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Educating in a joyful, positive and secure setting

# Killavullen News.

Issue 5

Spring 2024

*'Anois teacht an earraigh, beidh an lá dul chun síneadh...'* (Raifteirí An Fhile.)

A hugely busy second term, as you will see below. Check out our Facebook page for more details and photos on the various events.

## Wellbeing Committee



One of our busiest committees in recent times culminating in 'Wellbeing Week' this week and being awarded the **Cineáltas Flag**. Our Committee worked hard collaborating with their classmates and planning activities for each day; Terrific Tuesday, Wellness Wednesday, Thankful Thursday and Feel-Good Friday, where all classes will leave for Easter break, settled and calm after *Mindful Yoga* in the *Wellness Zone* created especially for the day.

Leading up to this week, we had our final "Wellbeing Check-in" of the year in February. The "Hot Chocolate Check-ins" in November and December gave the children the opportunity to catch up with classmates over a cup of delicious hot chocolate. As February saw the start of Lent, we held a Pancake Check-in to mark the occasion. Huge

thanks to George and Jen for cooking up a feast in the Halla! Other recent wellbeing initiatives included Friendly Fridays and Morning Walk 'n Talks (with the Active Schools committee). The committee are currently liaising with the Green Schools Committee and Student Council on incorporating a Wellness Space in our school garden design and will also be leading a review of our Anti-Bullying policy when we return after Easter. A special thanks to Ms Kenny for guiding the committee!

## Clárú / Admissions 2024-25

Admission / Enrolment Application Forms for pupils starting next September are available on our school website or by contacting the school at [info@killavullenns.ie](mailto:info@killavullenns.ie). Please return completed forms immediately in order to assist us in planning ahead for the new school year. We would appreciate it if you would pass this information on to any neighbours, relatives or friends who don't have children in the school already and who may not have access to this reminder. *Go raibh maith agaibh.*



Indoor Camogie/Hurling Training and Blitzes for 3rd - 6th Classes were held throughout January and February. Both our boys and girls teams performed very well in their respective blitzes in Mallow GAA Complex. As always, they showed great determination, kindness and respect. Well done to all of the participating children. We look forward to starting our Camogie/Hurling Training after Easter in preparation for Sciath na Scol fixtures.

## **Scoil Glas - Brat Bithéagsúlachta**

The Green Schools Committee have been busy taking care of the birds, particularly in the recent cold spell. Ms. Quinlan's class made bird feeders and this has encouraged a wide variety of birds to visit the car park area. Each class appointed wardens to log the birds on a daily basis. Following on from this initiative, we ran a *Biodiversity Project* competition. Exhibits are now displayed along the corridors. Everyone enjoyed the Biodiversity quiz, circulated by the committee and learned more about this fascinating subject.

Dog fouling on the footpaths continues to be a problem in the village. This prompted two of our youngest members, Eve and Megan to write to Mallow Co. Council, asking them to provide bins for the village to address this problem! We will keep you posted on this.

## **Ficheall**

**Our chess players** from 3rd - 6th have had a busy term with players earning their way onto the school Buds and Masters teams from the lunchtime league in December & January. Four teams then represented us fantastically well in Fermoy at the Féile Fichille. A special mention to Ryan McCarthy (1st in the Masters), Conor Dunne (2nd in Buds) and Jamie Roche (3rd in Buds). *Maith sibh a bhuachaillí!*



Well done also to our Masters Team, 'Your Worst Nightmare' who, out of approximately 70 schools, were invited back to compete in the Comórtas Fichille last Wednesday down in Carrigtwohill. The standard of chess was incredibly high and the team performed very well, finishing mid-table. Their behaviour in victory and defeat was exemplary and we are so proud of them.

For any child particularly keen on chess, there are a number of 'Next Moves' events being organised around the country (including a few around Cork) in the coming days and weeks. These are led by Ruairí McManus (a primary teacher) in conjunction with the ICU (Irish Chess Union). There's one in **Carrigtwohill next Wed 27th Mar** and another in **Castlemagner on Sat 13th April**. [Check out this ICU link](#) for more events and dates. These events provide an opportunity to win a place at the European Schools Chess Championships. The ESCC will make history in June 2024 as the first European chess championships to be held in Ireland. The tournament, which is expected to attract 300 to 400 young chess players from across Europe, will take place at the University of Limerick (UL) from 30th May to 8th June 2024.

## **Díospóireachta**



We have had great fun competing in the Concern Primary Schools **Debating Competition** over the past couple months. In the county semi final we proposed the motion that "Electric cars are the best way for countries to reduce their emissions" against Clonpriest NS. The motion was carried and our debating team progressed to the Cork County Final on Tuesday 20th of February! Well done to our fantastic debating team, who had great speeches and fantastic refuting! A fantastic skill to learn that will help them with many aspects in life.

## **Treodóireacht**

An excited 4th/5/6th class set off for Farran Woods on March 12th. Well done to all our pupils who took on the difficult course with gusto. A special mention to Kelsey who finished 1st on the day. *Maith thú!* Our thanks to the organisers, for a most enjoyable day out and a shout out to the pupils for their beautiful singing to make the trip home feel shorter!

## **Scoil Bhrat Gníomhaíochta**



As part of the Active Flag initiative, the Active Committee organised a whole school **Jump out of January** fun. Classes were jumping, skipping and getting active. Well done to the committee on organising a great day. Well done also to everyone being so kind and friendly on our "Walk and Talk" in the morning before school starts. Stay tuned and be ready to get active in our upcoming initiatives!

## Comhbhróin

It is with great sadness we mourned the recent passing of Tim O'Connor. We know Tim was a man who loved nature, the outdoors and fishing and our thoughts continue to be with his wife Patsy, his daughter Aisling in 6th class, her brothers Cian, Oisín and Tadgh, Tim's nephews and nieces, many of whom are past and present pupils of KNS, and his extended family.

*Go soilsí solas síoraí air.*

The school also mourned the passing of Fr. Gould recently. As Parish Priest, Fr. Gould oversaw First confessions, First Holy Communions and Confirmations for our school for over 20 years, as well as countless graduation masses, official blessings and numerous other ceremonies. In his role on the Board of Management, Fr. Gould oversaw four building projects in the school in Killavullen. He always brightened up the staff room with entertaining stories of various characters he'd have met down through the years and was a fountain of knowledge on anything from farming to sport to politics to gardening. He was always an easy man to look after whenever he'd visit the staff room never wanting any fuss to be made. But a great man at looking out for others, be it bringing in a certain cough bottle or lozenges he thought were effective if he spotted you had a sore throat, or recommending books on a particular topic, or bringing in the very thing we'd have been looking for, from coin-counters, to amps and mics, to flag poles! He is greatly missed.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.*

## Cóineartú & Comaoineach don Chéad Uair



The 2nd Class Children and their families were busy preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the First Time which the children received on Monday 11th March. They will now begin preparations for Communion for the First Time. There will be a **preparatory mass for families in Annakisha Church on Friday 12th April.**

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at St. Nicholas Church in Killavullen on Thursday 25th April. Communion for the First Time mass will take place on Saturday, 27th April in Killavullen Church. We wish Rang 2, Rang 5 agus Rang 6, their parents and their teachers the very best in their preparations. *Go n-éirí go geal libh!*



## Athbhreithniú ar Pholasaithe

A number of **School Policies** have been reviewed so far in Term 2 by the teaching staff, officers of the Parents' Association and Board of Management, and subsequently ratified by the Board of Management. These policies are all available for viewing under 'School Policies' in the Parents tab of our website and include our **Homework Policy, Garda Vetting Policy** and **Work Experience/Placement Policy.**

We have three more policies for review for our next Board meeting in April; our **Anti-bullying Policy, Internet - Acceptable Use Policy** and **School Tours/Outings Policy.** These draft policies are available to view & download to edit on our school website [here](#). We invite parents to provide us with any constructive feedback on any of these policies by emailing [info@killavullenns.ie](mailto:info@killavullenns.ie). The Wellbeing committee will be seeking feedback from pupils on these policies in school after Easter also.



## Ag Snámh



After Easter, swimming lessons will begin for **3rd & 4th Class on Thursday 11th April**, being the school's final block. Lessons are for 5-week block at a cost of €60 for the five weeks. Parents may [PAY ONLINE HERE](#) or by sending in an envelope with your child with 'Swimming' marked clearly on the front and can pay in full or weekly. A huge thank you to the Parents' Association who are heavily subsidising the bus for swimming. Please remember to give your child extra water and a more substantial lunch on these days.



## Tráth na gCeist Chomhar Chreidmheasa

Well done to our 3rd/ 4th and 5th/ 6th class teams who took part in the annual **Credit Union Quiz**. Comhghairdeas mór to Donnacha, Dan, Daisy and Ryan who took the coveted first prize and went on to represent Mallow Credit Union in the Chapter stage. Thank you to Liam, our transition year student, who helped coach the triumphant team!

## Cúrsaí Eolaíochta

5th/6th classes headed to Lifetime Lab, in Cork, on Friday 26th January to explore Forces and Magnetism, with the excellent Una Leader. It afforded our young scientists an opportunity to take part in 'hands-on science.' They explored the 'north pole' of magnets, their relationship with compasses and took up the 'Build a Magnetic Car Challenge', with gusto! Not only that, they also built a simple pulley system and progressed to complex pulley systems. Watch out for the inventors of the future!

As part of our STEM/START programme we met a mathematician, who explored everyday, extraordinary things, namely, the properties of paper. We learned about the Possin Ratio, the Miura fold and how to make a pentagon from a strip of paper! This week, we met the *Seahorse Man* -



**START**  
Schools Teaching Awareness of Randomised Trials

*Kealan Doyle*. In this webinar, we learned what it is a marine biologist does and again, tying in with Biodiversity, we learned how to protect species that cannot protect themselves.

## Gaeilge Mífhoirniúil

As you know, it was *Seachtain na Gaeilge* for the last two weeks. Bhíomar ag imirt cluichí, ag caint, ag damhsa agus ag péinteáil as gaeilge! 5th/6th class hold Pop up Gaeltachts throughout the year - *déanann siad an-iarracht an Ghaeilge a labhairt agus frásaí ata foghlamtha acu a úsáid i gcómhra. Féach ar Facebook chun an craic go léir a fheiceáil! Ealáin sa Halla agus an Céillí Mór* gave everyone a chance to use their Gaeilge. *Leanfaimid leis taréis saoire na Cásca. Beidh Seó Faisin agus Seó Tallainne againn, so bígí ag cleachtadh. Feicfidh sibh an Coiste Ghaeilge ag dul timpeall na scoile, ag múineadh frásaí nua daoibh.*

## Scór na bPáistí

*Comhghairdeas mór do na páistí a bhí i gcomórtas Scór na bPáistí! D'éirigh leo thar cinn!*

Our children represented their school in the North Cork Scór na bPáistí Final in set dancing, solo singing, solo instrumental, drama-sketch, recitation, ballad group, instrumental group and the quiz. They showed great enthusiasm and commitment - practising at lunchtimes, coming into school for early morning rehearsals - and were well rewarded for their hard work, winning multiple prizes on the day as well as receiving the award for Overall Best School!! 😊 What a talented bunch!! Best of luck to our ballad group and instrumental music group in the County Final on Saturday 23rd March. Go néirí go geal libh!!

## Cork (City) Primary Sports

Cork Primary School Sports will take place on Thursday 30th May in MTU, Cork. Start times for Boys and Girls divisions have yet to be decided. There is usually a morning session and afternoon session. Parents of those competing will be notified when we have more information. Bus companies are not running buses to this event this year due to heavy traffic and various start/finish times. We ask attending families to please confirm that you will provide/organise transport for your child to and from the venue.

## Lá Domhanda na Leabhar

So much excitement, effort and creativity on show in Killavullen for our celebration of **World Book Day!** Well done to everyone for their amazing effort and a special mention to the winners of the following awards: best individuals, best groups, highly commended costumes and best delivery of speeches at our assembly. Be sure to check out **Facebook** to see the range of characters that showed up in school that day!

## Gairdín Scoile

The children have been working hard on design proposals for our **School Garden**. Well done to everyone who entered and huge congratulations to the children whose designs were chosen. **Watch this space!**



# \*\*\*\*\*Parents' Association News\*\*\*\*\*



## Quiz Night

We are hosting a quiz night for parents and friends on Friday 12th April in The Haven. It promises to be a great night so spread the word! All monies raised are going towards our new school garden.

We were delighted to serve up the tea, coffee and refreshments at Grandparents Day and would like to thank everyone who contributed to Lá Glas/Green for a Day where we raised €172. Thank you so much!!

We have also erected Enrolment posters on the roads around the village. Please let anyone you know locally who has a child starting that school are looking for Admission Forms.



## Dátaí don Dialann

We wish everyone a Happy Easter and we reopen on **Monday 8th April at 09:25.**

See below for upcoming closures and dates for your diary.

- Deadline for Admission forms: **Wednesday 10th April**
- Preparatory Mass: **Fri 12th April**
- Table Quiz: **Fri 12th April**
- Confirmation: **Thur 25th April**
- Communion: **Sat 27th April**
- May Bank Holiday - Closed: **Mon 6th May**
- June Bank Holiday - Closed: **Mon 3rd June**
- Summer Holidays - Closing: **12 noon, Fri 21st June**

