



(Tel./Fax 047-55329)

**St. Comgall's N.S.**  
Connons, Clones, Co. Monaghan  
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3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2018

Dear Parents,

**Padraig's Retirement:** We remembered the dedication and hard work of our former bus driver, Pádraig, who, for thirty-three years, provided a loyal, reliable and safe school bus service to the school, by holding a retirement celebration for him in the school on the morning of Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March. We highlighted special memories of our trips with him through poetry, song, speeches and a tree planting ceremony. We then presented Padraig with special gifts before sharing in some food refreshments, hosted by our Parent Association. We thank all our parents, extended families and community neighbours who attended this event and we wish Padraig and Angela continued happiness, success and good health into the future. Happy Retirement!



**Irish American Partnership:** We were delighted to receive a very generous and most unexpected cheque of \$1,000, courtesy of 'The American Partnership', and in particular Partnership member and local neighbour, Shane Smyth, who now resides in Boston. This donation is part of 'The Irish American Partnership's Primary School Library and Science Program', and is designed to help enhance library and science materials in Irish primary schools. Through his contributions, Shane has supported this initiative and we are absolutely delighted that, this year, our school has become a lucky recipient! To express our thanks to Shane we invited his Mum, Mrs. Bernadette Smyth, to the school for a photograph of her presenting the cheque to the pupils.



**FAI Soccer Blitz:** Well done to our boys' soccer team on their participation in a soccer blitz, organised by the FAI, which took place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at the pitch of Monaghan Utd FC, Gortakeegan, Monaghan. Our team showed great commitment and skill and although they won one tightly contested match, this didn't allow them to progress further in the competition. Nevertheless, they kept their spirits high, were gracious in defeat and will keep practising to be ready for the next challenge!



# Calendar of Events

## May 13<sup>th</sup> 2018



**First Communion:** Seán Connolly, Noah McCaffrey, Liam McPhillips and Eoghan Gormley, will receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion at 9a.m. Mass on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May in St. Alphonsus' Church, Connors. I would be grateful if, at 8:50am, all children singing in the choir, could be in the church. As is traditional in our school and as this is a very special occasion for the boys and our school/parish community, I would like to thank parents for your willingness to bring your child/children to the Mass. A photograph of the whole school and the four Holy Communion boys will be taken, immediately after the ceremony and then children will be free to leave with their parents. Children may dress in their own smart, casual clothes for the Mass.

## May 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018

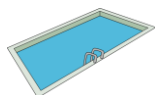


**Active Week:** To celebrate *Active Week 2018*, we have planned many fun, exciting and enjoyable activities. The following is a schedule for the week –

- ✚ Monday 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Games and challenges in the Peace Link, Clones
- ✚ Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Final swimming lesson
- ✚ Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Cycle to our local Clogher Markets
- ✚ Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> ~ **School Tour** to 'We Are Vertigo', Belfast
- ✚ Friday 18<sup>th</sup> ~ **Sport's Day** (*weather permitting*)

A letter will be sent out next week to furnish you with further details of requirements for the week's activities.

## Until May 15<sup>th</sup> 2018



**Swimming:** The final two weeks of swimming lessons for all pupils will continue until Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018. So far, lessons are proving great fun and we are learning and improving our stroke skills each Tuesday. A big thank you to parents for preparing the children for these lessons with regard to looking after themselves and their swimming bag on exiting the pool, the children have been just brilliant.

## May 17<sup>th</sup> 2018



**School Tour:** This year's school tour will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May. We are off on a fun filled school tour to 'We are Vertigo', Belfast. A super fun, active and healthy experience of jumping will be enjoyed on trampolines/ a dodgeball court/a basketball area in the *Trampoline Park*, with climbing on walls and low/ high ropes being a central activity in the *Adventure Centre*. Then, we will end off the day by heading to the party room where we will enjoy a delicious lunch of stonebaked pizza, a dessert treat and drinks. Indeed, hours of supervised and animated fun are guaranteed to suit all age groups! The total cost of the tour is €20 and we would be grateful if parents would send in payment after the weekend, in order to secure our booking. Once again, further details will be included in next week's letter.

## Until May 31<sup>st</sup> 2018



**The Stay Safe Programme:** We will continue to teach the personal safety education programme, Stay Safe, to pupils in all classes in May. A reminder to parents to read and discuss programme handouts that the children may bring home. As highlighted in a previous newsletter, the programme has been updated and lessons may be viewed online on [www.staysafe.ie/teachers/resources.htm](http://www.staysafe.ie/teachers/resources.htm)



**May 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**School Closure:** St. Comgall's N.S. will be closed tomorrow, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May and Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> May, for the May Bank Holiday weekend. Enjoy!!

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Catriona Donnelly (Principal)