



19/11/25

Dear Parents,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that the final weeks of the year are going smoothly for you. Please take note of the below:

Hot Meals

By January, all primary school children in the country will be offered a hot meal in school. Our school will begin the Hot Meals Programme on the first day back in 2026, and full details will follow in the coming days.

There is **no obligation** to take part, and the meals are **free of charge**.

Meals will be provided by **Bradbury and Connolly**, based in Claregalway, who already supply many schools in the east Galway area. Their website can be viewed here: www.hotschoolmeals.ie

Christmas Raffle

Our annual Christmas Raffle will be drawn on the night of the Christmas Play. Each family will receive two books of raffle tickets to sell, although there is **no obligation** to do so. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Please return all sold tickets to the school by the **end of the month**.

Table Quiz

Our Table Quiz took place on Friday, November 7th in the school hall. It was a tremendous success and a sincere thank you to all who attended and supported this event. A final summary on all funds raised will be given after the Christmas Raffle.

School Show

Our annual School Shows will take place on **Thursday, December 11th**.

- First performance: **6:15 p.m. sharp** (doors open at 5:45 p.m.)
- Due to limited space, each family may purchase **up to four tickets**.
- Tickets are now on sale. Please send payment in an envelope indicating how many tickets you require. An envelope will be returned to you with the amount of tickets you purchased.

Both shows will be recorded, and families will be provided with a link to watch them at **no additional cost**.

Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal

We were delighted to support the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal again this year.

Over **40 shoeboxes** were donated. Thank you sincerely for your generosity. Completed boxes were collected on **Tuesday, November 11th**. Thank you to the Parents Association for co-ordinating this.

Cyber Awareness Talk

A reminder that an informative Cyber Safety Talk for parents is available.

Further information can be found at the following link: ([*Eventbrite link*](#)).

Enrolments

We have received a very high number of applications for **Junior Infants September entry**. As a result, we will need to limit the number of places available.

- If you have **already enrolled**, your child's place is secure.
- If you have **not yet enrolled**, please do so as soon as possible at:

www.kilricklens.org/enrolment

Cinema Trip & Santa Visit

As in previous years, we plan to visit the cinema during the final week of term as a reward for the children's fantastic work.

- **Provisionally booked:** Wednesday, December 17th
- **Location:** Omniplex, Ballinasloe
- **Film:** To be confirmed

This trip will take place during the school day.

Santa Claus will visit the school on **Thursday, December 18th**, also during school time.

School Ethos Survey

We ask all families to take part in this important government survey, which will help shape both our school's ethos and that of primary schools nationwide in the coming years.

Please take a minute to complete it here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/>

Your participation is greatly appreciated.

School Bus Service

We are now in a position where a school bus service will **almost certainly** be granted, provided all eligible families apply.

- The annual cost is **€50**.

- If the route does not pass close to your home, this fee will be **refunded**.
- Applications open in **April**. We will contact you with details closer to the time.

Traffic and Safety

For the safety of all children, we ask that cars **do not park** in the yellow box in front of the hall or in undesignated areas. Please use the **Community Car Park** whenever possible.

Children should be **accompanied by an adult** when crossing at the pedestrian lights. Children under 12 cannot reliably judge the distance or speed of oncoming traffic (RSA).

Although our application for a School Traffic Warden has been unsuccessful so far, we have applied again.

Thank you to the families who contacted local councillors regarding traffic calming measures. Works are expected to begin in **2026**, and we appreciate the continued efforts of our Board of Management and Hall Committee in progressing this.

End of Term

School will close on **Friday, December 19th at 12:00 p.m.**

We will reopen on **Monday, January 5th**.

Further information on the school calendar is available here: www.kilricklens.org/calendarandbooks

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. Have a nice week.

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

Colm Gibbons

Principal

Kilrickle N.S.