

*Scoil Iosaif Naofa
Bothair an Chlochair
Cinn Mhara
Co. na Gailimhe*



*St. Joseph's N.S
Convent Road
Kinvara
Co. Galway*

Newsletter April/May 2014

Dear Parents,

First Holy Communion: Congratulations to all the pupils in 2nd class who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 24th of May. The children were a credit to their parents and teacher in the way they were turned out and in how they participated in the ceremony. I would also like to thank the school choir. They played a huge part in making the day most enjoyable. Great credit is due to all the children who helped throughout the school year by turning out in great numbers to help in Sacrament Preparation. I would also like to thank the parents of the choir members who drop off and collect the pupils for all of the events. The school participated in the "Do this in Memory of me programme". It was a great success and helped make First Holy Communion more meaningful to the children and adults involved. I would like to thank all of the parents who helped to make the programme so successful. I would also like to thank the Parents Association and the parents of the 1st & 3rd classes who hosted a party for the relatives and children of First Holy Communion. Everybody was made feel most welcome and a great time was had by all. This year the celebration was held in the new hall. There was a wonderful atmosphere present on the day.

The school community appreciates all of the hard work that was carried out in the preparation of refreshments and reception area and the huge workload involved catering for so many people. The layout of the tables was a fantastic sight and once again this enhanced the welcome and warmth received by all.

The goodwill shown on the day is a massive asset to our community. Sincere thanks to all.

Choir: I would like to compliment the pupils in the school choir who sang so beautifully for the First Communion ceremony.

E.W.B.: The school is obliged to report the names of all children who are absent for over 20 days to the Education Welfare Board (E.W.B.). Parents/Guardians need not become unduly worried in circumstances where these absences can be satisfactorily explained due to illness, bereavement or family circumstances.

Please ensure that all absences are explained to the class teacher. Please do not call the school if your child is not going to be in school. A note on return to school will suffice.

Collection of Pupils: If you have to collect your child during the school day, we ask that you do so either before or after break times-not during lunch break. Please sign child withdrawal book in office.

We also ask, where possible, that the school office is not called when another parent is picking up your child. This takes up a lot of time trying to find pupils and disrupts class time. It is not necessary in most cases. The parent who will be doing pick up should inform the class teacher on the day when they are escorted to the door. This mostly happens in infant classes.

Congratulations: to Gabriel Gorman, from 1st class who was recently picked in the top 25 out of more than 1000 entries, to attend the Tech Week, Scratch National Finals which was held in Dublin Castle on the 2 May. Gabriels project was entitled 'So you think you can count?' and can be seen here <http://scratch.mit.edu/projects/18662908/>

Scratch is a programming language for children, and online community, where you can create your own interactive stories, games, and animations. (<http://scratch.mit.edu/about/>) Gabriel attends CoderDojo Kinvara which is held on most Saturdays from 4-6pm in the school. Open to everyone who would like to attend and play !!! For more information please contact coderdojoK@gmail.com



Kinvara Community Games: Congratulations to all the pupils who competed in the recent community games.

Voluntary Contribution: The Board of Management would like to express its sincere thanks to all families who have contributed to this collection. If you have books to return please do so before the summer holidays.

6th Class Graduation Mass: 6th class will finish their Primary Education on Friday June 20th. There will be mass in St. Joseph's Church at 10am and a graduation ceremony at the school afterwards.

Parent Information Evening: This will take place at the school on Wednesday 11th of June at 8.00pm for parents of new infants in September 2014. Also the new Junior Infants are invited to the school on of June 19th from 9.30am-11.30am to meet their teacher's and settle into school life.

School Reports: Could pupils please bring in a stamped addressed envelope to their class teacher as soon as possible.

Uniforms: It is great to see pupils dressed in the full uniform each day. I would like to remind parents to ensure jumpers and all clothing to have their children's names written on them so that in the event of their loss they can be returned to the owners.

Safety: It is tremendous to see pupils cycling to school each day. However, it is essential that they wear safety helmets, high visibility vest/belts and obey the rules of the road.

Communication: Please ensure that the school has accurate and up to date details of mobile numbers of parents/guardians so that messages can be sent and received promptly. It is also important that the designated phone is enabled to receive these messages. Practically all communications are now sent by email, so please check regularly.

School Closures: The school will close at **12 noon on Tuesday 24th of June** for the summer holidays.

Galway Jersey: There is a Galway Jersey in the school office for a raffle-all proceeds go to the Irish Cancer Society. If you wish to buy a line for €2 please contact the school office.

Summer Camps: Cúl Camps: Hurling Camp takes place from Mon 30 June to Fri 4th July
Football Camp takes place from: 21st July -25th July.

COST:

€55 for 1st. child; €45 for 2nd child; €40 for 3rd and subsequent children.

For children attending a second camp, without gear, the cost is €35 (basically, both camps costs only €90 for the first child, including one set of gear). These camps take place at the Kinvara GAA pitch.

Lets go summer camp:-July 7th- July 11th at St. Joseph's N.S www.letsgo.ie for more information.

Power Soccer: Summer camp Monday 28th July-Friday 1st of August- See www.powersoccer.ie for more information.

Cake Sale:Eimear, Shona, Leah, Eadaoin and Ciara would like to thank everyone for their fantastic and enthusiastic support of their Cake Sale for "Make a Wish Foundation" last Friday. They are very proud to announce that the cake sale raised **€205** for this very worthwhile charity which has one simple aim - to grant the wishes of children aged between 3 and 17 years living with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

For more information regarding the Make a Wish Foundation Ireland ref:<http://www.makeawish.ie/>

Congratulations to: To Aisling Murray (1th class teacher) who got married recently. We wish Aisling & Sebastien many years of happiness in the years ahead.
Also congratulations to Dana (SNA) & John Conole on the birth of their baby girl Grace.

Website: Please view our website on www.kinvarans.ie to see pictures of recent events at the school.

Is mise,

Dominic Ó Gallachóir (Principal)