**NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2020**

We welcome Pauline Atkinson back after a brief period of absense. Bernie Hall will continue on in Learning Support on a temporary basis for the coming months, filling the vacant position that will be filled on a permanent basis in September. We thank Dónall O’ Connor for his contibution to teaching in the school for the month of January.

**Enrolment**

We are currently taking enrolments for September 2020. Enrolment froms are available from the school office or can be downloaded from the school website.

**Grandparents Day**

The children prepared a mass to celebrate Grandparents Day as part of Catholic Schools Week. They also prepared a song dedicated to grandparents and played their ukuleles as an accompaniment. Lots of beautiful art work was created during the week to pass on to grandparents near and far. Many thanks to all those who attended mass on Friday morning.

**Credit Union Quiz**

Best wishes to our U11 and U13 teams that are taking part in the Credit Union Quiz this coming Sunday in The Riverside Hotel, Ennisocorthy.

U13 team: Qi-Qi Wren, Kevin Armstrong, Aisling O’ Brien and

U11 team: Alex Bowe, Lucy Nolan, Michael Bowe and Máire Armstrong.

**Swimming**

Swimming lessons have commenced. The remaining dates are as follows:

Tuesday **4th, 11th & 25th February.**

Tuesday **3rd, 10th, 24th & 31st March**.

Children are allowed to bring a small treat with them for after swimming. Children are advised not to bring valuable belongings to the pool. Belongings are left at owners risk in the dressing rooms and therefore all belongings should be placed in bags during lessons.

**Engineers Week 2020**

**Bricks 4 Kidz** will visit the school on **Wednesday** **March 4th** in conjunction with Engineers Week. Each class will enjoy project-based programmes designed to teach the principles of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). The programmes are designed in a fun and challenging way using LEGO®, Technic & Robotics.

**World Book Day**

We will celebrate World Book Day on **Friday March 6th**. The children are encouraged to dress up as characters from their favourite books on the day. We will launch our school Readathon on the day which will run for 4 weeks.

We will also have The Celtic Travelling Book Fair running in the school from Thursday 26th March to Thursday 2nd April, bringing an unbeatable range of the latest and best children's books for purchase. Every book purchased thoughout the week can help to earn free books and teaching resources for our school.

**Confirmation-Dates for your Diary**

Saturday 1st February at 7pm: Enrolment Mass for Sacrament of Confirmation, Kiltealy Church

Thursday 19th March: Retreat Day to Ballyvaloo,Wexford for Confirmation Candidates (during school hours)

Saturday 16th May at 7pm: Service of Light Mass, Kiltealy Church.

Friday 22nd May at 11a.m: Confirmation Mass, Kiltealy Church.

We are delighted to confirm that the confirmation will take place in Kiltealy Church this year.

**Communion- remaining dates for your diary,** (all take place in church)

Saturday 29th Feb at 7pm: Baptism Sunday,

Saturday 14th March at 7pm: Reconciliation Sunday,

Tuesday 24th March at 7pm: First Confession

Saturday 25th April at 7pm: Picture Sunday

Saturday 2nd May at 11am: First Communion .

**GAA**

Our County Board Football Coaching has come to an end. Hurling coaching with Jim and Jim for 1st – 6th classes will recommence on Thursdays after the February mid-term break. Inter schools Mini-7s hurling & camogie tournaments are due to start in the coming weeks.

**Soccer**

We are submitting teams to the SPAR FAI Primary School 5s first round tournment being held in March. Players wil be selected from the senior end of the school to make up a boys team and a girls team. More details to follow.

**Green Schools**

We are looking forward to a visit from our Green School Travel Officer to get our Travel Flag journey off the ground. A walkability audit is planned for our Green School Committee on **Monday 3rd February**. The committee will highlight positives and negatives on the route to our school.

Many thanks to Noel Curtis for installing the Water Butt recently. This is a welcomed addition as we strive to continue to conserve our water consumption. The placement of the water butt will allow us to water our vegetable garden and flower beds with ease in the coming months all the while developing awareness of water conservation. We are grateful to the Environmental Action Fund Committee for including us in their developments.

Scoop Poop Off Our Pavements

We are experiencing increased cases of dog poop being dragged into our school and onto our carpets. Dog fouling is a country wide issue and our committee is encouraging pet owners to clean up after their dogs in public spaces. We are aware that there are wandering dogs around the village that may also be contributing to the problem. Pupils and parents are asked to keep lookout when walking the pathways to the school gate in the mornings.

**Creative Schools**

Music Generation continues for the remainder of the school year. The final installment of money is due on Monday February 10th. A reminder will be sent home with individual pupils of balance payable. If you have already paid the fee in total thank you.

Our Friday **Living Arts Programme** for pupils from 1st – 4th class will come to an end on Friday 7th February. The children have had a really enjoyable experience and have produced some wonderful artistic creations. A selection of the children’s work will be exhibited in The Arts Centre in Wexford for month long period.

All children are invited and encouraged to attend a special opening of the exhibition on Saturday the 28th March at 3pm. The exhibition will then run from March 30th until May 2nd and children can revisit the centre if they wish during this time.

A school trip is organised for Wednesday April 1st where the children will visit the County Council Art Collection and the Arts centre to look at their living arts exhibition in detail with their tutor Mary Claire. They will also engage in an art lesson on the day.

Many thanks to Mary-Claire and Ann for all their hard work over the past few months. Tunde Toth-programme facilitator will visit the school in February to consult with all the classes on the various programmes they have experienced as part of the Creative Schools Initiative.

**Split–the-Pot:**

**January winners:**

Many thanks for your continued support of our school fundraiser. Get your envelopes in every Monday to be in with a chance of winning. Envelopes are available in our local shops, pubs, and school.

**Mid-term break**

The school will close on Friday February 14th at 3pm and will re-open on Monday February 24th. (1 week closure)

Keep updated on all the above by visiting our school website: kiltealyns.ie

Many thanks for your continued support of the various school initiatives we have in our school.