



St. Comgall's N.S.

Connors, Clones, Co. Monaghan


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Welcome to our summer newsletter! We have reached the end of another academic year. It's been challenging but thankfully we are taking a step closer to normality with each passing day. Indeed, it is during difficult times that we must be grateful for what we have.

Our pupils have been so resilient – they engaged in online learning enthusiastically and your parental support of their learning was so appreciated by teachers.

I know you will join me in thanking our dedicated staff here at St. Comgall's for working so hard during this time and for ensuring that your children returned to a safe learning environment in March.

It is with this positive team spirit that I sincerely hope we will welcome all our pupils and families back in September.

As always I wish all our school community a lovely, long, hot, restful summer break..... 

Staffing arrangements are changing for classes next year. Mrs. Pennell is stepping into the role of Special Education Teacher while Mrs. Hagan will teach the junior classes. It is an exciting time for both teachers as they pursue new experiences in their teaching careers.

Mrs. Pennell's role as SET will continue as it has been since 2017; as part of our three-school cluster, she will spend two mornings teaching in Killeevan N.S. while a certain number of days will be spent teaching in Greagrahan N.S. throughout the year. We wish both teachers the very best!

I am delighted to confirm that Mrs. Lavery will also cover my 'Administration Days' for senior classes, for the coming academic year.

Sacramental dates for Confirmation and First Holy Communion will go ahead as outlined in a recent parish bulletin. During conversations with Fr. Moore when arranging those dates, he indicated that the parish wished to inform parents, via the bulletin, of decisions taken on those sacramental dates. Then yesterday he confirmed the following:

* Confirmation will take place at 7:30pm on Thursday, 8th July in the Sacred Heart Church with pupils from St. Comgall's N.S. and Gaelscoil Eois. Three family members, only, are permitted to attend with each child and families will be shown to their allocated seats on arrival. Fr. Mohan will confirm our pupils and he will guide pupils through each step of the ceremony. On this occasion there will be no pupil involvement in the 'Prayers of the Faithful' or the 'Offertory Procession'. We wish Ethan and Jack well and will pray for them as they celebrate this very special occasion on their faith journey.

* First Holy Communion for our seven pupils will take place at 11:00am on Saturday, 10th July in St. Alphonsus Church. As per COVID-19 regulations, seven members, only, are permitted to attend the celebration with each child. Seat allocation and the protocol on the day will be outlined for parents and children during a rehearsal with Fr. McKenna at 5pm on Wednesday, 7th July in St. Alphonsus Church. Again, there will be no pupil involvement in the 'Prayers of the Faithful' or the 'Offertory Procession'. Thanks to Mrs. Pennell for her time in facilitating arrangements for the day. We wish Fionnán, Kayla, Gareth, Donnchadh, Cara, Daire and Ava Marie a wonderful day and pray for God's blessing on them.



Goodbye to our school graduates of 2021. We wish Jack and Ethan good luck, every success and hope that they achieve great things as they journey into secondary school. May you take a piece of your experience from St. Comgall's and use it to make a difference in a future world! We know your smiles and good humour will light up your new schools just as they did in St. Comgall's!



Thanks to Fr. John for leading us in prayer during the sixth class boys' lovely graduation ceremony on Wednesday last! We all breathed in plenty fresh air outside as we recalled those wonderful memories of Ethan and Jack's time at our school!

Congratulations again to our pupils for their excellent termly attendance since Easter. Well done to Jack, Ethan, Noah, Kayla, Donnchadh, Fionnán, Finn, Caoimhe, Molly, Aoibhinn, Jack, Maisy and Pádraig Óg.

Normal school procedures and monitoring will apply to all children in September. A reminder to parents to send in notes outlining reasons for absences and please send in a signed 'Parental Declaration Form' on the day your child returns to school after that absence.



Achieving Active School Flag status is still our goal for 2021/2022. We are acutely aware of the importance of ensuring that we **all** continue to keep physically active in our lives, whatever our age or ability. We are playing our part here at St. Comgall's and in line with our physical fitness programme **Active Week** took place from Monday 14th June to Friday 18st June. It included a fabulous array of activities, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Hopefully we will complete all the necessary application requirements early next year and soon St. Comgall's N.S will be flying an **Active School Flag**! Thanks to Mrs. Pennell and all staff members for making it such a fun 'socially distanced' week! Check out our website for loads more photos of the week's events.



Exciting activities outside on the running track in the Peace Link. Come on St. Comgall's!!



Learning all about the Celts and trying out some Celtic war tactics at Navan Centre and Fort.



Dance workshop with Elaine.



Soccer coaching with Euan.



And thank you parents for the ice-creams!



Monaghan County Libraries have launched their **Summer Stars Reading Challenge 2021**. This reading challenge is a free reading adventure that will take place in Clones Library once again this summer. The library invites children to keep up their reading skills during the long holidays. The aim is to involve children in numerous reading activities and events. So why not pop in and pick up your free Summer Stars 'Goodie' Pack and start reading!!

School Uniform ~ A reminder that agreement on the school uniform and from where to purchase it, was discussed with, and agreed with parents. I would be grateful if both the school uniform (except the trousers which may now be bought in Dunnes Stores) and school tracksuit could be purchased from Hicks, Lisnaskea. Parents felt that the Dunnes Stores trousers were more suitable for the smaller children. It is important to purchase the **whole** uniform (particularly tracksuit bottoms, coat and tie) from this shop in order to maintain consistency in the colour and style of school clothing throughout the classes. The variation in clothing from other shops reduces the smart appearance of the uniform, so I would appreciate your support in this regard.



I would like to extend a special word of thanks to the Chairman of our Board of Management, Gerald McMahon, for his support and advice on Board issues during the year. Thanks to all members of the Board of Management for their wholehearted attendance at 'Zoom' meetings, and for the interest they showed in discussing various management and policy issues at St. Comgall's N.S.. We look forward to continuing that good work in the coming academic year.

Summer Break:

The school will reopen at 9:20am on Tuesday 31st September 2021. Happy holidays!

