

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

The staff of St. Comgall's N.S. would like to convey a word of welcome to everyone in our new school. A special word of welcome to our new pupils, Amie and Chloe in Junior Infants. We hope that their time in Connons N.S. will be happy and enjoyable.

The New 'St. Comgall's N.S.': It is with great pride and excitement that we have now returned to our newly renovated school. The recent renovation and extension ensure that your children will experience their formative primary years in a modern purpose-built school. A particular thanks to those parents who, prior to the summer holidays, gave us a much needed helping hand as we vacated the old building to the local community centre and who again helped us when we were relocating to the new St. Comgall's. It was an arduous task and your time, work and wonderful good humour were hugely appreciated. We apologise for the delay in moving back but this was due to circumstances beyond our control as part of the old flat roof needed attention. These works will hopefully be completed during the mid-term. We are grateful to the Community Centre Committee for allowing us access to the centre during the building works.

Sacraments: Congratulations to our second class pupils who began their 'Do this in Memory' programme on Sunday at 11.30am. Mass. The children, Jessica, Sarah, Zoe, Kesley, Caolan and Kevin, with their parents and families will continue this programme for nine more Sundays in preparation for First Holy Communion.

Insurance: In the matter of insurance I would like to thank parents for their understanding and co-operation with regard to leaving and collecting children to and from school at allocated times.

Attendance: I would like to thank parents for sending in notes and letting teachers know reasons for absences of a child from school. May I remind parents 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 under the terms of the Education Welfare Act 2000.

Sport: On Tuesday 24th October, 2006 our gymnastics coach, Joe Flynn, completed the last of our six coaching sessions. A young member of Killeevan Gymnastics Club who has had success in both National and International competition gave a brilliant display and then demonstrated the various shapes and moves which the children had been working on during the six weeks. This coaching was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils and we are pleased to note the number of children who are showing a keen interest in the sport outside school.

A New Brother: We would like to congratulate Angela and John Joe Gavin on the birth of their beautiful new baby son. What a lucky little baby to have two wonderful sisters, Rebecca and Jessica.

Fund Raising: A most sincere thank you to the Parents' Association who have agreed to fund the blinds for our new extension and existing building. We greatly appreciate your very generous contributions to school funds and your continued support.

A thank you also to all of our parents who contributed to the recycling initiative. The response realised an amount of €155 and as our gymnastics coach and rental of gymnastics mat totalled €350, the money raised was used as partial payment. It is hoped that the remainder of fees paid will be recuperated during further recycling efforts in springtime, possibly March/April.

Charity: This year we have decided to participate in a very worthwhile project, organised by 'Samaritan's Purse Ireland', called *Operation Christmas Child*. We feel that the children will enjoy being part of this project. While we would be delighted if each child could fill a shoebox, in the case of families with a number of children there is no obligation on each child in the family to fill a box; this is entirely up to you, the parents. A sample box was shown and discussed with the children and they realise that only new items are to be included in the boxes. If any other family members, or neighbours would be interested in being part of this project we would be delighted with their boxes. Final date for leaving boxes in to the school is Wednesday November 8th as we have to leave them to pick up point before November 10th.

Hallowe'en Break: School closes today Friday 27th October and will re-open at 9.20am on Monday 6th November 2006.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a... *spooky*, happy and safe holiday.

Catriona Donnelly (Principal)