Halloween break.

Staying open requires the co-operation of all members of our school community in dealing with the current situation effectively and safely. We ask you to continue working with us, taking every possible step to prevent the spread of the virus over the coming winter months.

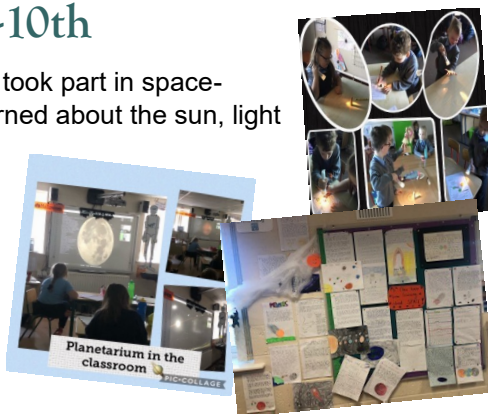
Le dea-ghuí,

Donna Kirby

Space Week Oct 4th-10th

To mark Space Week, all classes took part in space-based activities. The children learned about the sun, light and shadows, space flight, astronaut spacesuits and much more!

Mrs Kelly's 5th class even held a planetarium-style observatory show delivered by an astronomer in Blackrock Observatory in Cork.



Maths Week Oct 10th-18th

Lots of fun maths activities were happening all over the school to mark Maths Week. The children, from Junior Infants to 6th Class, worked on patterns and puzzles, maths trails, maths collages and problem-solving.



Halloween Concert

Junior and Senior Infants have been very busy getting ready for their annual Halloween Concert. Well done boys and girls, the results of all their hard work is amazing! And a big thank you to their teachers **Ms Tansey** and **Mrs Curran-Butler**. Due to the current Level 5 restrictions, we are unable to host our usual gathering of family members. Instead, we have recorded the children's wonderful performance for you to enjoy.



Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds



GAA coaching continued in October with **Craig Lynch**. Thank you to **Kilkerley Emmets** for the use of their facilities.



Our pupils are continuing to enjoy tennis coaching with **Gary Rodriguez**.



Luke Savage and **Aoife Copas** from DKIT are keeping our pupils very active with soccer leagues at lunch time and P.E. activities throughout the day.

We'll all be as fit as fiddles!

Musical Ensemble



Mrs Kelly's musical ensemble is back in action, and will be working hard learning new pieces over the coming weeks. We are lucky to have the use of the Community Centre Hall to enable us to practice with appropriate social distancing. In light of the current restrictions, only 5th and 6th class musicians will have the opportunity to participate in ensemble this year.

If you have a music stand that is no longer in use, and you would like to find a new home for it, we would gladly accept it!

Concern Primary Debates

Well done to our 6th Class Debating Team who recently took part in this year's online version of the Concern Primary Debates Competition. A big thank you to **Ms Condron** for all of your hard work with the team.

They were: **Alanna Conway, Lana Cunningham, Oisín Donnelly, Naoise Harris, Eoin Larkin and Lucy Rosbotham**



Happy Halloween!

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

*Wishing you all a Happy Halloween!
Oíche Shamhna shona daoibh go léir!*



Prayer Service



This month, Fr Brian led a whole-school outdoor Prayer Service, in the absence of a school Mass. Thank you to Fr Brian for facilitating this.

Cash 4 Clothes

Mile buíochas to all who donated clothing to our Cash 4 Clothes collection. There was a fantastic response to this event, and €203 in total was raised which will go towards school funds.



Care Programme Theme: Kindness



Our care programme theme for this month is 'Kindness'. All of the children have been learning about the impact that simple

acts of kindness can have in our school, at home, and in our community.

Jersey Day

Kilkerley PA would like to thank all who donated to last month's Jersey Day.



€370 in total was raised which will go towards PA funds.

Parent Teacher Meetings

We are still awaiting guidance from Department of Education and Skills on the scheduling of Parent Teacher Meetings for this academic year, and will update you as soon as this arrives.

Board of Management

The next Board of Management meeting will take place on **Tuesday 3rd November**.