



# Scoil Naomh Fiachra

[www.clontubrid.ie](http://www.clontubrid.ie)



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we are now well into our final term, I'd like to thank you (the parents) for the very many contributions you have made to the school - whether it be ferrying children to and from events, supporting initiatives and fundraising events and most especially for the courtesy and support you have given to our staff members. I'd like to congratulate our pupils who have been outstanding—their behaviour and manners, their performance inside the class and out and their fantastic humour make me extremely proud to be principal of such a great school. I'd like to also acknowledge the great work of our teachers who give of their expertise and time so generously, both before 2:40 and afterwards, day in, day out. I'd like especially to say goodbye and thanks to Mr. Keane for all of his hard work over the past months. We are however, delighted to have Ms. O'Connor back with us since Easter. I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome Pauline O'Carroll to our staff. Pauline has taken up the position of part-time secretary in the school and her expertise will be invaluable to us as a school going forward.

## 6 K M W A L K

Our 6KM fundraising walk is now only weeks away. It will take place on Sunday the 14th of June after 9:30am Mass in Clontubrid. This will be followed by some fun activities and refreshments back in the school. This will also be the closing event for our "Active Schools Week". We look forward to a fantastic day out for the entire school community. Please come along and support.

## A C T I V E F L A G

Our campaign to become a recognised 'Active School' is going strongly. Our 'Walk a Mile' every Friday has been a great success and our 'Drop Everything and Dance' on Wednesdays has been great fun too. These and many more activities are planned for the last term. Our 'Active Week' which will include an 'Active School Tour', 'Our Sports Day', 'Our 6KM School Walk' and many more activities will all take place between the 8th and 14th of June. The pupils will need to build up the energy levels for that week! Again, a big thank you to Ms. Fennelly who has been working so hard in coordinating all of the above activities.

## T I N W H I S T L E

Tin Whistle lessons are now underway and will run up until the end of the school year. Children from Junior Infants through to Sixth class seem to be really enjoying the lessons so far. However, in order to get the most from these lessons, we would ask you to ensure your child practices what they've learned from each lesson at home in the evenings and indeed over the summer holidays so that we can continue and build upon what they've learned next year. Again, we wish to thank the Parent's Council for their support with this new initiative and for supplying the tin whistles. Please ensure that your child keeps his/her tin whistle safe for the years ahead as these whistles are intended to last for their time in the school and will not be supplied again.

## S C H O O L S E L F - E V A L U A T I O N : N U M E R A C Y

Having almost completed our first year of School Self-Evaluation in Literacy which we will also continue over the next two years, we will now begin the same process of Self-Evaluation for Numeracy. As with Literacy, a questionnaire will be sent home to parents and collected again before the end of the school year in order to identify areas in Numeracy which require more focus and improvement. Feedback from the staff and pupils will also be gathered. All of this information will be analysed in order to give us a specific focus for our School Self-Evaluation in Numeracy next year. As a school, we would like to thank you in advance for your help with this process. A big thank you to Ms. Brennan also who has been putting a lot of work into coordinating this process.



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## NEW JUNIOR INFANTS

Our Junior Infants will come in to check out their new surroundings on Tuesday the 26th of May from 10 o'clock until 12 o'clock. We are also inviting the parents of new infants in for tea at 11:30 on the day in order to meet the class teacher for a chat before they begin. This will be a great opportunity for the children and new parents especially to familiarise themselves with the school and the staff.

## MICROSOFT 365

As a school which prides itself on its achievements in ICT, Scoil Naomh Fiachra will now go to the next level and begin to use cloud computing. We have been invited by Microsoft to be one of their trial schools for their new Microsoft 365 initiative whereby they are getting schools involved in cloud computing. Every child in the school will be given a login which they will use to gain access to many of Microsoft's software such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc. This new initiative will enable the students to continue work at home and at school from any computer and save it to the cloud. The staff are already being trained on how to use it. It is hoped that the students will begin to use it towards the end of the year or early next year. We will provide more information in the coming weeks. Thanks to Tommy Maher for all his help with this new initiative.

## PARENTS

As always, our Parent's Council have been working away in the background. They ran a very successful night in Mackey's Pub on the 28th of February and raised €510. Thanks to everyone who supported on the night.

Also, a mention must go to Gary Tallis who put his skills into practice again and made another new basketball stand for the school. Thanks to Gary and so many other parents who give so generously of their time and expertise for the good of our school.

## GREEN FLAG

We have officially began our campaign to capture our third Green Flag which is for Water Conservation. Some of our newly formed Green School's Committee attended a meeting in Hotel Kilkenny before the Easter break to get us started. A big thank you to Rita Phelan who has gotten on board to help out with this.

## SCHOOL TOURS

It's that time of year again and we have now organised our school tours. Both tours will take place during 'Active Week' and as a result will follow that theme. The infants will go to "The Playstation" and "The Castle Park" on Thursday the 11th of June while 1st to 6th class will go to "Adventure World" in Kilkenny on Friday the 12th of June. Notes regarding the tours will be sent home in the coming weeks.

## HURLING & CAMOGIE

Our camogie team got off to a great start by beating Bennettsbridge and drawing with St. Canices. They went down narrowly to the Presentation but are still well in contention to get out of their group. A big thank you to Ms. Fennelly and Ms. Brennan for all they are doing with the girls.

The hurling team have only had one loss in the league out of four games and are also looking good to qualify for the quarter-finals. They have also qualified for the next round of the Mini-Sevens. Well done boys.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Our second class have been busy preparing for their First Holy Communion which will take place on Sunday the 24th of May. All of the boys and girls are eagerly looking forward to the big day. A big thank you to Ms. Fennelly, Fr. O'Farrell and the parents involved in preparing the children for their First Communion.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 1st, Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th of May— Closed for May Bank Holiday Weekend

Sunday 24th of May — First Holy Communion in Clontubrid

Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd of June — Closed for June Bank Holiday Weekend

Monday 8th of June — Sunday 14th of June — "Active School Week"

Thursday 11th of June—Infant School Tour

Friday 12th of June—1st-6th Class School Tour

Sunday 14th of June —School Walk after 9:30am Mass in Clontubrid

Friday 26th of June — Closed @ 12 o'clock for Summer Holidays