

*Kilcummin N.S.
Kilcummin,
Killarney,
Co. Kerry.*



*Scoil Náisiúnta,
Cill Chuimín,
Cill Airne,
Co. Chiarraí.*

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May 2021 Newsletter

We hope that you are all safe and well. Thank you all for your continued support since our return to school after the Easter break. We would like to welcome Sophie Carroll to Fifth Class and wish her the very best at Kilcummin N.S.

Please continue to remind your child/children about the importance of handwashing, sanitising and social distancing, as these measures remain unchanged. We remind pupils of these routines regularly and appreciate your support. A gentle reminder for adults to wear a mask and to exercise social distancing at the morning and afternoon drop off and collection times. Parents/ Guardians are reminded also to ring the office to make an appointment, as in-person visit will not be possible. Our secretary, Danielle, will be present on Monday- Thursday (9am-12pm) if you need to make an appointment. Alternatively, please feel free to email your child's teacher regarding same.

Upcoming School Closure:

School will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, 7th & 8th June- Extended Bank Holiday

Stamped Addressed Envelope for School Reports:

Please forward a SAE to your child's class teacher prior to Thursday, 14th May. Please forward one envelope per child in your family. Booklists and the 2021/2022 school calendar will be posted with your child's school report also.

Thank you:

A special word of thanks to our Parents' Association Chairperson, Mr. Derek O' Leary, for assisting us to keep up our high standard of sanitisation and disinfection at Kilcummin N.S. during these challenging times. Thanks to Derek for your time and commitment to 'fogging' our school during the weekend. Your time and commitment to the safety of all at the school is always appreciated. Míle buíochas.

Parents' Association 3km Walk/ Run Fundraiser:

Best of luck to our pupils who are currently participating in our PA 3km Walk/ Run. This fundraiser is ongoing from 26th April-16th May. Pupils, parents and friends of Kilcummin N.S. are encouraged to walk or run 3km, go to our gofundme page and kindly make a €5 donation. Further details are available on our Kilcummin NS Parents Council page. Please feel free to tag or share this event with others. Our PA gofundme link can be found here: <https://gofund.me/ed0a5530>

Parents' Association 2020/2021 School Memory Annual:

Our Parents' Association will be publishing a 'School Memory Annual'. Each child is asked to make a contribution on an A4 page (eg. drawing, short poem, photograph (does not have to be A4) of favourite place (no photographs of people please). Please ensure that your child's name and class are recorded on the back of the entry. The deadline for submissions is Friday, 14th May.

Heritage in Schools virtual visit

Sixth Class recently took part in a virtual visit from a heritage in schools specialist regarding the Boglands of Ireland. The specialist provided wonderful resources for the children to actively engage with learning content about the flora, fauna and makeup of Irish boglands. We would like to thank the specialist, Paula Farrell from the Irish Peatland Conservation Council for joining Mr Mannix's class.

Lee Strand Milk Tokens:

Please continue to send Lee Strand Mighty Mikey Milk mascots printed on retail packs to the school. These will be used to enable us to collect free school diaries for the 2021/2022 school year. Please note that 10 tokens have to be collected per homework diary, so please send in as many tokens as possible. Thanks in advance for your ongoing support.

Kerry Mental Health Tie Day Friday:

Well done to our First and Second Class pupils and teacher Miss McCarthy who participated in Tie Day Friday to raise funds for Kerry Mental Health. €85 was collected for this great cause. Maith sibh go léir.

Enrolment applications 2021/2022:

We are accepting **enrolment applications**, so please contact the school if you or anyone you know requires an enrolment form. Please forward completed forms to school at your earliest convenience and we will be in touch regarding a visit to the school for our new pupils.

Junior Entrepreneur Programme:

Best wishes to our budding entrepreneurs in Mr. Mannix's class who are currently engaged in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. We look forward to hearing more information about their keyring business. Further information will be disseminated shortly. Thanks to J.E.P. teachers Mr. Mannix and Mr. Kelliher for your support and time.

Sixth Class Graduation:

The Department of Education has advised that it will not be possible for schools to carry out graduation ceremonies in the traditional format this year and that we will not be in a position to facilitate the attendance of parents or other family members. We have been advised that we should maintain any such ceremonies within the existing pods and bubble structure. We will keep you updated regarding this.

Computer Safety:

A reminder to all parents to be extra vigilant regarding internet safety, especially on mobile phones and other devices. Please ensure that you are fully aware of your child's online activities and review history of searches regularly. Webwise is the Irish Internet Safety Awareness Centre. It provides information and advice on internet safety topics, including cyberbullying and privacy.

Football/ Hurling:

A special word of thanks to our GAA coaches Mr. Vince Cooper (Football) and Mr. Colm O' Brien (Hurling) for their ongoing support with football and hurling in Kilcummin N.S. We were delighted to welcome them back to school and thank them for their commitment to our Covid-19 policy to ensure that lessons are delivered in the safest manner.

REMINDER REGARDING PEANUTS IN SCHOOL:

The school is continuing to enforce a ban on nut items in lunch boxes. **PLEASE ENSURE THAT CHILDREN DO NOT BRING PEANUTS, NUTS OR PRODUCTS CONTAINING NUTS TO SCHOOL AS PART OF THEIR LUNCHESES.** Please note that **all nuts**, sesame sticks, hazelnuts, pine nuts, monkey nuts, barmbrack, chocolate spreads, peanut butter, almond butter, chocolate biscuits etc. are not permitted in school. We have a number of children who have severe allergies to nuts (not just peanuts) and we are anxious that they do not come in contact with these products. Being in the vicinity of nuts can trigger a serious shock for some people.

Please note the following in relation to school:

- Parents must complete a **Return to Education Form** in respect of children returning to school and after any absence from school. (Please find same attached to the end of this document). Please return this on the evening prior to your child's return to school. We are kindly asking that you would return

this to your child's class teacher after 3pm on Tuesday, 8th June, after the extended June Bank Holiday weekend also.

- School times remain unchanged.
- Please ensure that your child continues to enter the school yard in a staggered manner, following the yard markings, which are staggered to enable pupils to social distancing.
- As outlined in the Minister for Education's correspondence, we remind parents of the importance of not congregating at or near the school. **PLEASE DROP AND GO.** Communication with the school must take place by phone or email. The school email address is kill43163@gmail.com
- **Parents/Guardians cannot enter the school except by prior appointment. Thank you for your understanding regarding this.**
- If you are collecting a child by prior arrangement, please ring the school when you arrive at the school gate and a staff member will accompany your child to the gate. Otherwise a tracing form must be filled and will be destroyed after 4 weeks.
- As mentioned previously, the wearing of face masks is mandatory and must be worn by all adults if entering the school (by prior arrangement) and at drop off and collection times.
- We remind parents not to send children with symptoms of Covid-19 to school. We remind parents also not to send children to school if they are a close contact of a person with Covid-19, are awaiting a test or are experiencing symptoms of Covid-19.
- We advise parents not to send pupils to school if they are identified by the HSE as a close contact of a confirmed case of Covid-19 or if they live with someone who has symptoms of the virus.
- We advise parents not to send pupils to school if they have travelled outside Ireland- in such instances parents are advised to consult, and follow, latest government advice in relation to foreign travel.
- We advise parents to cooperate with any public health officials and the school for contact tracing purposes and follow any public health advice in the event of a case or outbreak in the school.
- Buses are operating as normal
- The Breakfast Club and After-School Club is in operation. Please contact Jennifer (087 9663770) if you have any queries in relation to this service.
- Please ensure that clothing and books etc. are clearly labelled.

Please continue to monitor Seesaw and emails for correspondence and homework. A sincere word of thanks to our hard working pupils and to you, their parents and guardians at this challenging time.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help in any way.

Keep safe and well.

Le gach dea-ghuí,
Gillian Sheehan & Staff

Please complete the following after any absence from school and on Tuesday, 8th June 2021 (following the extended June Bank Holiday weekend) and return to your child's teacher.

Thank you

Kilcummin N.S.



Return to Educational Facility Parental Declaration Form

Child's Name:	Manager's Name:
Parents/Guardian's Name:	
Name of Setting:	
This form is to be used when children are returning to the setting after any absence.	
Declaration: I have no reason to believe that my child has infectious disease and I have followed all medical and public health guidance with respect to exclusion of my child from educational facilities.	
Signed _____	
Date: _____	