





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

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is great to have all our children back in school. The sounds of learning coming from the classrooms is wonderful to hear not to mention the sounds of the children playing at yard time. The children have settled right back into the routine of the school day and are so happy to be with their friends. Thank you all for your co-operation, particularly when dropping and collecting your children to and from school. We have overcome many challenging circumstances yet again this term. I am humbled by everyone's commitment to our pupils' education and welfare throughout. A review of our remote learning during the school closure in term two, shows the phenomenal amount of work undertaken by teachers, SNA's, the children and you as parents. Our whole school community has demonstrated such resilience and teamwork for which we can be proud.

ACTIVE FLAG-ACTIVE SCHOOL WEEK

A tremendous amount of work has already been completed this year as we continue to work towards our next Active Flag. An active Walkway has been installed around the school grounds. We have used this for some orienteering challenges and all students used it to complete a *Road to Croker* challenge before Easter. We are currently exploring the strand of Gymnastics in our PE lessons and many thanks to Brían Ryan who recently ran some coaching sessions with students from our Middle Room. Our Active School Week will run from 31st May 2021 – 4th May 2021. **Children should wear their tracksuits to school each day during this week.** We look forward to many fun activities including: orienteering in Jenkinstown with Pat Farrell (3rd June 2021), our school sport's day and hopefully one or two surprises! Continued thanks to Ms. Brennan, our Active Committee and all teachers, students and parents for your hard work and commitment to our physical education programme.

NEW INFANTS MORNING

We will be hosting our new Junior Infants Induction Morning on **Tuesday 1**st **June** from **11.30am to 12.15pm**. We look forward to meeting all of our new students and welcoming them to Scoil Naomh Fiachra.

GRADUATION

Our 6th Class Graduation will be held on 17th June 2021. This ceremony will be held outdoors. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, we are unable to invite parents to attend. I very much understand that this is disappointing for families. However, I have arranged for the ceremony to be filmed with Pat Farrell and the recording will be posted to ClassDojo. Our 7 graduates are working very hard to prepare for the ceremony and we are very proud of all of their achievements throughout their time in Scoil Naomh Fiachra.

SCHOOL REPORTS

The end of year school reports will be completed in the coming weeks. They will be available for parents in June and this year we will organise a time for parents to collect them from the school.

SCHOOL SAFETY-DROP OFF/COLLECTION

Thank you to all parents and pupils for prioritising safety at school drop-off and collection times. Please continue to be mindful of Covid-19-HSE guidelines.



GREEN SCHOOLS

Our children are working away in the background on their latest Green Flag Theme – Biodiversity. Sincere thanks to Mr. Fitzgerald who is coordinating this effort. Our Senior Room has been very busy lately as they created a raised bed in our school garden. We look forward to the continued 'growth' and development of this garden in the coming years.

PARENTS' COUNCIL

Sincere thanks to our fantastic and hard-working Parents' Council who volunteer their time to support our school. Thanks to all members of our school community who contributed to the recent Clothing Collection. The Parents' Council is currently organising a Virtual Run which will take place over the June Bank Holiday weekend. More details regarding this will be communicated in the coming weeks. These fundraising efforts continue to contribute towards the purchase of important resources for our school. At the moment we are in the process of updating our P.E. and our Maths equipment.

MUSIC GENERATION

Our Middle Room students have thoroughly enjoyed engaging with the Music Generation Programme this year. Thanks to Carl Rochford who has taught the students violin on a weekly basis. They have really made tremendous progress and I will post a recorded performance to ClassDojo before the end of term. The programme will continue next year and I am hopeful that we will be able to expand it so both the Middle Room and the Senior Room students will receive violin tuition throughout the 2021-2022 academic year. Many thanks to the Parents' Council who have helped to fund this initiative.

SUMMER WORKS AND BUILDING DEVELOPMENT

We are thrilled to have been approved for funding under the 2021 Summer Works Scheme! The Roof in the main corridor will be repaired and replaced using this funding. In addition to the Summer Works Scheme, the exterior of the school will also be painted during the summer months.

COUNTY PHOTOS

County Photos will visit the school on the 15th June 2021 to take group photos of our Junior Infants and 6th Class. Family photos which include the siblings of Junior Infants and 6th Class Students may also be taken on the day.

THANK YOU

I would like to say thank you to our former cleaner Frank Doheny. Frank worked in Scoil Naomh Fiachra for many years and he remained highly dedicated as his work intensified in light of Covid-19. We wish Frank well as he leaves and we are very grateful for everything he did for our school. We recently welcomed AnneMarie Ryall to the school as our new cleaner and we wish her the very best in her work here.

As we approach the end of this academic year, I would like to sincerely thank all members of our school community for your dedication, volunteerism and hard work in support of Scoil Naomh Fiachra. Due to Covid-19, our school faced many challenges over the past two years. I whole-heartedly believe that the sense of collegiately and partnership between all of the stakeholders in our school helped us all to overcome and work through the difficulties that we faced.

To all those, who continue to work hard to develop Scoil Naomh Fiachra as a fantastic place of learning, Thank You!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

31st May 2021-4th June 2021 1st June 2021 3rd June 2021 7th and 8th June 2021

15th June 2021 17th June 2021 22nd June 2021 Active School Week (Tracksuits each day)
Junior Infant Introduction Morning
Orienteering in Jenkinstown
School will be closed for two days for the June Bank
Holiday
County Photos (Junior Infants and 6th Class)
Graduation for 6th Class
Closed at 12:00 noon for Summer Holidays