



**Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Clontubrid, Kilkenny**  
**Roll No. 16865D**

**Tel: 056-8832417**

**Email: [clontubridns@gmail.com](mailto:clontubridns@gmail.com) Website: [www.clontubrid.ie](http://www.clontubrid.ie)**

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

I would like to sincerely congratulate and thank all students for their excellent behaviour and attitude in Scoil Naomh Fiachra. As always, they are working so hard in school and they approach every aspect of school life with respect and positivity. They should be proud of their achievements so far this year and I wish them all continued success. We look forward to a short and busy half-term before the Christmas Break. It is hard to believe that we are beginning to plan our Christmas Performances and Friendship Week and Science Week are just around the corner. As always I am very grateful to all parents, families and staff for your outstanding and long term support of the school. Wishing all members of our school community continued success throughout this school year.

## **E N R O L M E N T S   2 0 2 6 / 2 0 2 7**

The school is now accepting enrolment applications for September 2026. Application forms are available on the school website ([www.clontubrid.ie](http://www.clontubrid.ie)) or by contacting the school office at 056-8832417. Please pass this message on to any families who may be considering joining our school.

## **P A R E N T S '   C O U N C I L**

The Parents' Council hosted another successful Bingo night in Lisdowney Community Hall on 2nd November. Great fun, laughter, and prizes were the order of the day! A total of €2007 was raised. A lot of work goes into organising this important fundraiser, and I would like to sincerely thank all members of the Parents' Council for their time and voluntary effort. The money raised at events such as this helps fund essential school resources and services. This year, we are delighted to welcome two new members to the Parents' Council — Bríd Mulhall and Julia Fitzpatrick. As Sinéad Muldowney finishes her time on the Council, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for her outstanding contribution and support over the past number of years.

## **S C H O O L   B O O K S   G R A N T**

We would like to remind you that the payment of €27.00, which covers the cost of Arts and Crafts, Photocopying, and Pupil Personal Accident Insurance for the 2025/2026 school year, is now due. Payments can be made directly to your child's teacher. We understand that this time of year may be financially challenging for families, so if you wish to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact the school in confidence.

## **A T T E N D A N C E**

At Scoil Naomh Fiachra, we place great emphasis on the importance of regular school attendance. With the school year being relatively short, it is crucial that students do not miss out on key learning opportunities. Missing 20 days in a school year is equivalent to four weeks of lessons, or an entire month of schoolwork. If your child is absent, please ensure an explanation note is provided. Notes can be sent through the homework diary, by email, or via a private message on ClassDojo. Please note that the school day begins at 9.00am. **The school is only available to supervise students in the school yard from 8.50am onwards. Please be mindful of this, particularly on wet days.**

## **M O B I L E   P H O N E S**

We would like to remind students and parents/guardians of some key points regarding our school's mobile phone policy. Permission to use a mobile phone during school hours must be requested from the principal on a case-by-case basis. If permission is granted, both pupils and their parents/guardians are required to read and understand the Acceptable Use Policy. This policy also applies during school trips and extra-curricular activities. For more details, please visit our website to view this and other important school policies.

## **S T U D E N T   C O U N C I L**

There was great excitement in our school recently as we elected our very first Student Council. The senior room students played an important role in deciding what the Council's responsibilities would be and how the election would take place. The Student Council plays an important role in school life by representing the voice of the students, promoting communication between pupils, staff, and parents, and encouraging students to help organise events and represent the school in a positive way. We wish them well as they organise events and initiatives over the months ahead.

## **S C H O O L   S P O R T S**

Congratulations to the Under 11 hurling team who won the Cumann Na MBunscol Under 11 Roinn C Championship Final on the 27th of September! This was a great achievement for the Lisdowney Schools and the players represented themselves so well on the day. The boys Gaelic Football team is doing very well this year and we wish them continued success in their games over the coming weeks. Many thanks to Mr. Percy and Mr. Walsh from Lisdowney National school and of course to Martin Power and Esther Costelloe who are all volunteering their own time to coordinate and train these teams. Many thanks also to all parents who provide lifts to and from games and training.

Our 3rd and 4th Class students participated in a GAA Blitz in Dunmore in early September and Nathen Culleton will continue to visit the school before the Christmas break to provide some fun GAA coaching sessions.



## HEALTHY LUNCHES

It's wonderful to see so many pupils enjoying healthy lunches every day. The variety of fruits and vegetables being brought to school is helping to build a strong culture of healthy eating. Just a gentle reminder that students may bring one small treat on Fridays. Well done to all for continuing to support our healthy eating initiative!

## SCHOOL SELF EVALUATION

Our School Improvement Plans are available to view on the school website. In recent years, we have continued to strengthen teaching and learning in areas such as Handwriting, Sentence Structure, Writing Genres, STEM, Reading Comprehension Strategies, and Oral Language Skills in both English and Gaeilge. These areas remain an important part of our whole-school focus for 2025–2026. This year, we are delighted to have our new **Wellbeing School Improvement Plan** in operation, supporting the wellbeing of all pupils and staff. We also look forward to introducing a new School Improvement Plan based on the **Primary Maths Curriculum** during the second term of this school year.

## AMBER FLAG

This year, our school is delighted to be taking part in the Pieta Amber Flag Initiative for 2025–2026. The Amber Flag recognises schools and organisations that promote positive mental health and well-being in an inclusive and supportive way. As part of this initiative, we will establish an **Amber Flag Committee** made up of pupils and staff, who will work together to set and achieve goals that encourage kindness, awareness, and open conversations about mental health. By taking part, we aim to strengthen our school's commitment to wellbeing. We look forward to sharing our progress and activities with you throughout the year!

## GREEN SCHOOLS

Last year, we were delighted to achieve our 6th Green Flag under the theme of *Global Citizenship – Litter and Waste*. This year, a new Green Schools Committee will be established to focus on the theme of *Global Citizenship – Energy*. The committee will work hard to promote energy awareness and sustainability throughout the school community, with the aim of achieving our 7th Green Flag by the end of the 2026–2027 school year.

## MUSIC GENERATION

We are delighted to continue our successful partnership with Music Generation Kilkenny for a sixth consecutive year. Music plays an important role in our school's vision, helping every pupil develop the skills, confidence, and joy that come from learning to play an instrument. We are very pleased to welcome back Andreea Bouros, who will once again share her wonderful expertise in violin with our students. We look forward to another inspiring year of music-making and performances!

## CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The Board of Management recently reviewed our school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment. These documents have been published on the school's website and they are also on display in each room in the school. Mr. Peter Madden is the school's Designated Liaison Person and Ms. Sinéad Brennan is the Deputy Designated Liaison Person.

## BÍ CINEÁLTA-ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

The Board of Management ratified the new *Bí Cineálta Policy to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour* at its meeting on the 17th June 2025. This policy was created in consultation with pupils, parents and staff and it is available on our school's website. Thanks to all members of the school community for your hard work in this area. We look forward to celebrating Friendship Week from the 17th November to the 21st November 2025.

## COMMUNICATION

Open and positive communication is central to the success of Scoil Naomh Fiachra. If any parent or guardian has a question or concern, the first point of contact should be their child's class teacher. Teachers are always happy to arrange a meeting or phone call, and no issue is ever too big or too small — it's always best to get in touch early. Our **Complaints Procedure Policy** is available on the school website for reference. Teachers can be contacted by phone at **056-8832417**, by email at [clontubridns@gmail.com](mailto:clontubridns@gmail.com), or through **ClassDojo**. Emails and phone messages are checked regularly each day.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025  
 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026  
 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
 18<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Parent Teacher Meetings  
 GAA Training with Nathen Culleton  
 Friendship Week  
 GAA Training with Nathen Culleton  
 Christmas Performances  
 Swimming Lessons Begin  
 Science Week  
 RSE Workshop for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>  
 School Closed for Staff CPD  
 Sacrament of Confirmation  
 Sacrament of 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion  
 School Closed for Staff CPD  
 Active Week  
 6<sup>th</sup> Class Graduation