

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



*An enchanting Hallowe'en wish to all our families.  
Enjoy a midterm filled with spooky fun!!*



**Hallowe'en 2011**

**New Pupils:** A special welcome to our new pupils, Nathan, Michael and Oisín in Junior Infants and to River in 3<sup>rd</sup> class. We hope that their time at St. Comgall's N.S. will be happy and enjoyable and filled with lots of shared experiences and new learning.



**Board of Management:** The term of office of all Boards of Management (BoM) shall expire on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Each new BoM shall assume office from December 1<sup>st</sup> 2011. On return from the midterm, steps will be initiated to establish a new BoM in St. Comgall's and as part of that process we will be seeking to elect two parents (one being a mother, the other a father) to the board.

May I take this opportunity to thank, most sincerely, Lorraine Fitzsimons, Dessie O'Connor and John Joe Gavin for their significant contributions to management issues in our school during the last four years. We thank them for their participation at board meetings and we acknowledge their commitment and interest in school issues at all times.

**Our Parent Association:** We thank parents for your attendance at the Parent Association's recent A.G.M., held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October in the school. We congratulate our newly elected committee members, Finbar Murphy - Chairman, Phyllis Somerville - Secretary and Stephanie Fitzpatrick - Treasurer and wish them every success in the coming year. As Principal I look forward to working with staff, Board of Management and you, the parent body, in providing an enhanced learning environment for our pupils into the future.

**Green Schools Initiative:** This year St. Comgall's will take the first steps towards achieving a 2<sup>nd</sup> Green Flag and in so doing, will engage in a process of continuous improvement with regards to 'Energy' issues in our environment. Our application to 'An Taisce' will be submitted during the school year 2012-2013 and pending a successful review by an assessor from An Taisce, we aim and hope to receive the flag by the end of that school year.

**School Mass / Sacraments:** Many thanks to all pupils for their prayerful participation in our annual school mass on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011. It was a lovely ceremony celebrated by Fr. Larry Duffy and we were delighted so many parents, families and friends could be present.

Regarding the sacraments, Confirmation for Sarah O'Connor and Rachel Maguire will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2012. A date for the Ceremony of Light will be indicated at a later time.



**Maths Week:** Maths week 2011 took place in the school from 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October. It was an exciting initiative for pupils as they were mathematically challenged and engaged with activities covering all strands of the Mathematics curriculum. Tasks undertaken related to measurement manipulation of 2D/3D shapes, number function board games, problem solving puzzles and computer software games. Once again it proved to be a worthwhile activity.

**Charity:** Participation in the Team Hope 'Christmas Shoebox Appeal' is a project we are following again this year. As collection of boxes will take place when we return from midterm in November, I would be grateful if you would please note all relevant details provided on the leaflet, particularly in relation to new items which may be included in the shoeboxes. To facilitate customs checks during transit, please ensure you do not seal boxes when covering them in Christmas paper. An elastic band will suffice.

**Hallelujah Concert:** A reminder that at 2pm on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December we will participate in the annual Hallelujah Concert in the R.D.S. Simmonscourt, Dublin. We look forward to this exciting musical and as previously explained, tickets for the concerts are available on a first come, first served basis. Therefore, it's necessary to order audience tickets as early as possible. The Hallelujah Office has indicated that early ticket orders from parents will secure better seats. On return from the midterm, I will be asking each family for confirmation of the number of family members interested in attending our selected concert. Tickets for an adult/child cost €28 and all tickets will have to be paid the week we return.

**Bookbills:** I would be grateful if outstanding bookbills could be paid in full on return from the midterm.

**Recycling:** Our recycling initiative continues to be successful in raising funds for our music classes. Many thanks for your contributions; we appreciate your on-going support of this initiative. Our school account has so far this year received a total of €328 from Cookstown Textiles, in lieu of bags collected both prior to and post the summer holidays. This will cover the cost of tin whistle lessons up until Christmas and a subsequent collection after Christmas will hopefully fund further costs. Please remember that bags can be dropped into the school at any time and may include items such as clothes/sheets/fabrics and shoes.

**Music/French:** Tin whistle lessons with Mr. Fran McMahon have commenced on Mondays and we are hoping to initiate French classes in the coming term.

**Hallowe'en Break:** St. Comgall's N.S. will be closed from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November. It will re-open at 9.20am on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Finally, we would like to wish you all a... spooky, happy and safe holiday.

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Catriona Donnelly (Principal)

*Enjoy a happy and spooky Hallowe'en from St. Comgall's ghouls and witches!!!*

