



03/09/26

**Dear Parents,**

I hope your children have settled back well into school life in Kilricke National School. Just a few important notes below that are worth taking note of.

### **Blitz**

There will be a **boys' hurling blitz on Friday, September 11th** in St. Brigid's College, Loughrea. This is for boys in **5th and 6th Classes**. Games will begin at approximately **10:00 a.m.** and should finish between **12:00 and 1:00 p.m.**

The **girls' blitz will take place on Tuesday, September 15th**, also in St. Brigid's College, Loughrea. This is for girls in **5th and 6th Classes**. Games will begin at approximately **10:00 a.m.** and should finish between **12:00 and 1:00 p.m.**

We would greatly appreciate any parents who may be able to assist with lifts on these days. Please email [mrgibbons@kilricklens.com](mailto:mrgibbons@kilricklens.com) if you can.

### **Communion**

Dates for **First Confession and First Holy Communion** have now been announced. This year, Kilrickle National School and Cappataggle National School will hold joint ceremonies due to the continued demands on parish resources.

**First Confession** will take place on **February 9th** in St. Michael's Church, Capataggle. The time will be confirmed at a later date.

**First Holy Communion** will take place on **Saturday, May 8th at 11:00 a.m. in Kilrickle Church**. Only the pupils in 2nd Class will be making their First Holy Communion; however, we ask that **all pupils in the school take part in the choir on the day**.

It is expected that the venue for First Holy Communion will alternate between Kilrickle and Capataggle each year. This would mean that our current 1st Class pupils would make their First Holy Communion in **Cappataggle Church in May 2028**.

### **Mass**

**School Opening Mass:** Our School Opening Mass has been **rescheduled to Friday, September 18th at 10:00 a.m.** We look forward to seeing you there if you can attend.

### **Keeping Your Child Safe Online:**

Galway Education Support Centre is offering a **free online talk for parents on Wednesday, September 9th from 7:00–8:00 p.m.** The session, presented by **Aoife Noone**, will provide practical

advice on helping to keep children safe online. Parents are encouraged to register and attend if possible.

## **Positive Relationships Talk**

On **October 1st**, we are inviting **Pat Ford** to speak to the children about **building self-confidence, resilience, developing and maintaining positive friendships and dealing appropriately with behaviour that may be interpreted as bullying.**

This is a whole-school initiative aimed at continuing to foster **positive and respectful relationships** throughout our school.

On the evening of **October 1st at 7:00 p.m.**, Pat will also speak to parents about how we can help children develop and maintain positive relationships with others. We feel this will be a very worthwhile talk and would greatly appreciate all parents attending.

We are asking for a **contribution of €7 per family** towards the cost of the programme..

## **Day Off**

A reminder that the **school will be closed on Monday, September 21st** to facilitate a staff Curriculum and Child Protection Training.

## **Photos**

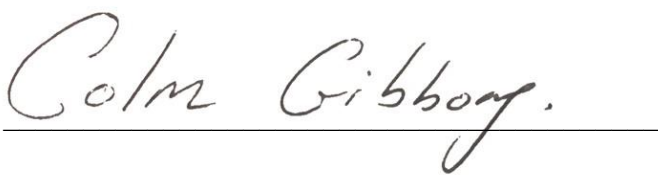
A reminder that our **School Photo Day** will take place on **Wednesday, September 16th.**

## **Parking**

Thank you to everyone for your cooperation with parking and drop-off arrangements since our return to school.

We remind parents **not to park or set down in the yellow box** and, to **avoid parking around the hall area**, as these spaces need to be kept available for staff.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. I hope you have a lovely day.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colm Gibbons". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Colm Gibbons**  
Principal  
Kilrickle National School