

ST KILIAN'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

Ní Neart Go Cur le Chéile

Imlitir 5 (Newsletter)

Deireadh Fómhair 2022

School Roll No: 19608V Principal: Rónán Mac Namara Deputy Principal: Breeda Kenny

The Great Homework Debate! We as a school have in recent weeks been evaluating the long term effects Covid lockdowns have had on our pupils' progress at school. One of the issues that has arisen is Homework. As part of our evaluation we would like to get feedback from parents on how important you think homework is and the sorts of challenges it presents in different homes. Please click on and complete the survey below and return to us on or before Friday 28th. Look on it as your homework for Mid-term. Thank you for your help with this.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7BLWHRV>

Parent Teacher Meetings: Parent teacher meetings for 1st to 6th Class will commence on Tuesday 15th Nov. Bookings will go live on Aladdin after mid-term break.

Dates for the Celebration of the Sacraments: Confirmation Fri 3rd March at 6pm in St. Kilian's Church.

First Holy Communion, Saturday 22nd April at 11.00am in St. Kilian's Church.

Closures: We have some upcoming early closures to facilitate staff training for the new Primary Language Curriculum. They are as follows, Friday 2nd December at 12 noon, Wednesday 15th February at 12 noon and Friday 2nd June at 12 noon.

Party Invites: Pupils are not permitted to pass on party invites through the school. This causes too much upset to those who are excluded. Thank you for your understanding.

Growth Mindset Messages: This term we worked on, *I Ask How to Improve.*

I Know I Have to Work Hard to Improve.

Maths Week at St. Kilian's N.S. Maths Week will take place in our school from Monday 7th to Friday 11th November. Events will include daily estimation challenges for all pupils and staff, maths trails for paired classes, class surveys and a Mathathon. Estimation challenges will be read out for junior and senior

classes at 10am every morning. Senior classes will be paired with junior classes for maths trails on Tuesday and Wednesday. Pupils will visit another classroom on Thursday to carry out a data survey. Maths Week will come to a close on Friday during a whole school assembly in the G.P. Room. A live estimation challenge will take place and prizes will be awarded to the daily estimation winners. We can't wait....

Gaeilge Neamh, Bainigí triail as sa bhaile. (Try these out at home)

Téama: Bia (Food)

An maith leat? Is (Ní) maith liom. (Is breá, aoibhinn, fuath)

Taitníonn _____ go mór liom. (I like)

Cén bia is fearr leat? Is fearr liom _____. (My favourite food is _____)

Cé acu ab fhearr leat ____ nó ____? B'fhearr liom _____. (Which would you prefer?)

Línte Gníomhaíochta Gach Lá. Pupils are exercising twice daily for one minute after breaks 'as Gaeilge'.



Our girl's camogie team managed by Mr. Maher took on Knockbride last week and lost by a single score.

Early Release from School: We have at present an unacceptable number of pupils who are regularly collected early from school. This is a problem we experience everyday but it is particularly noticeable on Friday afternoons.

Please be aware that pupils who are collected early from school on a regular basis are often missing the fun, interactive activities associated with the primary school day. These may include Story Time, P.E. and other fitness related activities, Yoga, Thinking Time, Art and Crafts, Drama etc.... Many of these activities enhance wellbeing, self-esteem and fitness. They are particularly important for pupils who may be reluctant to come to school as they create good memories and positive associations.

Pupils with special education needs may also be missing very valuable contact time with support teachers. The lack of consistent support inhibits progress and makes school a more challenging environment. Early leavers inevitably disrupt the smooth running of the classroom. Our school understands that pupils will have to leave early on occasion however we ask parents to help us to run smoothly by keeping early departures to a minimum.

Our Mullagh Girls Show the Meath Girls How it's Done!





Our 6th Class girls went to Eureka in Kells on Friday 14th Oct to take part in a sevens blitz organised by the secondary school. Two teams competed against girls' teams from all over County Meath. They played their hearts out all day and a team ably led and captained by Ava Mahony and Hannah Haigney emerged as the shield cup winners. The teams were managed on the day by Ms. Sheridan, double All Ireland winner and Carnaross stalwart Mr. Mc Niffe.

5th Class - Corr na gClár

Tag rugby. In P.E., we finished our first course of basketball coaching sessions and began tag rugby. It was our first time playing tag rugby. There are lots of rules involved in this game and it was quite difficult to grasp the concept of passing the ball backwards while trying to move forward. Jon Watt from Virginia Rugby Club visited the school today to coach the 5th and 6th class pupils. Everyone had great fun getting involved and learning about a new sport. We're already looking forward to having John back after midterm!

Halloween: We have been learning all about Halloween. We've learned about its history and some traditions associated with it. We're really getting into the Halloween spirit!

We studied narrative writing in English. We wrote our own Halloween stories. We planned, drafted, revised and edited our stories multiple times. When we were finally happy with them we published them on the Chromebooks. We enjoyed creating a spooky atmosphere and reading our stories to the class. They really are spook-tacular!



Using clay, we created Halloween monsters for visual arts. We each designed our own monsters. Once they dried we painted them. As if they weren't scary enough, some of our monsters lost their head or some limbs when they dried!



Learning from the Best! In Senior Infants we feel very lucky to have a chance to learn from two super coaches. We had so much fun practising our tennis with Michael for a full week. We learned lots of new skills and got to play over the nets. We have also been so busy learning from Alarie, a professional basketball player, who visits our school each week. We love learning new tricks with the basketballs and seeing ourselves improving.



Tennis with Michal.

Ms McGovern's 1st and 2nd Class. We have been having a great time in 1st and 2nd Class since our return to school. It is hard to believe that we are almost at our mid-term break. Time definitely flies when you're having fun! Here is a small sample of some of the fun activities we have been doing in Lios Fhlionn.

Games are a fun way for us to consolidate our learning in numeracy and literacy. We really enjoyed playing these in small groups, further developing our literacy and phonics skills and our mental maths strategies.



Anyone for apples?

As part of our learning about Autumn, we investigated the life cycle of an apple. We also experimented with apples during visual arts by doing apple printing. We did a sample print first and then we used our own creativity and imagination to incorporate an apple print into our own pictures. Check them out!



As well as this we did a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activity where we had to work collaboratively within our groups to create a stand using sellotape and straws that would be strong enough to hold the weight of one apple. We had to consider how best to position the straws in order to create the strongest structure. Alas, we concluded that a criss cross design was the best approach. Here are some of the structures we created together. We had great fun!



As part of Maidin na Gaeilge we listened to the story of 'An Tornapa Mór' as Gaeilge. We loved joining in with our teacher and saying the repetitive phrases from the story and adding in our own actions. After this we sequenced the events of the story on our boards.



