



23/08/2025

Dear Parents,

I hope this message finds you well and that you are looking forward to the year ahead. We are especially pleased to welcome sixteen new pupils who will be joining us next week, and we look forward to meeting each of them. As a reminder, school will reopen on **Wednesday, August 27th.**

Junior Infants Hours

Junior Infants will finish school each day at 12.30pm until **Friday, September 5th.** From **Monday, September 8th** onwards, they will finish at the regular time of 2.00pm. If this arrangement poses any difficulty, please contact mrgibbons@kilricklens.com.

County Photo Day

Our **County Photo Day** will take place on **Tuesday, September 2nd.** All pupils should wear their full school uniform.

- Individual and sibling photos will be taken.
- Junior Infants and Sixth Class will have class photos.
- A whole-school photo will also be taken.

Families will receive sample photos with no obligation to purchase.

Hurling and Morning Sports

Morning hurling sessions will recommence on **Monday, September 1st**, running from **9.00–9.20am** each school morning, weather permitting, for children from First Class upwards. Details of blitzes will be circulated via the school calendar.

Enrolments, Staffing & Traffic Safety

Daily attendance is expected to exceed one hundred people including staff, pupils and preschool children. This increase adds pressure to traffic at drop-off and collection times.

The Hall Committee has submitted requests to Galway County Council for:

- Traffic calming and speed reduction

- Pedestrian signage
- Other road safety measures

Members also met with Albert Dolan TD on **July 21st** to raise concerns. We remind all parents to use the **community car park** where possible. Please do not park along the footpath, at the front of the hall, or in a way that blocks circulation around the hall. Where safe, older children can be encouraged to walk from the car park independently.

Music – Tin Whistle and Ms. Gallagher’s Classes

Tin whistle lessons with **Yvonne Barrett** will begin on **Tuesday, September 16th** for pupils from First Class upwards. The cost is:

- €25 for one child
- €45 for two children in a family
- €60 for three children in a family

Ms. Gallagher will shortly be starting her Music Classes that take place before school on certain mornings. Further information on this will be given soon.

Facilities & Grounds

Thanks to the **School for Sustainability Grant**, a new astro walkway has been installed. Work is continuing on a pathway linking the polytunnel to the rear gate, and fencing around the astro will be upgraded. We are very grateful to the parents who helped with installation and who also maintained the school garden and flower boxes during the summer break.

Morning & After School Services

Morning Club begins each day at **8.00am**, while the After School Club runs from **2.00–5.30pm**. For queries, please contact **Patricia Kenny (086 2485430)**.

School Meals Programme

From **January 2026**, all pupils will receive a **hot lunch daily** as part of the School Meals Programme. Further details will be shared closer to the time.

Fundraising and Additional Income

Our Golf Classic on **July 5th** at Loughrea Golf Club raised over **€1,800**. We are grateful to Liam Rowley, Eugene Kennedy, Dessie O'Brien and John Lawlor for coordinating this event. We also received **€487** through the Tesco Ballinasloe Blue Tokens scheme and a huge thank you to our Parents Association for organising this. Finally a **€115** was raised through the Bottle Return Scheme. Our next fundraiser will be a **Table Quiz Night on Friday, October 24th, 2025 in Dessie O'Brien's Bar**.

Allergy Notice

This year, a pupil enrolling has a severe allergy to cashew and pistachio nuts. We kindly ask that no products containing these nuts be brought to school.

School Contributions

Payments for insurance, art/craft, photocopying and digital resources, listed on the stationery lists, will be requested from you in the coming days. Payments can be made online via **Aladdin**. More details on this and the school calendar are available at: [School Booklist & Calendar](#).

Communication and Absences

Teachers can be contacted directly by email:

- Ms. Kate Gallagher – mskgallagher@kilricklens.com
- Mr. Seán Kelly – mrkelly@kilricklens.com
- Mr. Colm Gibbons – mrgibbons@kilricklens.com
- Mrs. Gwyneth Lusted – glusted@kilricklens.com

If your child is absent, please notify the school by note, email or phone call. Updates are regularly posted on our [school website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Opening Mass & Sacraments

Our **Opening Mass** will be held on **Friday, September 5th at 10am** in Kilrickle Church, and parents and community members are warmly invited. Dates for First Holy Communion and Confirmation are not yet confirmed by the Diocese but will be shared as soon as possible.

Tours and Trips

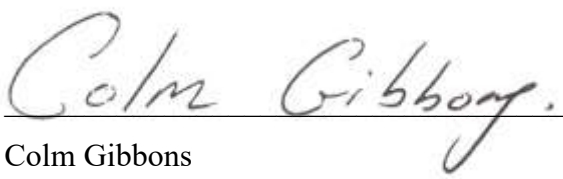
The pupils of Fifth and Sixth Class will attend the **Delphi Adventure Centre** from **Tuesday, June 2nd to Thursday, June 4th, 2026**. Parents will shortly be contacted to confirm their child's place and asked to provide a **€50 deposit**.

Labelling, Childcare and Medical Information

We ask that all school jumpers, coats and tops are clearly labelled with your child's name before the start of the year. If you or someone in the community provides childcare and would like details shared with families, please inform the school. Parents are also asked to update us on their child's medical needs by completing this Google Form: [Medical Needs Form](#).

We are greatly looking forward to the year ahead and thank you sincerely for your continued cooperation and support in making Kilrickle N.S. a safe, caring and thriving school community.

Le gach dea-ghuí,



Colm Gibbons

Principal

Kilrickle N.S.