



# Scoil Iognáid de Rís

## Summer 2021

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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Welcome to our final newsletter for the current school year. It has been a extraordinary year in so many ways. A year where bubbles, pods, P.P.E., social distancing, Covid committee amongst other words and phrases became everyday language in our school. We, as a school community, are proud of the immense effort parents, pupils and staff put in to ensure everybody remained safe. I cannot thank you enough for your patience and co-operation.

A sincere word of appreciation to the parents, guardians, grandparents and families of each pupil in our school. Your support and understanding has been greatly appreciated and never taken for granted. I'd also like to acknowledge the huge support we receive from our hardworking Parents' Council.

I'd like to thank the staff in our school who worked tirelessly throughout the year. Everyone gave it their all and we are extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated and hardworking staff. Delivering the Curriculum is challenging at the best of times but to deliver it in a backdrop of such uncertainty and concern is hard to put into words.

As a staff, we couldn't be prouder of every single pupil in our school. You have been through a lot but you have shown tremendous resilience and courage. It was lovely to have the buzz back in the school and see pupils laughing and smiling coming into school every morning. We look forward to September 1st with hope and anticipation. Our best wishes to our 6th class pupils who will be leaving us to begin their secondary education in September. Thank you for being such fantastic role models for the younger boys in our school and we look forward to hearing about your progress in the coming years.

A word also for our incoming 2nd class pupils and new pupils who will be joining us in other classes. We are looking forward to meeting you all and I can assure you that your time with us will be a positive one.

I'd like to acknowledge the contribution our Board of Management have made to school life. We count ourselves fortunate to have such a committed and proactive board.

With the arrival of our summer holidays we can finally look forward to some unhurried mornings and leisurely evenings. On behalf of all staff members in Scoil Iognáid de Rís I wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

*Niall Bergin, Príncipal.*

### AED Unit

We are delighted to announce that when we return to school in September we will have an AED Unit (Automated External Defibrillator) on the school premises. Hopefully, we will never need to use the unit but it is hugely reassuring to have such a device on site.



A huge word of thanks to the Quigley family and to Boston Scientific for their extremely generous sponsorship.

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## Incoming Pupils

We look forward to welcoming our 2nd class pupils and new pupils in other class levels to our school. On Tuesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> the 2nd class boys will get an opportunity to meet their teachers and tour the school from 9.30am to 10.30am.

If you have any queries please contact the school at [office.cbsprimarykk@gmail.com](mailto:office.cbsprimarykk@gmail.com)

## Sacraments

Unfortunately, the celebration of the Sacraments of Communion and Confirmation did not take place this school year. We are pleased to inform you that the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm in Nowlan Park. In the week leading up to Confirmation, we will have:



- **Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7.30pm** - Zoom meeting for Candidates and families.
- **Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm** - Ceremony of Light in St. Mary's Cathedral.
- **Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm** - Confirmation in Nowlan Park.
- **Communion, September 11<sup>th</sup>** - Time will be issued closer to the date.



**First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at a time that has yet to be confirmed.**

## Attendance

Congratulations to David Long, Tamim Rahman and Conor Ryan. David won the best attendance award in 6<sup>th</sup> class. These awards are based on pupil's attendance from when they started in 2<sup>nd</sup> class to when they leave us in 6<sup>th</sup> class.

The attendance awards are kindly sponsored by the Class of '59 and we are deeply appreciative of their generosity.

We encourage everyone to try their best to keep up their attendance. After all, school days are the best days of your lives!!



## Best wishes

All of us here in Scoil Iognáid de Rís would like to thank Ms. Cantwell for her contribution to our school. Ms. Cantwell taught our 6th class boys in Room 7 for Term 2 and Term 3. Ms. Cantwell's dedication and professionalism ensured the boys in her care were in safe hands. We wish Ms. Cantwell every success in the future.

## Parents' Council

Our Parents' Council organised an information evening in May about supporting your child's mental health & wellbeing. It was a very informative evening and well attended. Our Parents' Council plan on having a similar evening in September or October on a different topic. More details nearer the time.

If you would like to join the Parents' Council please keep an eye out for expression of interest forms that will be sent out at the beginning of the new school year.

## Chromebooks/Interactive Panels



Our new chromebooks/Interactive Panels have proven to be a huge hit in Term 3. They have really aided teaching and learning throughout the school. Once again a huge word of thanks to our Past Pupils Union and Parents' Council for their extremely generous contribution to the school.





This generosity facilitated the purchase of such amazing ICT equipment.

## Green Schools

Meet some of our Green Schools Committee from Room 2 (2nd class).



We are delighted to say that our pupils passed our online virtual assessment with Kilkenny's environmental officer Bernadette Moloney with flying colours. She was super impressed with all the work being carried out in the C.B.S. to enhance and protect biodiversity around our school.

We have just received wonderful news from An Taisce that we will be receiving our fifth Green Flag in September. They were extremely impressed with all the work the pupils in C.B.S. had done on the biodiversity theme.

We are super proud of our achievement. Our Green Code is:

Happy as a butterfly,  
Happy as a bee,  
C.B.S. boys protect biodiversity.

Some tips to help biodiversity at home:

- Try not to cut the grass too often. Bees love dandelions and clover.
- Also if planting, please consider some plants bees like, such as lavender, cosmos, sunflowers or herbs like thyme, rosemary and chives.

Finally on behalf of all the pupils on the Green Schools Committee and myself, we would like to

wish you all a very happy and safe summer and thank you so much for your continued cooperation and support. Miss Boyle.

## Active School Week



Our last full week of school was filled with fun and activity. The boys got a chance to engage in numerous different activities such as rugby, hurling and basketball sessions, orienteering, soccer on the astroturf, tennis and walks to the local area amongst much more.





Our Sports Day returned and well done to every single boy who participated in the events. A special word of congratulations to boys who won medals in the various different events and indeed the Victor Ludorum trophies. Many thanks to the Active School Committee for organising such a brilliant week.



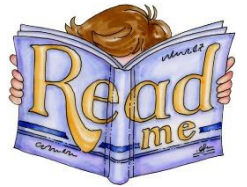
## Music Generation



We are delighted to announce that Music Generation Kilkenny will continue to work with us for the school year 2021-2022. This is amazing news for the school, boys will have weekly music lessons from qualified tutors. We will have more news about this exciting venture in early September.

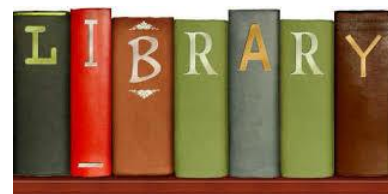
## Accelerated Reading

After consultation with our Board of Management and staff, our school has signed up to the Accelerated Reading Programme. The aim of this programme is to foster a love of reading in every pupil, motivate pupils to read and set specific targets for every pupil in our school.



After initial screening, children will begin to read books that are set to a level appropriate to their ability. The programme involves pupils, staff and parents working together to improve reading levels.

We are currently building up our school library. If you have books at home in good condition and that are suitable for primary school children, that you would like to donate to the school, please send them in to us in September. All donations will be very much appreciated.



## Book Rental

As you are aware, we run a Book Rental Scheme in the school. For a significantly reduced price, pupils can avail of textbooks for the year. Payments for the Book Rental Scheme can be made by E-Payment. An email was sent to you last week with the link. Alternatively, money can be dropped into the office.



## School Expenses

School Expenses cost €60. This fee includes: Art & Crafts, Photocopying, Texting service, homework diary, Pupil Insurance and Music Generation (Term 1). We would appreciate it if it could be paid using our E-Payment system. A link was sent to you last week. Thank you.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2021 – 2022

**Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> September:** Re-opening after Summer holidays.  
Closing at 12.30pm.

**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> October:** Mid-term break (1 week).

**Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> November:** Re-opening after Mid-term break.

**Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December:** Closing at 12.30pm for Christmas holidays.

**Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> January:** Re-opening after Christmas holidays.

**Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> February:** Mid-term break.

**Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> February:** Re-opening after Mid-term break.

**Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> March:** Bank holiday.

**Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> March:** School closed.

**Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> April:** Closing at 12.30pm for Easter holidays.

**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April:** Re-opening after Easter holidays.

**Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May:** Bank holiday.

**Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> June:** Bank holiday.

**Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> June:** Closing at 12.30pm for Summer holidays.

\*\* School holidays have been agreed between CBS Primary and Presentation Primary.

\*\* The calendar is not complete and may have to be amended from time to time but due notice will be given of any changes.

\*\* PLEASE KEEP THIS CALENDAR FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.



## Room 1

We had a really action-packed term in Room 1. On May 6<sup>th</sup> we had our Sacrament of Penance with Fr. Scriven in St. Mary's Cathedral and we will look forward to making our First Holy communion later in the year.



We really enjoyed using the ipads for project work and also the new chrome books.

We planted out our carrots and peas and they are all growing in the school garden.

We also had a really fantastic Active Week and really enjoyed our basketball session with Puff Summers, our rugby with Noel Devlin and tennis with Mr. Reidy.

We took a trip to the Castle Park and played in the playground, rolled on the hills and played soccer in the big field. The sun has been kind to us and we had a few great soccer sessions on the Astroturf.

The sun was shining for our Sports Day and we all had great fun taking part in all the activities especially the Long Jump! Congratulations to every boy who

took part and to Milo who won the Victor Ludorum prize.



Congratulations also to Mikey who won Writer of the Month.

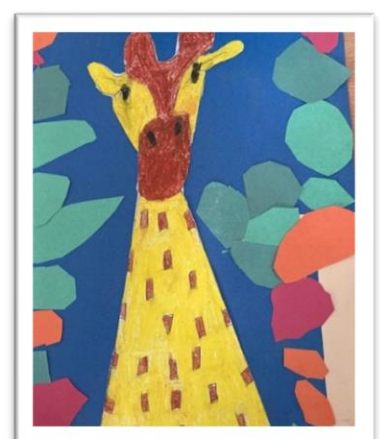
We made beautiful clay fish bowl pottery and also painted bees for World Bee Day.



We have been very active, taking part in the Olympic Challenge and have almost reached Tokyo on the map.

We enjoyed a very well deserved movie and Pizza Party to finish off the year.

A sincere well done to all the fantastic boys in Room 1. You have made a really wonderful start in the C.B.S. "Tús maith leath na hoibre!"





## Room 2



The boys have worked really hard and have had a really strong finish to the year. There were many highlights in their last term. The boys had a great time and learned loads of new skills during their tag rugby sessions with Noel Devlin this year. A huge thank you to Noel for all the work he did with the boys.

Another highlight was our Active Schools Week and our Sports Day which took place recently. The boys got to play basketball, tennis, rugby and soccer. Well done to all of the boys for displaying such a great attitude during the sports day. It was a day that was enjoyed by all.



Well done to those who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and a huge word of well done on all of their hard work in preparation for it.

The boys have really enjoyed using the iPads and Chromebooks this term and have picked new skills in the process.

Well done all on a fantastic first year in the C.B.S.



## Ms. Brennan's class

Pupils in 3rd Class have had a most enjoyable Active Schools Week!

We have played tag rugby and rounders, sampled tennis with Mr. Reidy, and took part in track and field events, all while logging our activity on 'The Road to Tokyo' Olympic Schools Challenge.



We are very lucky to have one of Ireland's most beautiful and popular tourist destinations on our doorstep. 3rd Class recently paid a visit to Kilkenny Castle to learn about Norman Ireland and the Butler family. Even the rain could not dampen our spirits!





As part of the Heritage in Schools scheme, 3rd Class took part in a number of lessons around the theme of 'Biodiversity on the Seashore'. This project culminated in a Zoom lesson from Karen Webster, an artist and scientist, leading us in creating our own sketches of the wildlife and plants found on Irish beaches.



During the month of June, pupils in 3rd Class have been encouraged to prepare a lesson on a topic of their choice, using the interactive whiteboard, and other props and resources. Pupils then teach this lesson to all of us. So far, we've had excellent lessons on subjects such as pirates, macaws, dinosaurs, tally charts, money and so much more. Well done to all the boys who have taken part!



3<sup>rd</sup> class visit to Saint Canice's Cathedral.



## Room 5

### School Trip

On the 24th June 2021 on a glorious Thursday morning our class set out for our school trip. We were going to St. Canice's Round Tower, the Medieval Mile Museum, and finishing at the Castle Park for lunch.



When we got there some boys had second thoughts about going up. We went up in groups. It was a very steep climb to the top and the view was amazing. You could see the whole of Kilkenny in the sunshine.





As you passed the middle of the tower you activated a speaker that told you that the tower was slightly leaning. That freaked some boys out.

When all the groups were done the steep climb we started our walk down High Street. We passed some great wall art on the lane beside the museum.

When we got there we rushed over to the gifts on the shelves and Mrs. Ryan called us over to the screens in the middle where we met a man and a woman. The man was holding a sword and he told us about the history of Kilkenny.



### Room 10

Our last term has been fun-filled and action-packed. We have been very busy inside and outside the classroom. I would like to praise the boys for putting in a great effort into the preparation for their end of year tests and their every day school work even when the sun was calling us outside.



He knighted lots of boys and also made them kings.

After that we went on the lego hunt, we had a really good fun running around.

We walked down to the Castle Park and sat down on the grass. We ate our lunches and played a soccer match, it was a brilliant day.

*By Diarmuid Kealy, Stephen McCormack and JJ Cahill*



The lads really enjoyed Active Schools Week and the preparation for Sports Day. I am really proud of the way they encouraged each other in all the races.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the boys for cooperating so well with me and with each other all year. A special word of thanks to all the parents for their support throughout this difficult school year. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable Summer.



## Mr. Leahy's class

Hi there Everyone, Mr. Leahy's 5th Class just want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful summer.

In recent weeks the class have really enjoyed Active Schools Week, our Clay Modelling lessons and our trip to the Watershed.



The boys should a great sense of maturity when taking part in their RSE lessons which was great to see and they learned a lot.

We want to say a big fairwell to our classmate Alessandro who is returning to Italy. He was a great addition to the class and school. He was a wonderful friend to everyone and we wish him all the best.

This is 5th Class signing off, Bye for now.

## Room 6 & Room 7

### *My Time in C.B.S. (Memories)*

I remember the day when we walked from the Presentation to the C.B.S. and Mr. McCarthy showed us around the school. I was really nervous because the school looked huge and I thought that I would get lost but luckily I memorized all the classes and hallways.

Mr first teacher was Mrs. Ryan. My second teacher was Mrs. Larkin, my third teacher was Mr. Reidy, my fourth teacher was Mrs. Moloney and in 6th class I had two teachers, Ms. Ní Bheacháin and Mr. Cuniffe.

I have to admit my favourite teacher was Mrs. Larkin because she was really kind and she did lots of fun activities.

My favourite memory was on my first ever Sports Day in second class. I won the gold medal in the sack race. I was really nervous at the start and I thought people would make fun of me if I was last but when I won I was really happy and people were cheering for me and I felt really proud.

During my time in this school we had tons of school trips. My favourite was when we went to Jump Zone and the Aquatic Centre. I had lots of fun and I hope I can go to Jump Zone again when Covid ends.

And before I finish I would like to thank Mr. Bergin and all the teachers, the five years that I spent here were amazing. Thanks.

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### *My School Memories*

One of my favourite memories in C.B.S. is when I won in a game of Tug of War and got a medal for winning during Sports Day.

Another memory is when I was in 4th class, we had pizza and watched movies, at the end of the year.

But my most favourite memory is when we got to dress up in costumes for Halloween in school.

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# Nuachtlitir Scoil Iognáid de Rís

## *My Memories from the C.B.S.*

I have spent five years in the C.B.S. In second class we had Mrs. Ryan. She prepared us well for the years ahead.

In third class we had Mr. Reidy. I remember going to Jump Zone and the Aquatic Centre. I had a great time doing all the activities.

In fourth/fifth class we had Ms. Minogue and they were probably the best two school years of my life. Our class was a mixed class and it was deadly. I loved UL Activity and I also went to Poland with the school choir that same year. We had a great time there.

In fifth class we had a short year due to Covid, even so, we got to go to make pizza and played rugby in the Gaelscoil.

In sixth class we didn't get to do much due to Covid restrictions and being out of school for a term but I still enjoyed my year as a C.B.S. boy.

I walk out of this school with friends and great memories.

## *My memories from the C.B.S.*

My best and favourite memory of being in C.B.S. Primary was going to Poland with the school choir for four nights when I was in 4<sup>th</sup> class. We did lots of fun stuff like singing and going on trips and taking tours of the Castle in Malbork.

My favourite school trip was when we went to Jump Zone and the National Aquatic Centre in 3<sup>rd</sup> class. In Jump Zone we did lots of fun stuff like jumping on trampolines and going on the obstacle courses. In the National Aquatic Centre there was lots of pools, slides and a lazy river. My favourite part was the slides.

I was also on the Gaelic Football team and Hurling school teams. I learned lots of stuff in C.B.S. and I still do. I am looking forward to Secondary School and I hope to learn as much there.

  
We didn't realize  
we were making  
memories, we just  
knew we were  
having fun

## Some highlights in Scoil Iognáid de Rís this month.





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