

St. Kilian's National School

Ní Neart Go Cur le Chéile

Imlitir 8 (Newsletter)

Mí Eanáir

Closures: Our upcoming closures are as follows:

Monday 5th February Lá Fhéile Bríde, a public holiday.

Thursday 15th + Friday 16th February, Mid-term break.

Friday 8th March, Referendum

Monday 18th March, a Public Holiday, Lá Fhéile Pádraig.

The School Meals Programme aims to provide regular nutritious food to children to help improve their daily diet, to encourage school attendance and extra educational achievement by the children. Our school is now part of this programme and we will appoint a provider next week to supply hot meals to all our pupils from Monday 8th April. Children and parents make food choices on the food provider's app. The app will provide you with a flexible 3-week rotating menu. The menu will ensure a balanced diet, incorporating a variety of tastes and nutritional elements. A wide variety of dietary needs, including Gluten Free, Dairy Free and Vegetarian options will be catered for. Meals will be delivered to the school, heated and distributed to the pupils in their classrooms. Children will receive meals in a compostable container and will have a hard lunchbox. Any unwanted food goes home in the container within the lunch box and the hard lunchbox returns to school daily. This will enable parents to monitor what their children are eating.

Parent Teacher Meetings Parent teacher meetings for the infant classes took place last week. Thank you to all who attended.

Teaching and Learning at Home. **Growth Mindset Message.** For this fortnight we are working on, 'I learn from criticism'. This message is easier said than done! Many of us

bristle at criticism. However we must try to learn from criticism and if we embrace it, it will certainly help us to grow. We must listen to our parents, our teachers and our coaches. It is important to remember that criticism needs to be constructive.

Línte Gníomhaíochta (Active Lines): Balance. Seas ar do chos dheis ar feadh fiche soicind .

Seas ar do chos chlé ar feadh fiche soicind . Trasnaigh do lámhe agus dún do shúile



(Stand on one foot, fold your arms and close your eyes). Try this with your child. See who lasts the longest!

Téama: Ar Scoil

Cén rang ina bhfuil tú? Tá mé i Rang a hAon. (What class?)

Cén seomra ranga ina bhfuil tú? Tá mé i seomra darbh ainm Corr Uí Ruairc. (Name of classroom)

Cad is ainm do do mhúinteoir? Iníon Ní Chonchúir is ainm do mo mhúinteoir. (Name of teacher) Cá dtéann tú ar scoil? Téim go dtí Scoil Naomh Cillín. (Where do you go to school?)

Physical Education. All classes are focusing on Dance this term as per our school policy. Basketball will run again for 5 weeks on Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning on the 8th January. There will be a charge of €2 per week.



Michal our tennis coach will return for Tennis Week from Mon. 22nd Jan. There will be a €5 charge per family.

RSE. SPHE January 2024.

We are currently in Year 2 of our SPHE cycle. In January most classes will cover the Strand Units Growing & Changing and Taking Care of My Body to fulfill the content objectives of the sensitive areas of RSE. Please see our website, <https://stkiliansnsmullagh.ie> under the Curriculum heading for further information.

4th Classes did the problem below this week, however it is not just for 4th. Read the problem with your child and talk about how it might be done. Is there more than one possible answer? Encourage your child to discuss the different ways of doing it. Take your time.

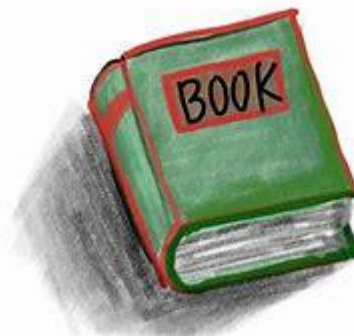
Growth Mindset and Problem Solving. 4th Class

I'm brilliant at this!

Growth Mindset: I embrace challenge. Think about what this message means before you read the problem.



160 Pages



144 Pages

Which would you rather, read 30 pages twice a week in a book with 160 pages or read 12 pages every night in a book with 144 pages?

Growth Mindset Box. Show your strategy in the box below. [Work it out.](#)

Write your answer.

Punctuality Week. Oh No, We're Late for School! Pupils should be through the front gate by 8.50am and sitting at their tables by 8.55am.



Pupils arriving late will receive a reminder card next week.

School Photographs. The school photographer will be here on **Wednesday 7th February**. There will be no obligation to buy, just bring your smile as always.

Christmas Jumper Day Dec '23.



B.OM. Summary Report to Parents. Our board met on Tuesday 16th January. These are some of the items discussed.

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| Safety Audit | A Planned Safety Audit to be carried out by Paul Gilsenan and the caretaker, with a subsequent unplanned audit to follow. A date will be arranged in the coming days. |
| Referendum | The Returning Officer requested the use of the building for a referendum on Friday March 8th. This was sanctioned by BOM. Angela working on day and energy costs will be covered. |
| Enrolments 24/25 | Enrolments for Sept. '24 were finalised. Parents will be notified next week as per policy. |

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| Hot Meals Scheme | Our school applied for this scheme and was accepted. The tendering process is now complete and a supplier has been chosen. The principal will furnish staff and parents with the relevant details. |
| Monday 8th Jan. | We experienced treacherous conditions due to overnight rain which subsequently froze. We have reviewed procedures in the event of a re-occurrence. |
| Whole School Evaluation | We expect to have a written report next week. This will be shared. |
| School Ethos | <p>i) November - Remembrance Trees and a Rem. Ceremony, Be Still and Know That I am Near were held in the Church.</p> <p>ii) December - 2 nativity scenes constructed in the school. Advent trees decorated. Christmas ceremony in the Church which was very well supported by the parents. Carol services and nativities from different classes.</p> <p>iii) Sacraments - dates set and communicated to parents.</p> <p>iv) Catholic Schools Week. We will celebrate this during the first week of Feb.</p> <p>Thanks to Fr Paul and Ms. Traynor for coordinating.</p> |
| Attendance | Progress Report. Progress is slow but moving in the right direction. Improved by approx 2% from last year. |

Toy Show and Tell in Junior Infants (Ms. King).

The month of January is a firm favourite amongst our youngest students as we explore all things toys! No better way to ease us back into school life in January, than the opportunity to bring our favourite toys from home to share with our friends.....



"My name is Emerson and my favourite toy is my projector pokemon watch. We have to turn the lights off and then it projects pokemon onto the ground"



It was interesting to see the popularity of the classic, timeless toys like the rubix cube that Jake brought in. Billy has embraced a growth mindset and has set a challenge for himself.... "I will solve it before I am 6".

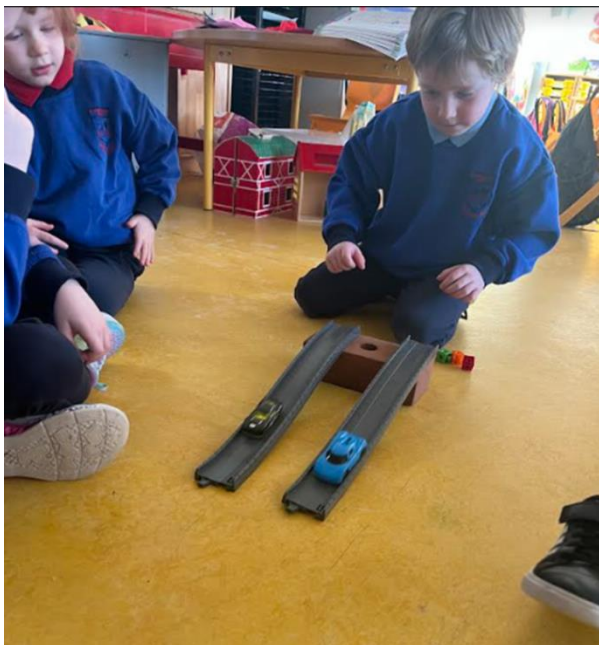


The Very Young Scientist Exhibition.

Forces in Motion! This month, Ms King's Junior Infants have been busy exploring the theme of forces and motion in SESE. We had to predict the distance various toy vehicles would travel when descending ramps of various gradients. First, we used the balancing scales to see which vehicle was heavier.....



In our groups, we worked together to build our ramps using bricks and cardboard. We released our cars down the ramps using a gentle force and we determined that the heavier vehicle travelled further than the lighter vehicle!



We then decided to test whether an increase in the gradient of the ramp would affect the distance that the vehicles travel. Once we made our predictions it was time to test our theories. We were very excited to learn that the cars travelled much further and much faster by adding bricks to increase the gradient of the ramp.