SCOIL MHUIRE GAN SMÁL, CILL CHOIRLE

Newsletter October 2024

Do This In Memory

Our Do This in Memory programme began this month with an information meeting for parents of children in 2nd class. Do This in Memory is a parish preparation programme for children preparing to celebrate First Communion.

The programme continues with an Enrolment Ceremony in November. We wish the children every blessing as they prepare to celebrate First Holy Communion next May.

Thank you to Fr Brian our school chaplain, and to our Do This In Memory team of Paula Mulholland, Sarah McGeough, Catherine Wallace, Lisa Carragher, Emma Mohan, Maureen Holland, Dorothy McMahon, Rachel O'Connor and Leona Kirk.

Enrolments 2025

Our Annual Admissions Notice has been published on our website, and we are now accepting applications for admission to Junior Infants 25-26.

Office Hours

Our **school office hours** are **9.30am to 3pm daily**. Telephone calls may not be answered outside of these times. You can send an email to secretary@kilkerleyns.ie (Ciara) *or* office@kilkerleyns.ie (Mrs Kirby)

Message from Mrs Kirby

Halloween fever has been gathering momentum this month and will no doubt reach a dizzy height on Friday with our traditional infant Halloween show and Halloween dress up for Temple Street.

October is a great reminder of the changing seasons, of the cyclical nature of existence and the significance of both life and death in our spiritual journey.

Having been blessed with mild weather this October, we now face November, traditionally marking the beginning of winter, as per the Gaelic calendar. Let us hope that November is as kind to us as October has been!

Le dea-ghuí,

Donna Kirby

Sponsored Walk

A huge thank you to all who supported our Annual Sponsored Walk. We are delighted to let you know that over €7,000 was raised this year. The money raised benefits all of the pupils in our school.

All cards returned were entered into our raffle, and the following were the lucky winners:

- €50 Shop Local Voucher: Elizabeth AND Georgia Mohan
- €50 Smyths Voucher Top Collector: April Wallace
- €20 Lucky Sponsor x2: Tim Callaghan, Adam and Ella Holland

New School Instagram Account

As was communicated to parents and guardians this month, we have set up a new Instagram account. As this is a public Instagram account, children will not be identifiable in photographs posted here.

Please follow us on kilkerleyns_ to keep informed!

Wellbeing Corner

Our Infant Prayer Service for the beginning of the school year was held this month. Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st class and 2nd class participated, with Fr Brian, our school chaplain, as celebrant.

Thank you to **Garda Frank** who visited the school this month to raise awareness on fire and road safety at Halloween.

All classes have enjoyed drumming workshops facilitated by Mr Fahy.

Kilkerley Parents Association News

As part of ongoing fundraising efforts for our Garden Room, the PA plan to hold a Bake Sale and Raffle on Friday 6th December. This will be held from 9.30am-3.30pm. Tea and coffee will be available from 9.30-11. Please spread the word to the wider community!

Thank you to Dundalk Credit Union who donated €500 towards this fundraising effort. We are very grateful.

The next meeting of our PA will take place after mid-term. Please come along to show your support.

SKY UP Academy Visit

6th Class recently enjoyed a trip to SKY Ireland Headquarters in Dublin as part of the SKY Up Academy Programme. The children enjoyed a hands-on learning experience, creating their own TV content using SKY production equipment. The pupils learned about the various job opportunities and careers available in the media.

Thank you to Orlaith Kelleher for facilitating this fantastic experience for the children.

Active Schools

1st/2nd and 5th/6th Class have completed 8 weeks of tennis lessons with coach Gary Rodriguez.

Gary will return in the summer term to coach with the Infant classes and 5th and 6th classes.

Space Week and Maths Week

Space Week and Maths Week were celebrated across the school this month, with each class participating in extra space and maths-themed activities.

Cumann na mBunscol

Congratulations to Moya in Rang 6 who will represent our school and county on one of four teams playing for Louth on November 7th in trim. Good luck Moya, we are sure you will do us all proud!

Morning Procedures

A reminder that our yard supervision in the mornings commences at **9:10am-9.20am** for assembly of our pupils.

Our yard supervisors are easily identifiable by their hi-vis jackets. Our SNA staff have a particular awareness of an identified group of pupils who are their responsibility during the day.

On wet mornings, the school building is open for pupils from **9.10am**. The pupils proceed directly to their classrooms on these mornings.

Temple St

As always, our school is supporting Trick or Treat for Temple Street this year. €250 was raised for this worthy cause.

Cash for Clothing

The recent collection raised €155. Thank you for your continued support of our Green Schools Initiatives.

October Attendance

October attendance was 96%.

Spooky Show!

Well done to our Junior and Senior Infants and their teachers Mrs Kelly & Mrs Cumiskey who worked so hard on their Halloween show, presented this week! Boys and girls, you were fantastic!

Dates for your Diary

School will be closed from **Mon 28th Oct to Fri 1st Nov** for the midterm break.

School will be closed on **Mon 11th Nov** to facilitate Primary Maths Curriculum training for our teachers.

Parent-Teacher meetings will be held on **Wed Nov 13th** and **Thurs Nov 14th**. School will close for 1st-6th class at 2.45pm on these days.

Our **Christmas Show** will take place at 6.30pm on **Wed 18th December**.