



# Scoil Iognáid de Rís

## October 2020

Phone: 056 7761739

Email: [office.cbsprimarykk@gmail.com](mailto:office.cbsprimarykk@gmail.com)

Web: <https://cbsprimarykilkenny.ie>

Twitter: @CBSPrimaryKK

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

First and foremost I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family safe and well. We were so happy to welcome the boys back to school on August 27th. In many ways it is hard to believe that we have been back open for 2 months.

In order for our school to reopen safely we needed buy in from everyone in our school community. It really has been a team effort. Staff have been amazing and have gone over and above to ensure pupils are safe, learning and are happy. A huge word of thanks to you, the parents/guardians of the boys whom I've no doubt are anxious about your sons returning to school. Your support and encouragement has been invaluable. I cannot praise our boys enough for how they have adapted to the changes in our school, from pods and bubbles to sanitising and social distancing, there has been a lot to take in but they are doing brilliantly and we are extremely proud of them all.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to reassure you that we, as a school, are satisfied with the protocols and procedures we have in place. We will continue to monitor and review them on a regular basis.

We are blessed with an exceptionally good staff, Parents' Council and Board of Management who are all working extremely hard for the most important people in our school, the pupils. In the weeks ahead, the government has asked for your support to ensure that we follow the recently announced guidelines. As Minister for Education, Norma Foley, has said:

"At the end of this week, schools will close for one week. There is an opportunity for everyone to have a well deserved break. When schools return on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, I urge everyone to continue to comply fully with the measures in place, knowing that we all have a real role to play in suppressing the virus and keeping it safe for children to attend school. Our schools are playing their part and working hard to stay safe. They need the support of us all. Stay safe, reduce your social contacts, stay distant and wash your hands."

Just a reminder that the school will be closed from Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> October to Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> October for the Mid-Term break and we look forward to welcoming our boys back to school on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy & Safe Hallowe'en.

*Niall Bergin, Principal.*

### School Improvements

We were delighted that work was carried out to our PE Hall over the Summer Holidays. The floor was completely updated as was the school furniture in all of our classrooms. All of our classrooms were painted and the school was deep cleaned. We want to provide the children in our care with every opportunity to flourish.



### First Communion

We would like to congratulate the boys in Ms. Brennan's 3<sup>rd</sup> class and Mick in 4<sup>th</sup> class who celebrated their First Penance and First Holy Communion recently. They were a credit to our school and their families alike.



A huge word of thanks to Ms. Brennan, Mrs. Larkin and Mrs. Ryan who prepared the boys so well for their big day. Thanks to Mrs. Bolger who sang beautifully at both ceremonies. A special word for Fr. Scriven and Sr. Maria who are familiar faces in our school and are always welcome.

## Covid19

As you are all aware we have our Covid-19 Return to School Plan and Covid-19 Response Plan in action. We also have a committee set up in the school who meet regularly to discuss how we are managing the challenging situation we find ourselves in.

We would like to remind people of the following:

- We urge you to keep your son at home if he is feeling unwell or is displaying any symptoms of Covid.
- Children should not be on the school grounds before 8.45am.
- Parents and guardians who collect children are asked to maintain a social distance outside the school gate. Please collect your child promptly at the end of the school day.
- Parents and guardians are not permitted on the school grounds unless by appointment or arrangement.
- We ask that adults collecting their children wear face coverings.

We appreciate your co-operation in these difficult circumstances.

## Healthy Lunches

Our Healthy School Lunch Policy is a success due to your commitment and support. We ask you to continue to help your son to develop good eating habits, by bringing lunches that are healthy and beneficial to him.

**Friday is a treat day**, so pupils may include **one small treat** in their lunch boxes. Lollipops and fizzy drinks are forbidden in the school.

Rubbish is to be brought home in the pupil's lunchbox.



We would like to thank parents for their continued support of our healthy eating policy in the school.

## Punctuality

A reminder that school hours for classes downstairs are from 8.50am to 2.30pm, and classes upstairs are from 9.00am to 2.40pm. We ask that boys are punctual in the mornings and that the integrity of the school day is respected. Arriving late for class often

results in a boy missing out on valuable learning time and also disturbs other students.

## Uniforms & Tracksuits

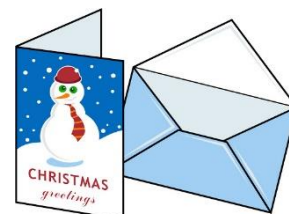
Pupils must wear the school uniform at all times unless otherwise informed.

The school tracksuit does not take the place of the school uniform and is only worn for PE and at other times when requested by the class teacher. Runners are only worn with the school tracksuit.



## Christmas Cards for Schools

With Christmas fast approaching, we are taking part in an initiative where children in the school draw their own personal Christmas Card.



The completed cards were sent away to a company called "Christmas Cards for Schools" where they were professionally printed. Each child is allowed keep their own card.

Parents have the option of ordering a pack of 10 cards, at a cost of €8 per pack, to send to friends and relations for Christmas. **The deadline for orders is Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> November.** Parents are under no obligation to order cards.

## Silver Circle

October generally marks the beginning of our annual Silver Circle fundraiser. However this isn't an ordinary year and we have decided not to run it. With so many people experiencing such uncertainty we feel it isn't appropriate to hold such an event.



## Parent-Teacher Meetings

Generally parent-teacher meetings take place in our school towards the end of November. However given current circumstances we have decided to postpone the meetings until February next. Instead, you will receive a written Christmas report. Furthermore, if you would like to contact your son's teacher you can do so via phone, email or the learning platform (Seesaw or Dojo) teacher is using.

## Maths Week



The boys really enjoyed Maths Week last week. During Maths week the boys completed a maths trail, took part in a daily Maths problems, used Izak9 blocks and took part in junior/senior quizzes on Zoom.



Everyone loved doing extra Maths for the week!!! Brainteasers proved to be a highlight also! Maths Week was a fun and enjoyable week.



## Stay Safe Programme

Teachers will commence teaching the Stay Safe Programme in S.P.H.E. (Social Personal and Health Education) after the Mid Term break. This is a mandatory programme that covers these five topics:

- Feeling Safe and Unsafe.
- Friendship and Bullying.
- Touches.
- Secrets and Telling.
- Strangers.

More information about the programme will be emailed to you as soon as we return to school after Mid Term.

## Kilkenny Day

On October 9<sup>th</sup> our school went Black & Amber for the day! The Rose of Mooncoin and Shine on Kilkenny were heard belting out from the classes in CBS Primary School! It was fantastic to see 65 boys cycling or scooting to school.



As a result we will receive 65 sapling trees that will be planted on the school grounds. Well done to everybody for taking part.





## Mr. Reidy's 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

The 2nd class boys have made a great start to life in the C.B.S. They have worked really hard and have really enjoyed their lessons across all subject areas. The boys have had many highlights already this year. One of the highlights was Maths Week which took place recently. The boys enjoyed Maths games on the school Ipads, a maths quiz and completed a shapes hunt.



The boys have also really enjoyed their P.E lessons. The boys have been mastering their throwing and catching skills and have also been learning to play kick rounders.

The boys really enjoyed celebrating Kilkenny Day on the 9th of October through wearing black and amber, cycling to school and completing Kilkenny day art activities.

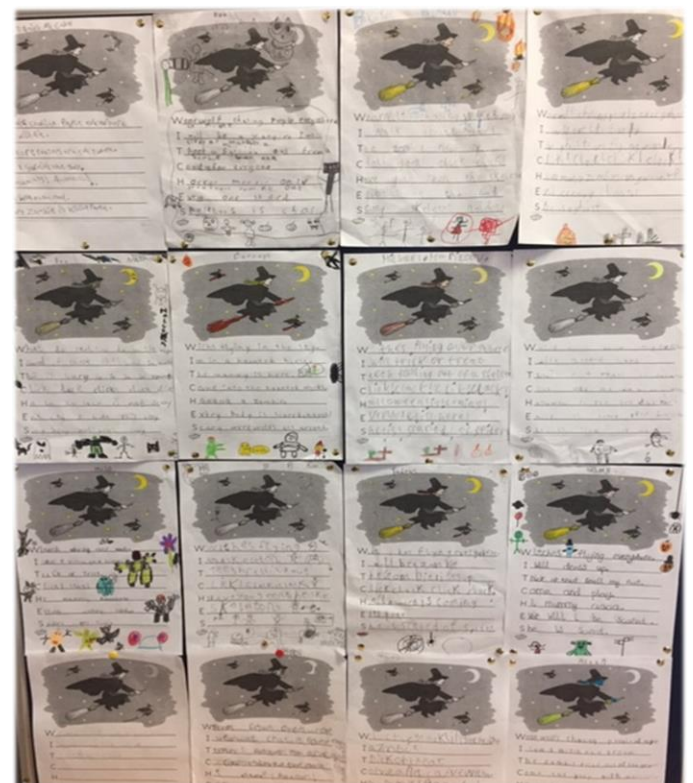
Well done to all of the boys on making a fantastic start in C.B.S.

## Mrs. Moloney's 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

Second class in Room 1 have settled so well into CBS. All the boys have worked very hard this term and we had plenty of fun along the way. One of our favourite things is our huge field for playtime and PE. We have some amazing musicians in Room 1 and can already play five lovely tunes on the tin whistle. We also have some very talented artists and have just finished some lovely Hallowe'en Witch Art.



We also put on our thinking caps and composed some fantastic and scary Hallowe'en poems. We really enjoyed using the Ipads during Maths Week and using our Maths Eyes all around the school. Lots of boys dressed up on Kilkenny Day and cycled all the way to school. We really love our Mindfulness Sessions with Niall Breslin and it helps to keep our minds calm and relaxed. We are looking forward to lots more wonderful adventures next term.





## Ms. Brennan's 3<sup>rd</sup> Class

Many of us in 3<sup>rd</sup> Class made our First Penance on the 24th September in the school hall.



The following week, we had two lovely ceremonies on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October in St. Mary's Cathedral to celebrate our First Holy Communion.



We made colourful art to display in the church. Some of us said Prayers of the Faithful and others presented the Gifts for the Offertory Procession.

Our families came to the Altar with us when we were receiving our Communion. It was a special occasion for us all. We will never forget that we received our Sacraments in 3<sup>rd</sup> Class!

We are taking part in the Heritage Council's 'Heritage in Schools' Scheme at the moment. Nuala from the Irish Peatland Conservation Council spoke to us on a Virtual School Visit on Zoom, and we learned about 'The Wet and Wild Bogs of Ireland'.



We made Plant Dials to help identify plants, and Nuala showed us videos, photos of bogs all over the country, and samples of plants and animals. We also learned about 'fens' because some of us live near Newpark Fen. This week, we are working with Karen, a visual artist. She is going to lead us in a workshop called 'Exploring Biodiversity in a 2m Radius'. We are investigating plants and animals on our doorstep and using art to record our discoveries.

For Maths Week 2020, we tuned in to a live broadcast of a Maths lesson from London from a teacher called Susan Okereke. She taught us about seeing Multiplication Table Patterns in 100 Squares. As we are about to start learning our multiplication tables in 3<sup>rd</sup> Class, this was a very cool activity for us to try out!



## Mrs. Larkin's Class

The boys in Room 3 have settled back in to school life nicely & have been working very hard.

We have especially enjoyed Maths Week with all its fun activities. The boys loved solving daily problems, making 2D shapes on geoboards, creating shape pictures & playing card games & puzzles.



Despite all the fun they are very much looking forward to the mid-term break!



## Mrs. Ryan's 4<sup>th</sup> Class



The 4<sup>th</sup> Class boys in Mrs Ryan's room have been working hard since their return. In the lovely September sunshine they worked on their Gaelic Football skills, they have also exercised with some circuit training and in October moved on to some hurling skills. We have been working on some of our fundamental movements for PE and boys have really improved their skipping skills, along with their hopping and landing skills.



The boys were lucky enough to take part in a Heritage Ireland history project which involved learning some interesting facts about the timeline of Kilkenny Castle and also took part in a live Zoom interactive Kilkenny Castle model building session. The boys proved they were able to cut and sellotape with the best as well as learn some rather disgusting facts about the siege of a castle!



Boys have been trying their best in class and are enjoying the new spelling programme "Spellings for Me". Well done to Faiaz, Daniel, Charlie, Farhan and Diarmuid who were the best team in our class at the Maths Week Quiz.



Below are some great pieces of the Leafman Art by Room 5.





## Mrs. Bolger's 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Class



*Room 10 pupils working on a Science experimnt.*

The boys in 4th and 5th class have got off to a flying start this year. They adapted really positively to the Covid restrictions and their attitude to work and behaviour is commendable.

I'd like to welcome Hassan Adil to our class. The students have really helped him settle in and he is a great addition to the class.



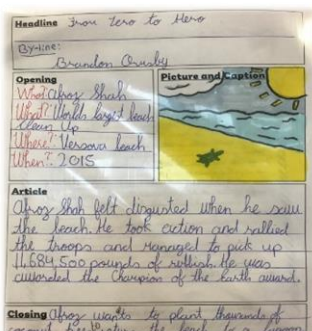
*Together we are reaching for the stars!*

Ms. Curran is working with the class this year and the students are really benefitting from a mixture of withdrawal and in-class support.

I've included some photos to give you a taste of life in Room 10. Keep an eye on seesaw for more photos and messages throughout the school year.



*The class hard at work.*





## Mr. Leahy's 5<sup>th</sup> Class

Dia daoibh gach éinne! It's 5th Class here, Mr. Leahy's 5th Class to be precise. We've been asked to write a little piece for the school newsletter and so here it is.

Firstly, we would like to give a big welcome to the two new pupils that joined our class this term, that is Alessandro and Nayeemul. They've settled in well and we're delighted to have them.

We've been working really hard since returning to school so it would be an impossible task to fill you in on all the amazing things we've learned and topics we've covered so here are some of ones that have stood out.

We've done much in the way of genre writing this year. We've learned to write emails, letters (both formal and informal), biographies and even news reports. Believe it or not, some boys even completed these reports in different languages. You may have seen them on twitter, we are very proud of those. We also completed an email and recount story as Gaeilge.



In P.E. we've been running a rounders league which has been great fun. We'd like to take this opportunity to give a big shout out to Noel Devlin also. We've also had the pleasure of Noel doing tag rugby with us

for the past four weeks. We've really enjoyed this and we've had a great spell of weather for it, thank God.

Finally, in SESE we've all been working really hard to learn the counties, rivers, mountains and lakes of Ireland. We've learned about the origins of Halloween and some Celtic myths like the Dullahan and the Banshee. Check out our Art pics!



Anyway, that's all for now. Until the next newsletter, SLÁN.



## Ms. Ní Bheacháin's 6<sup>th</sup> Class

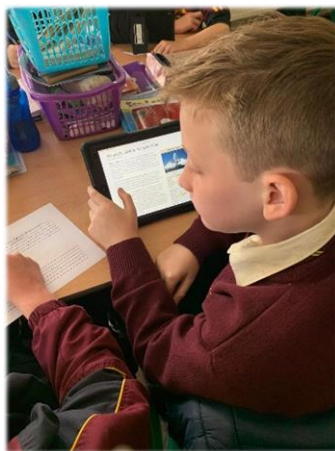
All the boys in 6th class have been working very hard since returning to school in September. It's safe to say they were all eager to get back to see their friends, and have adapted tremendously well to the new routines in school.

We welcomed a new boy to our class - Revin Pinol, and we have all become great friends.

The boys have enjoyed some superb tag rugby sessions outside in the fresh air with Noel Devlin.



The ipads are a firm favourite with the boys in room 6. The boys have completed lots of research on their volcanoes for their class research project.



We had great fun during Maths Week this year.

The boys played lots of maths games throughout the week in class.



They completed an outdoor maths trail, competed in a 'Kahoot' maths quiz, and also took part in the senior 'Zoom' table quiz, hosted by Mr. Bergin.





## Ms. Minogue's 6<sup>th</sup> Class



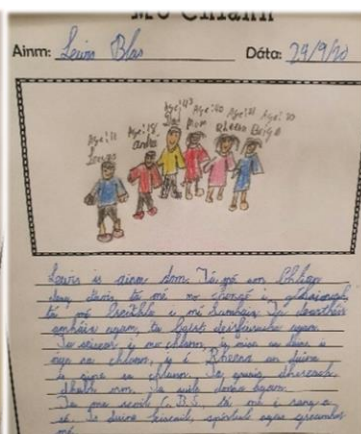
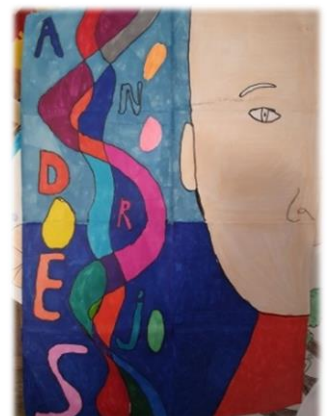
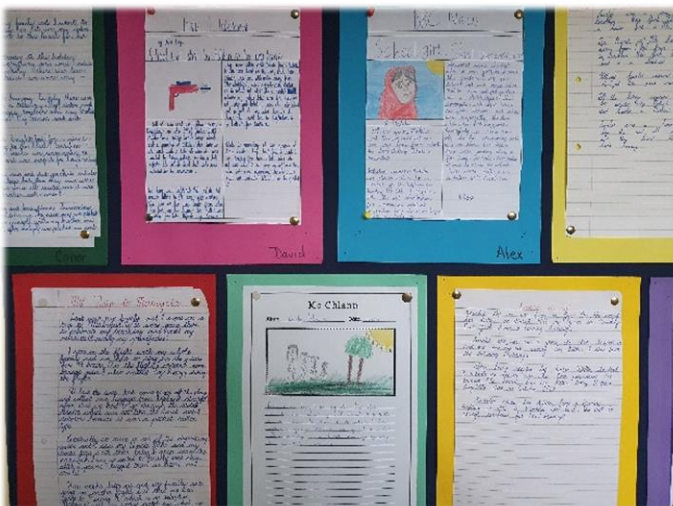
The weeks are flying by since we returned in September. Although things are a little different this year it is great to be back with our friends and learning again.

We are working really hard on all our subjects! We are doing recount in writing and coming up with lots of interesting newspaper articles and recounts. We are also practicing our Irish writing and have produced some excellent finished pieces.

Rugby with Noel is the highlight of every week – we are learning about communication, evasion, passing and creating space in a game – and having lots of fun along the way!



We began in September by doing lots of work on portraits with a variety of styles. We experimented with colour, line and shading.



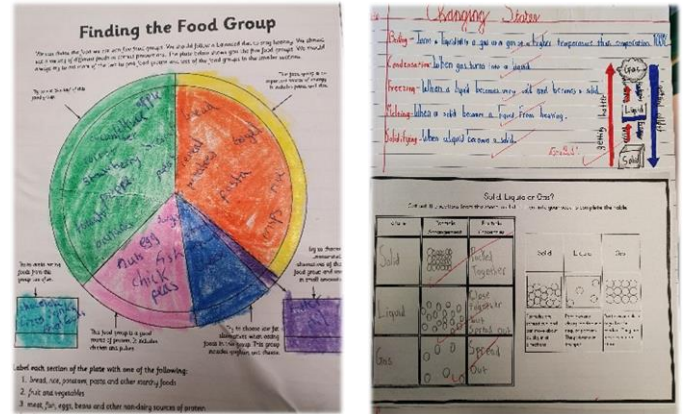


# Nuachtlitir Scoil Iognáid de Rís



We also worked on some art involving positive and negative space and created some EMUSing EMUS to brighten the hallway!

We are doing lots of interesting topics in history, geography and science including Healthy Eating, Changing States - solids, liquid, gas, the history of the Irish language and much more!



Kilkenny day was a highlight so far this term! We all showed our pride in our county colours!

Our favourite thing this term is circle time in SPHE!



Looking forward to a well-deserved break for mid-term and the weeks ahead!





## **SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020 – 2021**

### **TERM 1:**

Monday, 26th October:	Bank Holiday/Mid-term break. (School closed)
Monday, 2nd November:	Re-opening after Mid-term break.
Tuesday, 22nd December:	Christmas Holidays. Closing 12.30p.m.

### **TERM 2:**

Wednesday, 6th January:	Re-opening after Christmas holidays.
Monday 15th – Friday, 19th February:	Mid-term break. (School closed)
Wednesday, 17th March:	St. Patrick's Day. (School closed)
Friday, 26th March:	Easter Holidays. Closing 12.30p.m.

### **TERM 3:**

Monday, 12th April:	Re-opening after Easter Holidays.
Monday, 3rd May:	Bank Holiday. (School closed)
Monday, 7th – Friday, 11th June:	School closed.
Wednesday, 30th June:	Summer Holidays. Closing at 12.30p.m.

Considering the current circumstances, this calendar is subject to change. The Department of Education may decide our calendar for the school year 2020/2021. We will inform you as soon as we possibly can if there is to be changes

- \*\* 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.



