

Scoil Naomh Chomhghall, Coininsi
St. Comgall's N.S., Connons, Clones, Co. Monaghan

The staff of Connons N.S. would like to convey a word of welcome to everyone in our new school year. A special word of welcome to the new pupils in our school community Rachel in Junior Infants, Kesley in 1st Class and Megan in 5th class. We hope that their time in Connons N.S. will be a happy experience for them.

Insurance: I would like to thank parents for their co-operation in the matter of children being left to and collected from school on time. Our insurance cover dictates that children are insured on school premises from 9.15a.m. until 2p.m. (Junior Inf.s / Senior Inf.s), 3p.m. (1st – 6th Classes) on school days. It is important that we comply with this directive.

Attendance: I would like to remind parents that it is important that a note be sent in to the class teacher following the absence of a child from school. Under the terms of the Education Welfare Act it is necessary to retain all documentation regarding children being absent from school for 20 days or more as this may be required by the Education Welfare Officer.

Sacraments:

- On Wednesday 28th September our First Holy Communion children, along with their parents and pupils from all schools in the parish, participated in a special Mass of preparation for the Enrolment Ceremony. We would like to congratulate Michaela Maguire and Rebecca Gavin on their Enrolment for the Sacraments on Sunday 16th October in the Church of St. Alphonsus, Connons. A special word of thanks to their parents for their co-operation and commitment to the "Do this in Memory of Me" programme for the sacraments.

- We were delighted to have Fr. Kearns to celebrate Mass on Tuesday 4th October to begin our school year. We congratulate all of the pupils for their wholehearted participation in the Mass and we would like to thank all the parents for attending

- Confirmation: A meeting for parents of children for confirmation will take place in Scoil Chroí Ró Naofa on Wednesday 30th November at 8p.m. It is important that all parents attend this meeting.

- Dates for Sacraments: Confirmation: Friday May 5th 2006 at 6p.m. in the Sacred Heart Church, Clones
First Communion: Sunday May 28th 2006 at 11a.m. in St. Alphonsus Church, Connons

School Computers: We are very grateful for the generous donation offered to the school by Our Parents' Association. The sum of €1,500 will be put towards the purchase of four new classroom computers and a laptop for the school office.

Fund Raising: A very sincere thank you to all of our parents for their contribution to the recycling initiative introduced to us by Rehab care in Monaghan. The response was fantastic and we realised an amount of €90 for school funds. As a result of the positive outcome of this appeal we plan to work with Rehab care again, probably in March/April and we will keep you informed of dates etc.

Building Project: Paul Mongan, our appointed architect for the project has indicated to us that we will have confirmation of our planning permission by the beginning of December. The tendering process for the building contract will follow and Mr. Mongan is optimistic that building works will commence early in the New Year.

Information Sheets: We will be sending out forms in order to update our pupil records. We would greatly appreciate your co-operation in completing and returning these forms to us.

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Sport:

Football: We would like to congratulate our Senior Classes for their excellent performance in the small school *Gaelic Football Blitz*. All players gave a great account of themselves and participated in a most sporting manner and we are justly proud of their achievement.

Gymnastics: Our gymnastics coach Ms. Deirdre Kelly has completed three sessions of gymnastics with both Junior and Senior classes. The pupils have expressed their enjoyment at this new addition to their P.E. programme and it is planned to continue with gymnastics for another four weeks.

Swimming: We have booked a block of six swimming lessons which will begin in January 2006 and we will furnish all details of this at a later date

Tracksuits: I would like to commend the children on their beautiful new tracksuits. A particular word of thanks to you, the parents, for your patience and co-operation in finalising details of tracksuits.

Drama: Congratulations to all our pupils on their performance in our School Drama before the Halloween Break. The children put in great effort into preparation for these performances and we must also compliment you, the parents, for your co-operation with organising costumes, learning of lines and making a special effort to attend the show. We look forward to our next production planned for Christmas.

Art: Clones Library organised an art/writing competition for children in primary schools before Halloween. The Junior Classes entered a colouring competition while the Senior Classes entered a writing competition. All our classes will also take part in the art competition run by Clones Credit Union.

Educational Outings:

- On Friday 23rd September all pupils and staff accepted an invitation from Clones Library to attend a most enjoyable and informative Science Show which was based on the Science curriculum for Primary Schools. Indeed, many of our pupils had an opportunity to assist with some of the experiments.

- On Monday 24th October pupils from the Senior Classes attended the 'Steps' programme in the Garage Theatre in Monaghan. This programme covered some very interesting areas of the Science curriculum for the Senior Classes and some of our pupils bravely volunteered their help in completing some experiments.

- On Wednesday 14th December our Junior Classes will attend a pantomime in the Garage Theatre in Monaghan, details of which to follow later.

Reminder (School Closures): As teachers will be attending Geography inservice on Tuesday 22nd November 2005 there will be no school on that day. On Thursday 8th December school will close at 1p.m. to facilitate a staff meeting. Friday 9th December will be a part of the school's annual holidays. Therefore, the school will re-open again on Monday 12th December, 2005 at 9.20a.m.

'Moments spent listening, talking, playing and sharing together may be the most important times of all'.