

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



March 2009

The staff of St. Comgall's N.S. would like to wish you all a very happy and enjoyable St. Patrick's weekend.



Márta 2009

The Sacraments: We keep in our prayers Peter Clarke and Michaela Maguire, who, last Monday night, participated in the Service of Light ceremony in the Sacred Heart Church with all the other Confirmation pupils in Clones parish. And congratulations also to Peter who took the pledge on Temperance Sunday, 22nd February, during 11am mass in St. Alphonsus Church, Connons. We commend his parents for guiding and encouraging him to do so. We now look forward to joining with Peter and Michaela in their celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation at 6pm on Friday, 8th May, 2009.

Well done to Rachel Maguire, our second class pupil, who continued with her sacramental preparation for First Holy Communion through her participation in the 'Do this in Memory' programme at 11:00am Mass on Sunday, 1st March. As part of these preparations, we will, in a special way, join in Rachel's celebration of First Penance at 1:30pm, tomorrow, Thursday, 5th March, here in St. Comgall's. We invite all parents, to come and be a part of this lovely event.

Enrolment/ Open Day: Our enrolment/ open day will take place from 1pm to 3pm on Friday 27th March 2009. Please remind all prospective children and their parents that, on that day, they are invited to visit and view the school and participate in 'Open Day' activities. We would be grateful if all parents would bring their child's birth certificate and PPS number with them. Further notice of the open day will be placed in The Northern Standard on the week preceding this date.

Music/French Classes: We have resumed tin whistle lessons with Mr. Fran McMahon and French classes with Mrs. Janette McPhillips this term. A total of €240 raised through the Christmas raffle and a further €77 raised through a recycling collection by a Cookstown recycling firm has helped to furnish payment of these classes to date. Classes will continue until mid June and we thank the Parents' Association for agreeing to fund the classes for the remainder of the year.

Parent/ Teacher Meetings: Our thanks to you the parents for your attendance at parent/ teacher meetings on Thursday 29th January 2009. Views shared and suggestions made during these meetings are invaluable to us as we endeavour to ensure that we serve your children's needs and provide the best education possible for them.

Supervalu Tokens: Many thanks for the Supervalu tokens which we continue to receive. To date we have collected approximately 1,200 tokens. Art and Craft materials have been added to the SuperValu brochure of resources which can now to be claimed through this token scheme. Consequently, our ability to secure *unwanted* tokens from other schools will be highly unlikely. We are very dependent, therefore, on your efforts with the initiative this year. Every token counts, so keep requesting those 'extras'!!

Sport: Gaelic coaching for all children with Mr. Colin Malone commenced on Monday 12th January and will continue until Easter. To date the skills sessions are proving to be both challenging and extremely enjoyable. Colin, a coach employed by the Monaghan County Board, has informed me that a football blitz with neighbouring schools, is being organised for some date in the near future.

Quiz Competition: The local heats of the Credit Union Schools Quiz took place on Friday 30th January 2009 in Largy College. It was a highly entertaining occasion and our two teams performed admirably. We were justifiably proud of their achievements and commend all children for looking so impeccable in their uniforms on the night.

Book Club: Our ability to furnish our library with beautiful new books is due, in no small part, to parents' very generous support of the book club. Access to a well-stocked and varied school library is crucial to ensuring children's reading experience is as rich and stimulating as possible. So far this year your support has enabled us to purchase new books to the value of €300. The club awards us €1 commission on every €3 that the school spends. My thanks to Helen for co-ordinating this initiative, we look forward to expanding this wonderful reading resource into the future.

Change to school holiday closures: A reminder that next Friday, 6th March, St. Comgall's will be closed to facilitate a school planning day for staff. Also, our St. Patrick's Day weekend has been extended to include Monday 16th March. School will, therefore, re-open at 9.20am on Wednesday, 18th March, 2009. We apologise for this late notification which was unavoidable. Consequently, the school year will now end at 12:30pm on Monday, 29th June and not on Friday 26th June as is indicated on the school holiday calendar.

