



Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Clontubrid, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny.
Roll No. 16865D

Tel: 056-8832417, Email: snfiachra@eircom.net, Website: www.clontubrid.ie

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to our final term. The year has flown by so far. I'd like to thank all of our teachers, parent volunteers, our brilliant Parent's Council and our Board of Management for everything they have done and continue to do for the school. Of course, I must also compliment our fantastic pupils for all of their efforts, exemplary behaviour and positive attitude in school.

We are already planning ahead for the **2017/2018 school year**. If you wish to view our closures and **school calendar** for next year, please see the home page of our website www.clontubrid.ie. There is also a link available for standardised school closures/holidays for the next three school years. I would ask parents to please take these calendars into consideration when booking holidays next year and we hope that the early availability of these calendars will be of assistance. Please note that the calendar also has dates for next year's Active Week and Graduation.

There will be a few changes in our **classes next year**. Ms. Fennelly will move to the Junior Room and will be teaching junior infants, senior infants and first class. Ms. Brennan will move to the Middle Room where she will teach second and third class. Mr. Robinson will stay in the Senior Room with fourth, fifth and sixth class. Ms. Keane and Ms. O'Connor will be our Special Education Teachers. We aim to launch a **Twitter and Facebook** page before the end of the school year. This is to highlight the achievements of the school and to promote school events to the wider community. We will be sending out permission slips for group photographs to be allowed on our Twitter and Facebook accounts, however this will not be happening until we have sought permission from every parent. Thanks to Tiernan Herlihy for all his help and expertise with helping to set this up.

Finally, it will soon be time to say goodbye to another 6th class. We will hold our **Graduation ceremony on Friday 2nd of June** at 9.30am in the school. All parents of 6th class are invited to attend.

GREEN FLAG AWARD

Our school has been awarded a **third Green Flag**. Members of our Green School's committee will attend an **awards ceremony in Hotel Kilkenny on Tuesday the 23rd of May**. We will raise the flag after our Fun Run on June 11th. Well done to all our students who worked so hard to achieve this award for our school. A big thank you to Ms. Keane for all her work in coordinating this campaign over the last two years.

PARENT'S COUNCIL

The Parent's Council would like to draw your attention to the manner in which parents are parking their cars in the **car park** at home time. Those entering the car park first should park against the back wall by reversing into your parking space. When these spaces at the back wall are full, then park on the road side facing out towards the road. Please leave space at either end of this line of parked cars in order for cars to get in and out. Do not park beside the school gates where children are being collected. Please get out of your car and collect your child/children from the gate and walk them to the car. Remember to drive extremely slowly in the car park and obey our sign at the gate. This is in everyone's interests to ensure the safety of our children.

The Parent's Council ran a very successful **Bingo** evening and raised €603 in the last term. A huge thank you to everyone who turned up to take part on the day.

Thanks to the Parent's Council who recently paid for 8 **swimming lessons** for the children.

Plans for our **Fun Run** on the 11th of June are now well under way and we'd like to encourage everyone to come out and support our end of year event after 9:30am mass in Clontubrid on that Sunday.

FIELD TRIPS

We were fortunate enough this year to have been offered two free field trips to coincide with our Green Flag campaign. We had a marvellous day exploring the **Seskin Group Water Scheme** with Paddy and Angela Mullally. A huge thank you to them for taking the time to show us this wonderful local scheme. Our second field trip will take place in the first term of the next school year. Aimee Gleeson who is a parent in the school has offered us a trip to **Kildangan Stud** where the children will learn all about how the stud farm is run, but more importantly how they treat and dispose of the waste water used on the stud farm. This again is a fabulous learning opportunity, and thanks to Aimee for this.



T H A N K Y O U . . .

A number of people have been of great help to the school during the second term and the school would like to extend it's gratitude to:

- **Paul Queally** for making the fantastic shop front for Aistear in the Junior Room.
- **Deirdre Dunne** who has begun a six week course of Speech and Drama lessons with all classes.
- **Dorothea Bergin** who will be bringing some members of our Green Schools committee to Hotel Kilkenny on May 23rd to accept our third Green Flag award.
- **All parents** who contributed to the huge success of our Clothing Collection which raised €575.
- **The parents of children in the Junior Room** who have been helping with our Power Hour in literacy.
- To our wonderful **Parent's Council** for all of their support and organisation of school events.

N E W I N F A N T S M O R N I N G

We will be holding a morning for our new junior infants on **Tuesday the 16th of May from 10-11:30am**. There will be a cup of tea/coffee and an opportunity for parents to chat @ 11:30 when collecting the children. We look forward to meeting all our new students and parents then.

H U R L I N G & C A M O G I E

Our hurling and camogie seasons are well underway now at this stage. The under 13 boys have had a few very narrow defeats in past weeks and the under 11 team had a great win in their only game so far this year against Conahy. The camogie team have done brilliantly so far, and have won all five of their group games convincingly. They have now qualified for the quarter final stage. Best of luck to Ms. Fennelly, Ms. Brennan and all of the team for the rest of the competition.

F U N R U N & A C T I V E W E E K 2 0 1 7

This year we will kick off Active Week with our **Fun Run on Sunday the 11th of June after 9:30am mass** in Clontubrid. Please come along and support this wonderful community event.

Our **Active Week will run from the 12th to 16th of June**. The plan for the week is as follows: **Classes with Teresa Dunphy on Monday, Sports Day on Tuesday, Orienteering in Jenkinstown on Wednesday** (note to follow in the coming days), **School Tours on Thursday** and extended **P.E. classes on Friday**. Thanks to Ms. Fennelly & the teachers for all the organisation of Active Week, the BOM & Parent's Council for organising the Fun Run, Teresa Dunphy for the classes and Pat Farrell for running the day in Jenkinstown.

F I R S T C O M M U N I O N

First Communion will take place on **Saturday the 13th of May at 11am** in Saint Fiachra's Church, Clontubrid. Thanks to Ms. Fennelly and the parents who have been helping to prepare the children for this sacrament. We ask that all children from 1st to 6th class attend to sing in the choir on the day.

P I T C H D E V E L O P M E N T

Our fundraising efforts in aid of our **all-weather pitch development** are well underway. We have received a very positive response so far. Thanks to all parents, wider community members and local businesses who have contributed so generously towards this initiative. We aim to complete the work soon.

F R I E N D S H I P & A N T I - B U L L Y I N G I N I T I A T I V E S

We have ran a number of very successful Friendship and Anti-Bullying initiatives this year. We had a very worthwhile **Friendship Week** in October, the arrival of our **Friendship Bench**, Ms. Fennelly's 10 week course on **Friends for Life** which is still ongoing in the Middle and Senior Rooms and to conclude the year we had a fantastic talk in our Senior Room from Garda James Keogh on **staying safe and cyber-bullying**. A huge thanks to all who helped out and organised activities for this initiative.

D A T E S F O R Y O U R D I A R Y

Saturday 13th of May -	First Communion
Tuesday 16th of May-	New Infant Induction Morning (10-11:30am)
Tuesday 23rd of May-	County Photos (11:30am) & Green Schools Award Ceremony
Tuesday 30th of May-	3rd & 4th Class Blitz in Dunmore @ 9:50am
Friday 2nd of June -	Graduation for 6th Class at 9.30am
Sunday 11th to Friday 16th of June -	"Active School Week" (Colour Run on Sunday 11th after Mass).
Thursday 15th of June -	Infant and 1st to 6th Class School Tours
Friday 23rd of June -	Closed @ 12 o'clock for Summer Holidays