



**Scoil Naomh Fiachra,
Clontubrid,
Kilkenny
Roll No. 16865D
Tel: 056-8832417, Email: snfiachra@eircom.net**



M E S S A G E F R O M T H E P R I N C I P A L

Welcome back to our third and final term. I hope everybody had a nice Easter. We had an extremely busy second term with Catholic School's Week, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Presentation of the Tricolor, Proclamation Day and swimming. This term will have lots going on also with preparations for Confirmation and First Communion well underway, hurling and camogie leagues, Book Fair, Active week, Our Fun Run, School Tours, Speech and Drama, Green Flag activities and Active Flag activities. I must commend our teachers who teach to such a high standard while also managing to do all of the above mentioned. We are extremely fortunate to have such dedicated and willing teachers and a great ancillary staff also. The children have been fantastic, and their behavior and attitude in school is second to none. This is in no short way due to their parents who also deserve great credit. As always the support of the parent body, the Parent's Council and the Board of Management has been brilliant.

F U N D R A I S E R : 6 K M F U N R U N

In an effort to further improve reading levels of pupils in the school, it was decided that **Graded Readers** would be purchased. This reading scheme consists of over 1,000 books which are graded into thirty different levels. These books will allow children to gradually progress from one level to the next which will improve the child's reading ability in a more structured way. However, this scheme comes at a high financial cost. For this reason, the Board of Management and the Parent's Council hope to dedicate the money raised in our end of year Fun Run to paying for these books.

Our **6KM Fun Run** will take place on **Sunday 12th of June @ 10:30am** (after mass in Clontubrid). We had a huge turn out last year and we are hoping for the same this year so please come along on the day and bring some relatives or friends to take part in the run/walk. There will be a number of activities back at the school afterwards and maybe even a special guest to present the children with their certificates for taking part in Active Week. The Fun Run will conclude our Active Week again this year.

P A R E N T S

Parent's Council: The Parent's Council have been very busy as always. They held a very successful table quiz in Mackey's Bar recently and had a very high turn out. A big thank you to all who came along on the night. The Penny War which was also ran by the Parent's Council raised almost €600. It proved to be a very simple but effective fundraiser so well done to Karena and the Parent's Council for coming up with the idea. The Parent's Council also funded the payment for the swimming instructors which was a big help to families. They are also looking into purchasing some science equipment for the school. They recently assisted the school in coming up with a new Substance Mis-Use Policy which is available on the school website. Also thanks to them for providing refreshments on Proclamation Day. We are extremely fortunate to have such a supportive Parent's Council working with our school and we are very grateful for all that they do.

Power Hour: We have a number of parents who were extremely brave and volunteered to come into the Infant Room during the last term to help out with reading during our literacy power hour. This was of huge benefit to the children and again we are extremely grateful to parents who gave up their time to come in.

Speech and Drama: Speech and Drama lessons have been going brilliantly since the beginning of this term. We are extremely grateful to Deirdre Dunne who has volunteered her services to us. She is an expert in the area and as a school we are really fortunate to have her coming in. Thanks again Deirdre.

Flagpoles: Thanks to Gary and Caroline Tallis who fixed our flagpoles ahead of Proclamation Day. They had been out of use for quite some time and it is great to have our flags flying once again.



April 2016

CLOSURE FOR IN-SERVICE TRAINING

With the introduction of the New Primary Language Curriculum from next September, the school must close on **Friday 20th of May** for staff in-service. This is an obligatory closure. Please make note of this.

WEBSITE

Please check out our new and improved website www.clontubrid.ie. The staff are now regularly updating it with news and classroom activities. We have a new page set up for each room under the 'Classes' tab. If you don't have a homepage set up for your browser on your computer or phone, we would appreciate you using www.clontubrid.ie as your homepage as this will allow you keep an eye on school news and updates. The calendar for 2016-2017 school year has just been uploaded to the site.

HURLING & CAMOGIE

Our hurling and camogie leagues are well underway. The hurling team had great wins over Castlecomer, Freshford, Clara and Bennetsbridge. They have one more game left in the league against Gowran and a win in this game would guarantee a place in the quarter finals. Thanks to Paul Murphy who has come on board this year to help Mr. Robinson with the hurling. The camogie team had a great win over Ballyragget recently also. They have a very young team with only one girl in 6th class so things are looking good for next year. A big thank you to Ms. Fennelly and Ms. Brennan for all their work with the camogie team.

GREEN FLAG

Our Green School's committee have been extremely busy lately. Already this year they have ran a poster competition, come up with ways to save water around the school such as using water hippos in our cisterns and basins in our sinks. They had to calculate our water usage for a typical day in school and are at present gathering surveys on water usage at home. With the help of our caretaker Michael they installed a Water Butt in the yard to harvest rain-water and the children even came up with our very own Green School's Code which can be found on our website. On the 17th of June we will hold a Water Action Day where the children will showcase a photo display of "Water Flowing Through Our Lives". The children will also do projects and carry out experiments based on water. A big thank you to Ms. Keane for coordinating our Green Schools application this year.

ACTIVE WEEK

Our campaign for the Active Flag will continue this term. Our application has now been submitted and we are expecting an inspection within the coming month. The children have been busy carrying out various activities every week such as 'Drop Everything and Dance', 'Walk a Mile', etc. They have been doing extra fitness classes with Ms. Fennelly during break time and are doing structured playtime activities which are timetabled. Our 'Active Week' will run from the 7th to the 12th of June. We will have different classes with guest instructors such as Teresa Dunphy. Pat Farrell will do orienteering with the children in Jenkinstown Wood (details to follow). We will possibly have an athletics coach coming in and also our Sports Day will take place during Active Week. Once again this year we will conclude Active Week with our 'Fun Run' on Sunday 12th of June after mass in Clontubrid. Once again, a huge thank you to Ms. Fennelly who has put in so much work with this.

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION

Confirmation will take place on Sunday 8th of May this year. A huge amount of work has gone into preparing the students both in school and at home. Thanks to all our parents who have provided lifts to practice in the church and tutored on Wednesday nights in Lisdowney. We truly are blessed to have so many willing parents and both Fr. O'Farrell and the school really appreciate your efforts. First Communion will take place on Saturday 28th of May. Again thanks to Ms. Fennelly and all of the parents helping out with preparations for this big day also.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 3rd of May - Closed for May Bank Holiday Weekend
Thursday 5th of May—New Infant Induction Morning (10am—11:45am)
Sunday 8th of May — Confirmation
Friday 20th of May—Closed for In-service
Saturday 28th of May - First Holy Communion
Tuesday 7th - Sunday 12th of June - "Active School Week"
Sunday 12th of June—"Fun Run"(after 9:30am Mass in Clontubrid)
Monday 13th of June—First to Sixth Class School Tour
Wednesday 15th of June—Junior and Senior Infant School Tour
Friday 17th of June— Green Flag Water Action Day
Tuesday 21st of June—Sixth Class Graduation Mass @ 9:30am.
Friday 24th of June — Closed @ 12 o'clock for Summer Holidays