



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

Roll No. 16865D

Tel: 056-8832417, Email: [clontubridns@gmail.com](mailto:clontubridns@gmail.com), Website: [www.clontubrid.ie](http://www.clontubrid.ie)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we approach the end of another busy school year, Scoil Naomh Fiachra continues to be full of energy and active learning. So many curricular and extra-curricular learning activities that had been suspended over the past number of years have now returned. Sounds of classes singing inside echo throughout the school once more and the clash of hurls can be heard on the school pitch during warm and sunny yard times. I am immensely proud of all of our school's students, who displayed such mature resilience over the past few years. I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to all staff and parents for your outstanding hard work, volunteerism and support of Scoil Naomh Fiachra. As always a sense of community is highly valued in our school and it makes it the warm and special place of learning that it is! Our school was delighted to recently welcome 6 students from Ukraine into our community. Many thanks to all students and parents for the warm welcome and support that you provide in our inclusive centre of learning.

On behalf of the entire school community, I would like to congratulate Ms. Brennan on the birth of her beautiful baby girl. Good health and happiness to Ms Brennan, her husband Paddy and their beautiful baby daughter. Keep up to date with all activities in Scoil Naomh Fiachra by visiting our website ([www.clontubrid.ie](http://www.clontubrid.ie)) our Facebook Page or our new Twitter Page (@snfiachra)!

## PARENTS' COUNCIL - FUN RUN 2022

Many thanks to our wonderful and hard working Parents' Council who are busy organising this year's Fun Run. The Fun Run will take place on Sunday 12th June 2022 at 10.30am. Registration will be from 9.30am. However, you can also register online at <https://www.runireland.com/events/clontubrid-fun-run/>. The cost of entry is €20 per family or €10 for a single adult and €5 per child. Summer Raffle cards were sent home to all families last week. The draw for this raffle will take place next week. All funds raised are in aid of Scoil Naomh Fiachra. Many thanks to all families for your wonderful support of the school. Here's hoping for fine weather and an enjoyable day!

## ACTIVE WEEK - 2022

Scoil Naomh Fiachra's Active Week will run from the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 to the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022. We look forward to our school tour to Castlecomer Discovery Park on the 14th June 2022, Sports Day on the 15th June 2022 and orienteering in Jenkinstown Woods on 16th June 2022. Students from last year's 6th class are invited back to help out for Sports Day. Children can wear their tracksuits every day during this week. Remember to wear sun-cream and bring extra drinks!

## GREEN SCHOOLS

Under the leadership of Mr. Fitzgerald and our Green Schools Committee, our school has been awarded our fifth Green Schools Flag under the theme of *Biodiversity*. Our school garden is looking wonderful with 2 new ponds, a raised bed for planting and some new *Bug Hotels*. Wild flowers have been sown and the grass will not be cut in the corner of the garden. We hosted a Green Schools Action Day on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 and we had a Green Schools liaison officer visit our school on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March. On the 8th May, Graham from '*Biodiversity in Schools*' delivered a very interesting and inspiring workshop to all our students. Well done to all on this superb achievement.

## ESB SCIENCE BLAST

This year, we engaged in no less than 3 ESB Science Blast Projects! This is a great achievement for a small rural school. Children in the Middle Room explored: *How do different types of 'Bug-Hotels' influence living creatures in our local school environment?* 5<sup>th</sup> Class students asked: *Will species be more attracted to a pond with water plants or a pond without water plants?* 6<sup>th</sup> Class students investigated: *How do different arm movements affect the speed you can run?* Projects in the ESB Science Blast are child centred and are indeed led by the children. It was wonderful to watch the students as they worked so enthusiastically on their investigations. Great leadership and motivation were displayed by all students. Well done everyone.



## MUSIC GENERATION

Students from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Class are continuing to receive weekly violin lessons from Carl Rochford. Our learning in this area is conducted in partnership with Music Generation Kilkenny. On Saturday 4th June, violinists from our school were honoured to perform in the 'Sounds of Summer' concert in Butler Gardens. The students have made outstanding progress over the past two years. It is envisaged that all students will eventually graduate 6<sup>th</sup> Class in Scoil Naomh Fiachra with the ability to play a musical instrument. Many thanks to all pupils, staff and parents for supporting this initiative.

## SACRAMENTS

Congratulations to the students from fifth and sixth class who received the sacrament of Confirmation this year and to the students in second class who made their First Penance and First Holy Communion. Thank you to Fr Eamonn O Gorman, all the teachers and parents who helped to prepare the children for their very special day. On behalf of the entire school community, I would like to wish Fr. O' Farrell continued good health and every blessing as he recovers from his operation.

## SCHOOL REPORTS

The end of year school reports will be currently being completed. They will be sent home to parents on the week beginning Monday 13th June 2022.

## GRADUATION

Graduation for this year's sixth class students will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022. We are very proud of our graduating students and we wish them every luck and success as they progress to Secondary School. They have displayed great leadership and have been wonderful ambassadors for Scoil Naomh Fiachra.

## SCHOOLS HURLING / CAMOGIE

After a long break, students enjoyed being able to participate in school hurling/camogie training sessions and matches this year. Thank you to Mr Fitzgerald, Ms Sweeney and the many parents from the various school communities for their help and support in organising same.

## SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION

We are continuing to develop the next phase of the School Self-Evaluation (SSE) process in Scoil Naomh Fiachra. Our new School Improvement Plan will be published in the next academic year, 2022/2023. Our new areas of focus will be 1. Comprehension Strategies in Reading and 2. Oral Language in both English and Gaeilge. New teaching and learning strategies are already being explored in these areas and we are observing some very positive results.

## MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Please note the following reminder to students and parents/guardians regarding some points in our school's mobile phone policy. Permission for use of a mobile phone is to be sought from the principal on a case by case basis. If a parent is given permission for their child to have a mobile during school hours, pupils and their parents / guardians must first read and understand the Acceptable Use Policy. The Acceptable Use Policy for mobile phones also applies to pupils during school trips and extra-curricular activities. Please visit our website to view this and other relevant school policies.

## COMMUNICATION

As always, good communication between home and school is vitally important. If you have any issues or concerns relating to your child's learning, please make an appointment with your child's teacher outside of teaching times (unless in an emergency). The school's emails, ClassDojo and phone messages are checked regularly each day. Thank you to all parents/guardians for your consideration and cooperation with this.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
14<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
15<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
16<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
21<sup>st</sup> June 2022  
22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022  
24<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Family Fun Run at Scoil Naomh Fiachra  
Active school week (wear tracksuits each day!)  
School Tour to Castlecomer Discovery Park  
School Sports Day  
Orienteering in Jenkinstown Woods  
Swimming Gala in the Watershed  
Graduation for 6<sup>th</sup> Class  
Closed at 12:00 noon for Summer Holidays