

# ST KILIAN'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

Ní Neart Go Cur le Chéile

## Imlitir 5 (Newsletter)

**Mí Eanáir.**

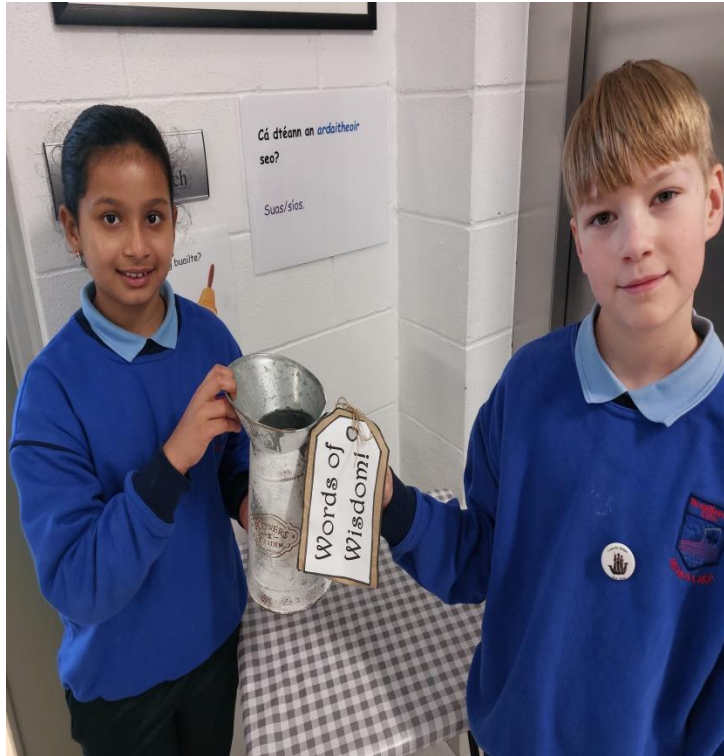
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**The Story of St. Brigid's Cloak.** St Brigid is a beloved Irish saint. February 1st is St Brigid's day. Crosses made from rushes are woven on this day. St Brigid was a kind and caring person. She wanted to become a nun. St Brigid found the perfect place in Kildare to build her monastery. She asked the King of Leinster for the land. The land was beside a forest which would give firewood. It was near a lake where they could fish. The King of Leinster was greedy and laughed at St. Brigid's request. He made a bargain with her that he would give her the amount of land her cloak could cover. St Brigid took off her cloak and spread it on the ground. The King of Leinster watched the cloak as it covered many acres of land. The King realised that St Brigid was blessed by God and gave her the land. He was sorry for not giving her the land when first she asked. St Brigid built her monastery under an old oak tree in Kildare



An tÉanach made our first Brigid's Cross with a little help from Kilian and Tyler.

Our school will close on Monday next 3rd February Lá Fhéile Bríde as it is now a public holiday.



Aarna and Ronald 3rd Class are collecting words of wisdom for Grandparents' Day.

**Parent Teacher Meetings** Parent teacher meetings for the infant classes took place last week. Thank you to all who attended for your cooperation and punctuality as always.

**Attendance:** We are anxious that parents be aware of the absolute necessity for regular punctual attendance at school and that we all work together to improve this area. Parents of pupils with poor attendance will be invited to the school to discuss the matter. We will also be tracking those pupils who continually leave early especially on a Friday!

**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.

## Credit Union Quiz 2025

The 2025 Credit Union Schools Quiz takes place next Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> of February, in Kingscourt Community Centre. Over 40 teams from local primary schools are set to take part in the event. St. Kilian's National School will be represented by two teams. Áine O'Reilly, Seán Harney, Cormac Clarke and Jack Mulligan are on the U-13 team. Our U-11 team members are Hima Nambiar, George Blake, Culann Duffy and Ryan Costello. Both teams have been practising hard in preparation for the quiz. We wish them all the very best of luck on Friday night.



### Teaching and Learning at Home.

**Growth Mindset Message.** For this fortnight we are working on, '**I learn from constructive 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?)

**Stay Safe.** All classes are doing the Stay Safe programme this term. The Stay Safe Programme is a personal safety skills programme for primary schools - both mainstream and special. Its overall objective is to prevent child abuse, bullying and other forms of victimisation. The programme develops children's ability to recognise, resist and report risk situations or abusive encounters by teaching children...

- To identify for themselves unsafe or upsetting situations
- Simple rules to help them avoid abuse
- To respect and value the rights of others
- The language and skills they require to seek help

**Physical Education.** All classes are focusing on Dance this term as per our school policy. We will also be working on a programme in conjunction with Operation Transformation. There will be more details in our next imilitir.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Class swimming** continues this term every Monday in Kells Swimming Pool as part of the Aquatics strand in our PE curriculum. Meanwhile 3<sup>rd</sup> + 4<sup>th</sup> commenced **badminton** today. This initiative is provided by Cavan Sports Partnership and is funded by **Mullagh Activity Hub**.



**3rd Class started badminton today.**

**School Photographs.** The school photographer will be here on Thursday 27th February. There will be no obligation to buy, just bring your best smile as always.

## Achadh na Madadh Have Been Busily Weaving .

In our class Mrs Kenny showed us how to weave, she let us choose the colours and how much of each colour we wanted to use.

She told us not to pull our piece too tight or it wouldn't be even the whole way up.

I enjoyed weaving as it was very satisfying to watch it grow piece by piece.

I called my piece the "Beach" because the colours reminded me of the sand, waves and sunset.



Megan Hanley from Achadh na Madadh has been weaving in recent weeks.

Corr na gClár Found Out About Chinese New Year.

6th class were learning about Chinese New Year. The Chinese people don't celebrate Lunar New Year on January 1st like we do - they celebrate it on January 29th since they follow the Lunar calendar which is different to the one we usually use. The twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac are (in order) the rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog and pig. All these animals had a race that was arranged by the Jade Emperor to determine their position in the calendar. The cycle repeats itself every 12 years. Since 2025 is the year of the snake, 6th made snake eyes using clay, glass eyes and paint by shaping the clay, making patterns on it and painting them green, brown and a bit of gold. These eyes were then put on display upstairs for people to see.



Ellie Xu and Lucy are very proud of their Year of the Snake display.

## B.O.M. Summary Report from January's Meeting.

There was a board meeting earlier this month. I am sharing a summary report from the meeting with the parent body.

General Information	<p>i) A Class floor was polished over the midterm. This cost €600. A new buffer is needed to maintain the standard. A spend of €1,500 was approved by BOM. Another floor to be cleaned over Easter and two more during the summer break.</p> <p>ii) A second crossing where the old unofficial one was has now been installed. This has improved matters. Cavan Co. Co. will return to do line marking. The BOM acknowledges the Trojan work done by the Parents Assoc. in this regard.</p> <p>iii) Ronan discussed a uniform swap with the P.A. They have plans in place.</p>
Correspondence	<p>i) Bí Cineálta (DES new bullying guidelines) to be rolled out in the next school year. Training in Navan Ed. Centre on 28th Jan. The school principal and a teacher to attend.</p> <p>ii) Correspondence from the Lunch Bag regarding the nutritional quality of lunches was reviewed. We will try to share this information with the parent body in our school newsletter.</p>
Solar Panels	Go Solar has been sanctioned to provide solar panels to the school following a tendering process. Installation date, 20th Feb.
Principal Report	
School Counselling	This runs over 2 x 8 week blocks. The first one is now complete. We have received very positive feedback. 2 more pupils are about to commence block 2.
Bullying Audit	Full bullying review to be carried out at the next BOM meeting. Seven Appendix 3's since Jan '24. All involve physical and or name calling. 5 seem to have been resolved and 2 are being closely monitored. Class splits helped in 3 cases. There were no incidents of cyberbullying reported. There were no cases of racist or homophobic bullying reported.
Attendance	Attendance rate is 91.2% presently. The Education Welfare Officer is working effectively with the school. This is ongoing.



## **Correspondence to Parents from The Lunch Bag.**

As you know, The Lunch Bag always approaches school meals in the most positive way possible. We want to mimic the wholesome goodness of the school community in all we do. Recently, there have been some influencers and media contributors who are creating negativity and scaremongering around school meals ingredients. Unfortunately, sweeping statements were used that tarnish all suppliers with the same brush.

It is our ethos that nutrition of the mind is as important as nutrition of the body.

Therefore, we are asking all parents and staff to inform and reassure themselves on ingredients used in our school meals by visiting our website, available below.

With a qualified dietitian and three nutritionists on the team, we are constantly working with suppliers to craft even more advancements in our nutrition and incrementally adjust flavours and textures to encourage children's palette development. Please be assured, Ireland has a heavily regulated food industry. There are no ingredients used in your meals that are not everyday products.

The school meal program is an incredible opportunity to create a culture of nutritional education in Ireland. Let's start it with facts.


Visit [www.thelunchbag.ie](http://www.thelunchbag.ie) for more details.

## **Dates for your diary.**


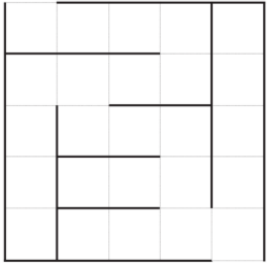

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>27/01</b>	<b>Catholic Schools Week including Grandparents Day.</b>
<b>20/02</b>	<b>Mid-term break. School closed Thursday + Friday</b>
<b>27/02</b>	<b>School photographs with Memory Lane Photography.</b>
<b>14/03 + 17/03</b>	<b>Closed for St. Patrick's week-end.</b>
<b>21/03</b>	<b>Confirmation at 6pm</b>
<b>14/04</b>	<b>Closed for Easter Holidays (2 weeks)</b>
<b>24/05</b>	<b>First Communion</b>

## Ms. Maddison's First Class Cluain Airne

January has been quite the month, but it hasn't stopped us learning and having fun! The boys and girls have been busy exploring the topic Shape and Space in Maths with an emphasis on spatial awareness - giving, following and understanding directions.



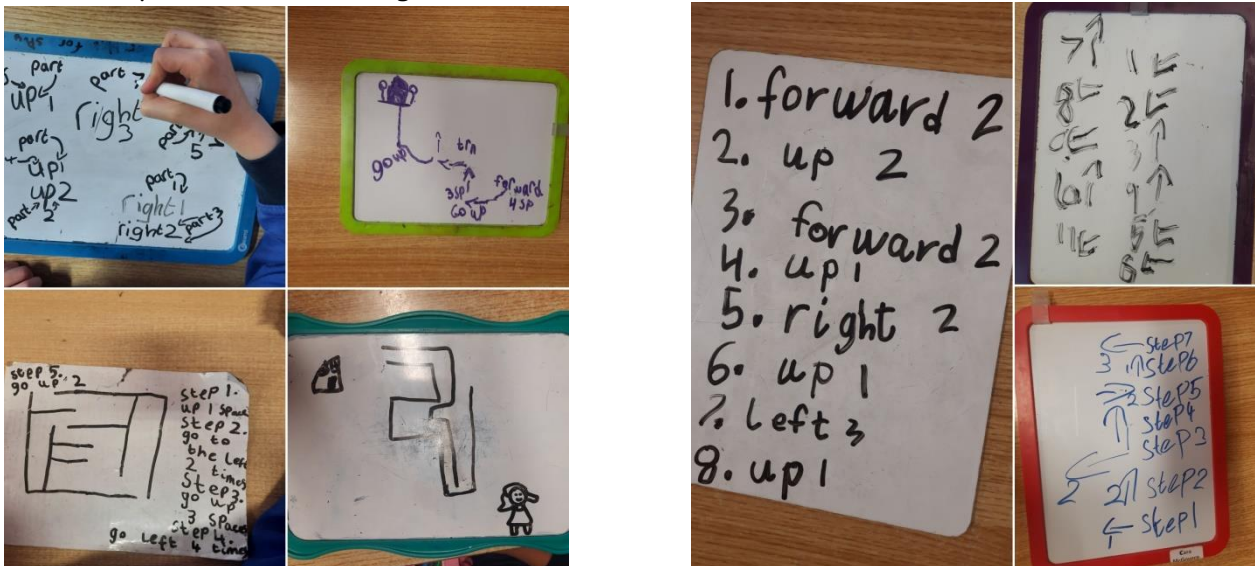
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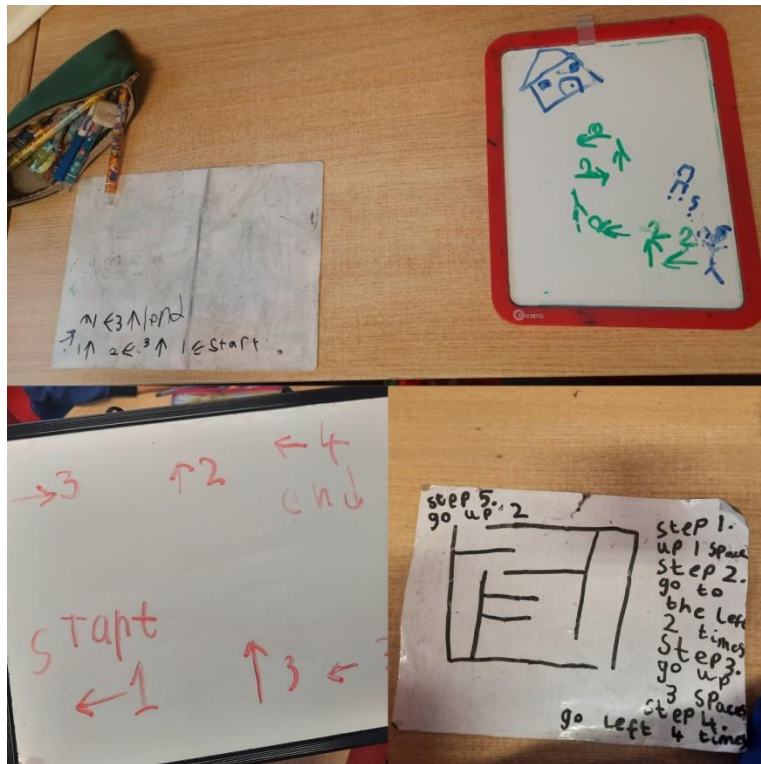




How could Little Red Riding Hood get to her Grandmother's house?

Adapted from <https://newzealandcurriculum.tahurangi.education.govt.nz/amazing-mazes/5637165801.p>

See if you can follow the instructions some of the children wrote down on their white boards to help Little Red Riding Hood get to her Grandmother's house. We were focusing on the words forward, up, down, left and right.





As always, in First Class hard work is rewarded and what better way to do this than play outside in the bitter cold. It was all fun and games until they turned and attacked Ms. Maddison!



