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09/10/2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please find below our latest school news, reminders and upcoming dates. I hope you all have a nice weekend.

Primary School Survey Results

We would like to thank parents who participated in the Primary School Survey during the last school year. Our school achieved an excellent response rate of **72%**, with **26 of our 36 households** responding. This was considerably higher than the national response rate of **41%**.

Our results showed very strong support for our school's current configuration. **100% of respondents preferred co-educational provision**, compared with approximately **94.7% nationally** among households with children attending primary school.

In relation to patronage, **69% preferred our current denominational patronage**, compared with **59.8% nationally** among respondents whose children attend denominational schools.

In relation to language, **88% preferred education through English**, while **12% preferred education through Irish**. Nationally, among respondents whose children attend English-medium schools, **86.7% preferred English** and **13.3% preferred Irish**.

The full results are available through the Department of Education and Youth's Primary School Survey page.

Traffic-Calming Measures

The school has been informed that traffic-calming improvement works are expected to take place **before Christmas**.

These works will include a number of measures, including the **construction of speed ramps at the school**. There may be significant traffic congestion while the works are ongoing. We appreciate your patience and ask everyone to take particular care when approaching the school during this time.

Parents' Association

We would like to welcome our new Parents' Association representatives, **Jillian Roux, Ciara Gordon and Tanya Kelly**.

Thank you also to everyone who has indicated that they will be available to support the Parents' Association during its **two-year term**.

Daffodil Bulb Donations

We are currently looking for **daffodil bulbs to plant around the school** and would greatly appreciate any donations.

The bulbs will be planted in school **next Friday, October 16th**.

Annual School Table Quiz

A reminder that our **annual school table quiz** will take place in the **community hall on Friday, November 6th at 8 p.m.**

This is always a great night of entertainment and fun. We hope to see as many parents, families, friends and members of the community as possible there on the night.

Further information, including details on **how to register a team**, is available at:

www.kilricklens.org/quiz

School Closures Due to Industrial Action

As you are already aware, the school will be **closed on Wednesday, October 14th and Wednesday, October 21st**.

These closures relate to **nationwide industrial action** taking place on both dates. Please ensure that these dates are noted in your calendar.

Christmas Carol Service

The school's **Christmas Carol Service** will take place on **Tuesday, December 15th at 6 p.m.**

There will be **refreshments provided by the Parents' Association in the hall afterwards**.

This is a lovely evening for all the families of the school, and we look forward to seeing you all there.

Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal

We are delighted once again to support the **Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal**.

Information leaflets will be sent home with each child, explaining how to prepare a shoebox.

Completed shoeboxes will be **collected on Monday, November 9th**.

Swimming Dates for 2027

This year, to accommodate pupil numbers, we will be taking **two groups swimming at different times of the year**. Swimming lessons will take place **during class time**.

Group 1 — Mr. Gibbons' and Ms. Mulhern's Classes

- Friday, February 26th
- Thursday, March 4th
- Friday, March 12th
- Friday, April 9th
- Friday, April 16th

Group 2 — Ms. Gallagher's and Ms. Murray's Classes

- Friday, April 23rd
- Friday, May 7th
- Friday, May 14th
- Friday, May 21st
- Friday, May 28th

Google Calendar

Please keep up to date with the important dates on our school calendar by checking the following link regularly:

www.kilricklens.org/calendarandbooks

School Trips in 2026

Children in different classes will be taking part in various trips between now and the end of November.

Babaró — Ms. Mulhern's and Ms. Murray's Classes

The boys and girls in Ms. Mulhern's and Ms. Murray's classes will attend **Babaró on Friday, October 16th**.

Kilbought Graveyard — Mr. Gibbons' Class

The children in Mr. Gibbons' class will be given a **guided tour of Kilbought Graveyard by an archaeologist on Tuesday, November 3rd**.

Microsoft Headquarters — Mr. Gibbons' Class

Mr. Gibbons' class will also visit **Microsoft Headquarters in Dublin on Monday, November 23rd**.

Halloween Fancy Dress Day

As always, we will hold our **Fancy Dress Day on the last day of term before the Halloween holidays**, which is **Friday, October 23rd**.

All pupils are invited to come to school in costume. There will be **prizes for the best costume in each classroom**, courtesy of the **Parents' Association**.

We look forward to a fun and spooky day!

Parent Teacher Meetings

The parent teacher meetings will take place from **Monday 16th to Thursday 19th November. A link with time slots for each teacher will be sent to you before mid-term** in which you can book your preferred time/day for your child's meeting. If you have any problems with bookings please contact kilricklens@gmail.com.

Active Schools Flag

We are delighted to be taking part in the **Active School Flag process this year**, with the hope of achieving **our first flag by the end of the school year**. A **pupil Active School Committee** has been

set up, and over the coming months we will continue with lots of **active challenges, movement breaks and whole-school activities**.

The Active School Flag encourages everyone to get moving, have fun and make physical activity an important part of school life. We are looking forward to another very active year ahead! **Thank you to Ms. Gallagher for co-ordinating this.**

Credit Union Savings Scheme

Our **Credit Union Savings Scheme will commence on Wednesday, 4th November**.

Children who already have an account should bring **their savings money and Credit Union savings book or account details** on Wednesdays.

Parents wishing to open an account for their child with **Naomh Breandán Credit Union in Loughrea** should visit the office with:

- **The child's passport or birth certificate.**
- **Their child's PPS number**.
- **The parent's photographic ID.**
- **A utility bill dated within the last three months** showing the parent's address.

Children aged seven and over must attend with their parent or guardian to open the account. For younger children, a parent or guardian can open the account on their behalf. If you have any questions you can phone Loughrea Credit Union on: (091) 841 773.

Medical Needs

A reminder to all parents to ensure that the school has the **most up-to-date medical information for your child**.

Please complete the Google Form below so that our records accurately reflect your child's current medical needs.

If your child requires an **inhaler**, please ensure that they have one available in school when required and that this is **noted in the Google Form**.

Complete the Medical Information Form

School Website

Please keep an eye on the school website to see the **latest activities taking place throughout the school**.

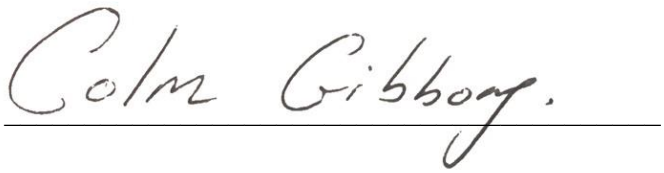
Our blog provides updates on classroom learning, school events and pupils' activities:

www.kilricklens.org/blog

Thank you for your continued support.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Colm Gibbons
Principal
Kilrickle National School



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