

# *Scoil Naomh Comhghall, Coininsi*

St. Comgall's N.S., Connons, Clones, Co. Monaghan



*Wishing you a bright, cheerful and 'egg-stra' special holiday this Easter.*



**Parent/Teacher Meetings:** Our thanks to you the parents for your attendance at parent/ teacher meetings on Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**The Green Schools:** We are delighted that this term our Green-Schools committee has been very successful in achieving its 'First Green Flag' status. Significant efforts regarding litter and recycling have been made to provide pupils with opportunities to learn about these issues through hands-on experiences that enable them to see that this learning is relevant to their world and to encourage them to take pride in the place in which they live.

To celebrate this new green status, we anticipate holding a special ceremony towards the end of May/ beginning of June to formally raise our Green Flag. Details of same will be communicated to all parents in the new term.



**Competitions:** Congratulations to Sarah O'Connor whose handwriting earned her recognition for an impressive fourth year running in the INTO/EBS Handwriting Competition. A wonderful evening was enjoyed by Sarah, her family and school staff at the presentation ceremony in The Glencarn Hotel, Castleblaney on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

We were also very proud of the very imaginative and creative poems produced by our children in a poetry competition organised by Monaghan Education Centre. Details of winning entries will be relayed to schools after the Easter holidays.

Finally, our senior team also performed admirably in the Clones Credit Union Quiz and we are justifiably proud of their efforts.

**Enrolment/ Open Day:** Our enrolment/ open day took place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011. We thank parents of new pupils for coming in to participate in 'Open Day' activities. We look forward to Michael, Oisín and Nathan's entry into Junior Infants in September 2011.

**Sacraments:** This term saw our second and sixth classes continue with their preparation for Confirmation and First Holy Communion. On Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February parents ensured that their children were present in the Sacred Heart Church, Clones, for the 'Service of Light' ceremony. We also thank parents for supporting and encouraging their children to take the pledge on Temperance Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> in St. Alphonsus Church. We congratulate most sincerely our sixth class pupils on being confirmed by Bishop McDaid and for showing reverence in their participation of the ceremony on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> in Clones.

Well done to Amelia and Leah in second class for their work in the sacramental preparation for First Confession which was held in St. Comgall's on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. As Fr. Kearns suggested, the atmosphere in the school was energised by the presence of our families at the ceremony and we now await with great anticipation the approach of

First Holy Communion day for the girls on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2011.



**Music/ Gaelic Football Classes:** January saw a resumption of tin whistle lessons with Fran McMahon and these classes will continue in the new term until early June. We also thank Monaghan G.A.A. County Board for supporting our school to promote Gaelic Games at primary level through the G.A.A. coaching in schools programme. All classes enjoyed a six week's intensive and challenging coaching session delivered by Anne McKenna which encompassed the development of Gaelic football skills and knowledge of the rules of the game.

**Trips:** Our senior pupils had the opportunity to explore aspects of earthquake simulation, meteorites and the formation of limestone caves with Dawn Corrigan and other tutors from the Marble Arch Caves as part of the wonderful Rocky Road Show organised by Monaghan County Museum on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

On Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the sixth class pupils, in preparation for Confirmation, participated in a retreat day in St. Macartan's College. The day was organised by Clogher don Óige and pupils found the day to be an enriching spiritual experience which was both beneficial and enjoyable.

Finally, on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, the sixth class pupils took a step closer to secondary school by attending an induction day in Largy College. All pupils enjoyed the day, made loads of new friends and participated in a range of exciting activities.



**Recycling:** We appreciate your on-going support of the recycling initiative. During the term this response realised an amount of €268. This money continues to contribute to the day to day costs involved in running the school and the ongoing payment of music classes. So far this month we have collected another fifteen bags but as a gesture of good will we are offering them to the parish church committee that is organising a collection to help pay off monies owed on renovations to St. Alphonsus Church. Remember bags can be dropped into the school at any time as the Cookstown recycling company can make a collection at short notice.



**School Visitors:** Last Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 'Marvin the Magician' provided a wonderful surprise and a fabulous hour's entertainment as he wowed us with his very clever tricks and taught us all about the 3Rs – Reduce/ Recycle/ Reuse. We were enthralled by his 'talking picture and his puppet bird, Billy' and learned that if you cut down a 25metre tree, you only get one metre of paper, but if we recycle all that paper, it would make a big difference. We also learned that we shouldn't dump rubbish on the road. Instead, we should put it in our pockets and after that put it in the bin!



**School Holidays:** A reminder that school will re-open at 9.20am on Tuesday 3rd May 2011.  
Happy Holidays!

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Catriona Donnelly (Principal)