

Scoil Naomh Comhghall, Coininsi
St. Comgall's N.S., Connors, Clones, Co. Monaghan

*On behalf of the staff at Comgall's I would like to wish you all
a very happy and prosperous New Year.
Thanks to you parents for your support during the school term.*

The New 'St. Comgall's N.S.': Having completed the first term in our new building we have to say how delighted we are to have such a bright, spacious and warm school in which to work. While continuing to settle in to our new surroundings it will take some time before all jobs are completed; preparation is already under way to develop our new foyer into a library resource area and we hope to have a plan drawn up before the end of the month. We also hope to build storage cabinets in the Principal's office and in a storeroom in order to organise books and equipment still lying untidily around. Our sincere thanks to John Joe Gavin, Mark Maguire and Eddie McCaffrey who have begun work on 'topping' the trees. Once internal furnishings and external gardening issues have been completed, we will then be in a position to proceed with the official school opening celebrations.

Sacraments: Our children in second class continue their preparation for First Holy Communion with the 'Do This In Memory' programme. I would like to thank those parents who have taken on the responsibility of organising the liturgy and who are committed to setting up a special prayer space in the church for the Sunday Masses. The next 'Do This In Memory' Sunday Mass will be 21st January 2007.

Parish Carol Service: On Monday 18th December we attended a Christmas Carol Service in Aghadrumsee Church. The children sang beautifully, we commend their excellent behaviour and we would like to thank you the parents for ensuring they arrived at the church punctually and in neat school uniform.

Trips: We enjoyed a number of educational trips to various events last term. During Science week in November all classes revelled in the wonders of space exploration hosted in a dome from the Planetarium in Armagh. A session of Science experiments was held in Clones Library. In December the junior Classes attended the Christmas Pantomime in Monaghan while all children enjoyed the musical experience, 'Stars in Their Eyes' in Largy College the following week.

Library Art Competition: Congratulations to Zoe Clarke who won 3rd Prize in the art competition in Clones Library. Zoe with her parents and teachers attended a presentation of prizes in the Iontas Centre, Castleblaney on Thursday 7th December 2006.

Folens: Please find attached a letter from 'Folens' book company apologising for its inability to send schools the Christmas Annuals. Payments and the free books have now been returned to the children.

Quiz Competitions: A reminder to parents of children in the senior classes that the local heats of the Credit Union Schools Quiz takes place on Friday 26th January 2007 at 7.30p.m. in Largy College. All children should be in the hall at 7.00p.m. wearing full school uniform. The 'Cumann na mBunscol' table quiz will be held in the Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan on Tuesday 6th February 2007. Details to follow at a later date.

Fund Raising: Again, a sincere thanks to all parents for your effort and very generous support of the Christmas draw and cake sale. This money will help to fund the new library resource area and will purchase relevant literary materials/ computer software for all levels

School Play: I would like to congratulate all our pupils on the tremendous hard work they put into preparing for the play and for their excellent performances on the night. Thank you for your help and support with helping the children learn their lines, assisting with items for costumes and of course attending our production on the night.

Charity: I would like to thank you all for your wholehearted support in our efforts with the 'Christmas Shoebox Appeal' during the last school term. The children were very enthusiastic about this project and between staff and pupils a total of thirty shoeboxes were filled and delivered to a central point for dispatch. It is a great opportunity for children to experience the real meaning of giving at Christmas.

Super Valu Tokens: Once again we are seeking your help in our efforts to collect 'Kids in Action' tokens. Last year a total of 3438 tokens was collected and this provided the school with a complete set of tennis rackets/ tennis balls and other footballs. We are once again endeavouring to expand our P.E. resources through this initiative and also through the new P.E. grant received from the Department of Education.

21st Century Recycling: We wondered if perhaps you would welcome a 'Post Christmas Clean-up'? To participate in the recycling scheme items which may be included are clothes, sheets/fabrics, shoes, old mobile phones and used ink cartridges. We would ask you to fill these items into bags provided/ or black refuse bags and drop them into us by 3pm on Monday 22 nd January. Each bag filled will earn €1.50 for school funds.	Altar Server Rota: A rota has been drawn up and distributed to servers. Please make appropriate arrangements with other parents if your child is unable to serve on his/her assigned date.
	Parent/ Teacher Meetings: It is envisaged that parent/ teacher meetings will be held from 1pm to 5pm on Tuesday 1 st February 2007. We will endeavour to facilitate times for parents, to the best of our ability.
Midterm: St. Comgall's N.S. will be closed at 3pm on Friday 16 th February and will reopen at 9:20am on <u>Monday 26th February 2007</u> for midterm.	

Catriona Donnelly (Principal)