

*Scoil Iosaif Naofa  
Bothair an Chlochair  
Cinn Mhara  
Co. Na Gaillimhe*



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

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### **Newsletter June 2016**

Dear Parents,

**Congratulations:** to 6<sup>th</sup> class on their graduation from St. Joseph's N.S. on Wednesday June 22<sup>nd</sup> of June . Many thanks to the families whose children have now left the primary school, the Costello, Deveney, Fordham Keely, Kilkelly, McDowell Mulkerrins, McHugh, O'Hanrahan & Stephens, families.

We hope that the pupils will leave the school with fond memories. We wish them well in their secondary schools and hope that they are looking forward to the challenges and experience's that secondary school will provide.

Another successful year draws to a close. It is amazing how much has been achieved by the pupils and staff in one year. The achievements extend from the academic to the sporting and the science and IT Awards.

We achieve so much because we work together as a team and this is one of the greatest strengths of our school.

It is difficult to identify the highlights because they are genuinely so many.

We were blessed with a fantastic sixth class this year winning numerous sporting events and much more.

I hope they look back at their time in St. Joseph's with fondness and perhaps return and regale us with their achievements.

I am proud of them all and wish them good luck in the future.

I thank the Board of Management for their support. Over the past year we have worked to enhance the buildings and resources available to ensure all pupils receive full educational opportunities.

As the reputation of St. Joseph's has grown, so has the number of pupil's on our roll.

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To meet the demand we will again double up classes all the way to fifth. We will complete the refurbishment of the old convent building to accommodate a new classroom and will surface the carpark with tarmac over the summer months.

We have state of the art facilities equipped to meet the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> century education. We will also strive to establish a lasting legacy for future generations of local children.

I would like to wish Finóla Murphy well in her retirement. For many years she has devoted herself to educating the pupils of our school. As the time comes for reminiscing I hope Finóla will look to the future with joy and satisfaction.

After many years of hard work and dedication to the school you can relax and enjoy the simple things life has to offer. Wishing you a happy and fulfilling retirement.

In St. Joseph's, we recognise the crucial and valuable role that parents play in the education of your children. Parents are the primary educators of children, and have a vital role to play in the partnership between home and school. We rely heavily on the support and co-operation of parents in the education of your children. We value our parents and in turn ask parents to support us in the education of your children.

### **Uniform:**

It is important that pupils wear the proper school uniform in order to maintain balance and order among pupils. School uniform helps to eliminate bullying due to the fact that everyone is dressed the same and pupils cannot be teased for wearing something unusual or different.

Our school's uniform policy –dress code is on our school website. We have noticed of late that this dress code is not being adhered to. Tracksuit bottoms can be grey or black only. A crested school jumper must be worn at all times. If you are shopping for your children's uniform, we ask that you follow our dress code. Please consult with our uniform policy on school website. [www.kinvarans.ie](http://www.kinvarans.ie)

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### **Thank You**

Our fourth class teacher, Gearóid Nolan would like to express his gratitude to all those who supported him in any way since the untimely passing of his wife Stephanie recently. Thank you to the parents, pupils ( past and present ), staff members, the school Board of Management and the general Kinvara public who attended the funeral, offered condolences, sent mass cards or conveyed messages of support. That same support is very much appreciated.

**Parents Association:** I would like to acknowledge all the hard work carried out by the Parents Association over the past year. Parents have willingly given of their own time to help us with events during the school year. A lot of work is sometimes taken for granted and goes unnoticed. The First Communion Party was a most enjoyable day. All of the visitors were made feel very welcome. A huge amount of work goes into preparing the room, baking scones, cakes etc, organising cups, saucers, making teas and coffees, cleaning and washing and many other chores in catering for so many people.

The Parents Association also helped in the same way to make the 6<sup>th</sup> class graduation ceremony a memorable event. I thank all of the parents of the parents association for their efforts throughout the year.

**Pupil attendance awards:** Well done to the following pupils who had full attendance at school from September 2015 until June 2016: Evan Carroll, Jamie Kavanagh, Matthew Sexton, Eoin O'Connor, Clíona Byrne, Ethan Sexton, Sadbh Connolly and Róisín Geaney.

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**Thank you:** A big thank you to Michael Helebert, Joe Quinn, Anthony Byrne, Colleen Callanan, Jonathan (Tennis coach) Darren (Gaelic coach) and Cherie (Dance coach) who gave up their time to teach the pupils hurling, camogie, tennis, Gaelic and dance throughout the year. The pupils have really enjoyed this and have learnt so much.

**Kinvara Community Games:** Best of luck to the pupils in the school who are in the Connacht Finals over the summer in various events and also to the pupils who have qualified for the All Ireland finals in Athlone in August.

**Twitter :** follow us on twitter @kinvarans to get an inside look at what goes on



during the day in school. You will see artwork, science experiments, sports, mystery skype calls and lots of other interesting happenings from around the school. Our ASD unit Seoda also tweets on @seodakinvara. For those who wish to read more about twitter please [click here](#) and go to our Online Safety Information section.

**Voluntary Contribution:** The Board of Management would like to express its sincere thanks to all families who have contributed to this collection.

**Web Page:** Please view our website to see some pictures of recent events at the school. [www.kinvarans.ie](http://www.kinvarans.ie) & also to see school information for the school year ahead.

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**Congratulations: to the our school hurling team who won the county final in Loughgeorge in early June.**

Well done to the Kinvara NS Gaelic team on their successful year on winning both the Garda 7's and the Cumann na mBunscoil competitions. Both 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class have made brilliant strides this year and their improvements can be seen from their recent run of form.

The group stages offered sturdy opponents in Portumna and G.S Cheithearnaigh and the introductions of our 5th class students provided good strength in depth to see off the challenge from both sides. Evan O' Connell, Tommy Mc Dowell Mulkerrins, Daniel Malone, Justin Mitchell Ward and Evan Deveney were instrumental to Kinvara's progress through the group stages.

The final between Kinvara and Cregmore provided a real spectacle on how football should be played. Both sides played fast counter-attacking football. Great scores from both sides made for excellent viewing and a thrilling game.

The team, captained by Tadhg Heavey, had to dig deep in the final as they trailed by three points at half time. With some fine saves by Conor Kilkelly and first –class defending by Aodhán O'Hanrahan, Joe Meares, Joshua Medina and Cathal Droney, they provided the platform for the forwards to seize the initiative. The remarkable Kinvara backline limited the Cregmore team to just one point in the second half as they battened down the hatches on the Cregmore forwards. Cregmore reverted to a more defensive style of play in the second half placing most of their players in their own half to try and make it difficult for Kinvara to break them down. However,

Kinvara are blessed with some talented forwards. The classy forward line of Tom Kidd, Cathal Fordham, Kian Pyne, Senan O'Connor Dunford and Kevin McHugh were a sight to behold as they swept into a three point winning lead. With the presence of Sean Costello and Tadhg Heavey winning prime possession around the middle of the field this provided a solid platform for which the Kinvara team could build on. They both kicked intelligent passes into the forward line creating some fine passages of play.

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As the clock ticked down into the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> minute of injury time Kinvara raced up the field and closed out the game as well deserved winners with three points to spare. This was an excellent all round team performance and the team is looking forward to next year hoping to retain their title of both the Garda 7's and Cumann na mBunscol competitions.

**School Uniform:** The National School's Uniform Centre has special offers for the month of June & July-10% discount during July.

**Junior Infants:** A céad míle fáilte to all the Junior Infants who had their first day in St. Joseph's. We wish them well for the years ahead.

**School mobile number:** For new families please note that the school mobile is **086 6067500**.

**Summer Camps: Cúl Camps:** Hurling Camp takes place from Mon 4 July to Fri 8th July.

Football Camp takes place from: 18th July -22nd 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 11<sup>th</sup>- July 15<sup>th</sup> & July 18<sup>th</sup> –July 22<sup>nd</sup> at St. Joseph's N.S [www.letsgo.ie](http://www.letsgo.ie) for more information.

**Power Soccer:** Summer camp Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July-Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of July- See [www.powersoccer.ie](http://www.powersoccer.ie) for more information.

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**Gymnastics: Summer Camp:** July 4<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> in Kinvara Community Centre. Contact Kasia on 087 6877562.

Fitness for Fun-Enda O'Flaherty 8<sup>th</sup> of August until 12<sup>th</sup> of August (087 2323018)

**Note:** The school will reopen on Thursday **1<sup>st</sup> of September** for all pupils and will be on website shortly.

**Junior & Senior Infants will be issued with a booklist bill in September.**

I would like to thank all parents for your support and generosity that you have shown throughout this school year. I hope you and your children have a happy and a safe holiday.

**Is mise,**

*Dominic Gallagher  
(Principal)*