



Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Clontubrid, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny.

Roll No. 16865D

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

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

On behalf of the BOM and all the staff at Scoil Naomh Fiachra, I would like to wish all families a very happy and peaceful New Year. Thank you to all for your help and support throughout 2019 and we are looking forward to a busy and rewarding year ahead at Scoil Naomh Fiachra.

ESB SCIENCE BLAST (RDS DUBLIN)

Students from 4th to 6th class are busy preparing their project for the ESB Science Blast 2020. Their challenge this year is to investigate whether fruit and vegetables can be used as power sources for electricity. The children are enjoying the questions this project is raising and exploring many areas of STEM while searching for the answers. This project also links in with our Green School's work relating to climate change. Our students will present their project at this years **ESB Science Blast in the RDS Dublin on the 3rd of March**. Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths are huge areas of growth within our lives and it is very important that children explore all of these areas.

SWIMMING

Forms for swimming went home recently. Lessons will **begin on Monday 3rd of February** and will run until the Easter holidays. Please note **there will be no lesson on Monday 16th March**. Please ensure that your child brings a **warm coat and hat** to wear after the lessons. Children will not be permitted to go out to yard after lessons. Please be reminded that any parent helping out in the dressing rooms before or after the lessons must have received **Garda vetting** through the school. If any parent requires vetting, please contact the school.

WEBSITE / FACEBOOK PAGE

Please consult our School Website (www.clontubrid.ie) and our school Facebook Page to keep up to date with the fantastic activities and initiatives that our school is engaging with. Our Facebook page has been up and running since last year and is proving to be a great success. We would encourage everyone to **add** the page, **like** the posts and **share** with your contacts as we continue to try and raise the profile of our school by highlighting the great work of our entire school community.

CREDIT UNION TABLE QUIZ

The Credit Union Table Quiz will take place on 31st January in Cillín Hill. **Keela Downey, Ciarán McMenamin, Emma Carroll, Cillian Dunphy, Liam O' Gorman, Tadhg Bergin, Róisín Kennedy and Evan Perry** are members of the two quiz teams that will represent our school. Thank you to parents/guardians for organising supervision and transport to the event.

HSE HANDWASHING

With so many infections in our environment students are reminded daily of the importance of hand-washing and how it is important to wash hands properly with soap and warm water. This is one of the first steps in preventing the spread of infections particularly those that cause respiratory illness' and other bugs. Please remind your child of the importance of hand hygiene.

SCHOOL SAFETY

In the interest of the safety of all children, we would like to remind parents/guardians of the procedures around school drop-off and pick-up times. On all occasions when a child is leaving/entering the school premises we request that the adult with them meets the child(ren) at the school gate and walks them to their car. Or, in the event of drop-off that they walk them to the school gate. Please use the school carpark in an orderly fashion. Under no circumstances should any child be crossing the road on their own. There is a very real danger that a child will run across the road and forget to check for passing traffic. These procedures apply to all students from Junior Infants to 6th Class. We appreciate your co-operation with this very important area of school safety.



INTERNET SAFETY

We live in an age where we have instant access to information through many various platforms—via the internet and social media channels. There are many positives to be gained by the correct use of these platforms. However, the incorrect use of these mediums can have significantly negative consequences on our lives. As adults and parents it is imperative that we educate children about the positives but also about the negatives associated with the incorrect use of the internet. Tuesday 11th February is Safer Internet Day, which promotes Internet Safety for all users. Be informed—know what sites your child is accessing, know the friends they are interacting with through social media and know the content of what they are reading or posting. We aim to engage in SPHE lessons in this area on Internet Safety Day. Please visit www.webwise.ie which provides useful links for students, parents and teachers regarding internet safety.

PARENTS' COUNCIL

Thanks to all involved with our Parent's Council for their continued help and support and for the great work by the wider school community in supporting all events at Scoil Naomh Fiachra.

Thanks to everyone who supported the **Christmas trolley raffle, The sale of the Scoil Naomh Fiachra Tea Towels and the raffle on the day of the Christmas Plays.**

Thank you to the Parent's Council for subsidising **Tin Whistle lessons**, for agreeing to subsidise **swimming lessons** and the bus to the **ESB Science Fair**. These subsidies help enormously in reducing the costs for families.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

In Scoil Naomh Fiachra, we aim to help all those in our school community; children, staff and parents, to develop positive and responsible attitudes to eating and to appreciate the contribution that good food makes to health. Healthy lunches which include lots of fruit and vegetables are strongly encouraged. Fizzy drinks, popcorn, hot-chocolate, lollipops and crisps are not allowed. However, a **small** treat is allowed on a Friday. If children wish to bring hotter lunches to school (such as soup, pasta etc.), please ensure that they are in suitable containers that are safe to use. Children should inform their teacher that they have a lunch like this before they eat it. I would like to thank parents/guardians for their cooperation with this.

AED / DEFIBRILLATOR

Congratulations and well done to the members of the Clontubrid Community Group who received a grant from the Kilkenny Local Development Committee to purchase a new Automated External Defibrillator. This is now installed on the external wall of Scoil Naomh Fiachra!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK / GRANDPARENTS' - VIP DAY

We are celebrating Catholic Schools week from the 26th January 2020 to the 2nd February 2020. The theme for this year is *Living in Harmony with God's Creation*.

We will celebrate our school's **Grandparents'-VIP day on Thursday 6th February**. We will have mass at 10.00am in the church, followed afterwards by refreshments and activities in our school. All Grandparents-VIPs are invited and welcome to attend.

SOME FINAL NOTES

- Congratulations to the students in 5th and 6th Class who took part in the Enrolment Ceremony for Confirmation on Saturday 25th January 2020. They represented themselves, the school and their families to the highest standard.
- Thank you to Caroline and Gary Tallis who erected the stage for the Christmas Plays. Thanks also to Michael Brophy and Kieran Costelloe for their help with transporting and storing the stage.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 6th February -
Thursday 20th & Friday 21st February -
3rd of March -
Monday 9th to Friday 13th of March -
Tuesday 10th March
Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th of March -
Friday 3rd of April -
Thursday 14th May -
Saturday 30th May -
Tuesday 23rd June -

Grandparent's/VIP Day at 10am in the church.
Closed for **Mid Term Break**
ESB Primary Science Blast - RDS in Dublin.
Seachtain na Gaeilge
First Reconciliation
School closed for **Bank Holiday (St. Patrick's Weekend)**
Closed for **Easter Holidays @ 12 o'clock**
Confirmation for students in 5th and 6th class
First Communion in Clontubrid Church @ 11am
Closed @ 12 o'clock for **Summer Holidays**