



21/08/26

Dear Parents,

I hope you are looking forward to the return of the school year and that you have had an enjoyable summer. School will reopen after the summer break on **Thursday, August 27th**.

Please take note of the following information ahead of our return.

Welcome

Firstly, we would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our **new pupils, families and staff members**. Our increased enrolment means that there will be many new faces around the school this year and we encourage everyone in our school community to help make them feel welcome.

A particular welcome to **Ms. Tracy Murray** and **Ms. Sarah Mulhern**, who are joining our teaching staff.

We would also like to congratulate **Mr. Seán Kelly**, who has been appointed **Deputy Principal**. We wish him every success in his new role.

Parking – Important Safety Notice

With **over 100 children on site each school morning**, it is vitally important that all children have safe and clear access to the school.

We strongly ask all parents to use the community car park and walk their child to the school from there.

Please **do not drop children off at the yellow box beside the hall**. This area needs to remain clear to ensure the safe movement of children entering the school grounds.

Parking beside the hall should also be **left available for staff**.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation with this. **Please use the community car park for morning drop-off and afternoon collection**. The safety of our pupils must remain our priority.

Junior Infant Hours

Junior Infants will finish school each day at **12.30pm until Friday, September 11th**.

From **Monday, September 14th onwards**, Junior Infants will finish at the regular time of **2.00pm**.

County Photo Day – Change of Date

Our **County Photo Day** will take place on **Wednesday, September 16th**. Please note that this is a **change from the date previously communicated in June**.

All pupils should wear their **full school uniform** on the day.

- Individual and sibling photographs will be taken.
- Junior Infants and Sixth Class will have class photographs taken.
- A whole-school photograph will also be taken.
- Families will receive sample photographs, with **no obligation to purchase**.

Hurling and Morning Sports

Morning hurling sessions will recommence on **Monday, August 31st**, running from **9.00–9.20am** **each school morning**, weather permitting.

These sessions are open to pupils from **First Class upwards**.

Hot Meals

We ask that all families intending to avail of the Hot Meals Programme have their child's weekly order **completed by Saturday evening** for the following week. As we return on a Thursday next week, orders for that week can be completed **as late as Tuesday**. **Last year's login details can be used** for your child's order.

Junior Infant pupils will begin receiving their Hot School Meals on their **first full day, Monday, September 14th**. Their **login details will be shared during the week before this**.

You can find out more about our meals' supplier via their website: <https://hotschoolmeals.ie/>

Music

Ms. Gallagher will shortly recommence her **music classes**, which take place before school on certain mornings for pupils from **First Class upwards**.

Further information regarding these classes will be provided shortly.

School Uniform

We ask that all pupils adhere to the school's uniform guidelines, as detailed in the school information booklet available on the school website (see page 5):

[School Information and Uniform Details](#)

In particular, we ask that **pupils do not wear leggings** and that everyone keeps to the agreed school uniform.

Morning Club & After School Club

Morning Club begins each day at **8.00am**, while the **After School Club** runs from **2.00–5.00pm**.

For any queries regarding these services, please contact **Patricia Kenny on 086 2485430**.

Labelling & Medical Information

We ask that **all school jumpers, coats and tops are clearly labelled with your child's name** before the beginning of the school year. This makes it much easier to return misplaced clothing to its owner.

Parents are also asked to ensure that the school has up-to-date information regarding their child's medical needs by completing the following form:

[Medical Needs Form](#)

Allergy Notice

A reminder that we have a pupil in our school who has a **severe allergy to cashew and pistachio nuts**.

We kindly ask that **no products containing cashew or pistachio nuts are brought to school**. We greatly appreciate everyone's cooperation with this important safety measure.

School Contributions

Payments for **insurance, art and craft materials, photocopying and digital resources**, as listed on the stationery lists, will be requested in the coming days.

Payments can be made online through **Aladdin**.

Further details, along with the school calendar and booklists, are available here:

[School Booklists & Calendar](#)

Staff Communications

Teachers can be contacted directly by email:

- **Mr. Colm Gibbons** – mrgibbons@kilricklens.com
Principal / 4th, 5th & 6th Class Teacher
- **Mr. Seán Kelly** – mrkelly@kilricklens.com
Deputy Principal / Special Education Teacher
- **Ms. Kate Gallagher** – mkgallagher@kilricklens.com
Junior & Senior Infants Teacher
- **Ms. Tracy Murray** – msmurray@kilricklens.com
1st Class Teacher
- **Ms. Sarah Mulhern** – msmulhern@kilricklens.com
2nd & 3rd Class Teacher
- **Ms. Rosaleen Robinson** – kilricklens@gmail.com
Secretary

Opening Mass

Our Opening Mass is **scheduled** for Friday, September 11th at 10.00am in Kilrickle Church. Parents and members of the wider community are warmly invited to attend.

Dates for **First Holy Communion and Reconciliation** have not yet been confirmed by the Diocese. We will share these dates with families as soon as they are available.

Altar Serving

Any pupils who have made their **First Holy Communion** are invited to become members of the **altar serving team in Cappataggle Church**.

If your child is interested in joining the serving team, please let me know by emailing mrgibbons@kilricklens.com.

20 Days' Absence

Parents are reminded that where a pupil is absent from school for a **cumulative total of 20 days or more during the school year**, the school is legally required to notify **Tusla's Educational Welfare Services**.

Should your child reach this number of absences, you will receive a letter of notification from the school.

We encourage parents to continue to inform the school of the reason for all pupil absences.

September Closure Date

The school will be **closed on Monday, September 21st** to facilitate a teacher planning day on the new Primary Language Curriculum.

School Calendar and Website

Our school is a very busy place, and we try to keep you updated on what the children get up to during the day via our [school website](#).

The [school calendar](#) is also available on our website. It is a useful way of keeping up to date with what is happening in the school on a day-to-day basis.

You can also visit our [school blog](#) to see some of the activities and events taking place in the school.

We also have a [school Facebook page](#), where we share school news, photographs and updates.

Thank You

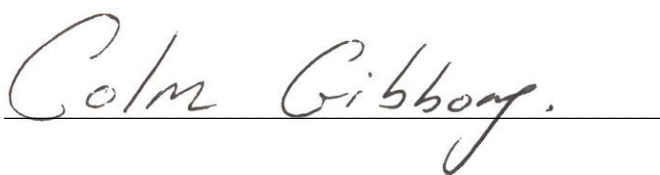
Finally, we would like to say a **sincere thank you to all the parents and members of our school community who helped with work around the school during the summer**.

Thank you for the **flower donations, garden maintenance, help at our school clean-up evening and all the other work carried out around the school grounds**.

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back and beginning another busy and enjoyable school year together.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions before we return on **Thursday, August 27th**.

Kind regards,



Colm Gibbons
Principal
Kilrickle National School