



September 27th 2025

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are well and that beginning of the school year for you has been a smooth one. Please note the following important updates:

School Trips

The boys and girls in the senior room enjoyed a wonderful trip to Áras an Uachtaráin last week. Photos from the day can be viewed on the school website. www.kilricklens.org/blog

Mr. Kelly's and Ms. Gallagher's classes will attend *Babaró* on **October 14th**. Further information will be shared shortly.

Upgrade to Play Area

As mentioned in our August newsletter, there will soon be significant upgrades to the garden areas, including a pathway linking the school gate, at the astro pitch, to the polytunnel. We hope this work will commence in the coming weeks.

Planning for the Future

As our school community continues to grow, we are planning carefully to meet future accommodation needs in the school.

We would therefore greatly appreciate if families with younger children due to enrol in the future could record their details in this [Google Doc](#).

School Raffle & Table Quiz Night

Our **Quiz Night** will take place on **Friday, November 7th at 8pm in the school hall**. This is an event for adults. The original October date clashed with the Presidential Election Day, so the event has been rescheduled.

At the interval, a **raffle** will be held. Proceeds will go directly to ongoing school development. To register a quiz team, please email kilricklens@gmail.com, call the school at **091 843363**, or visit www.kilricklens.org/quiz. It promises to be a great night of entertainment.

Christmas Play

Our Christmas Plays, which take place every second year, are scheduled for **Thursday, December 11th at 6:30pm**.

- **Junior Infants – 2nd Class** will perform first.
- **3rd – 6th Class** will perform second.

Halloween Fancy Dress Day

Our Halloween dress-up day will take place on **Thursday, October 23rd**. Children are encouraged to come to school in costume, and prizes for the best costume in each class will be kindly sponsored by the Parents' Association.

Mr. Gibbons' Leave

I will be on **paternity leave** from **Monday, October 6th to Monday, October 20th**. During this time, **Ms. Lusted** will deputise. Should you need to contact her, please email glusted@kilricklens.com.

Autumn Nature Table

All classes are contributing to an autumn nature table. We invite children to bring in seasonal items such as berries, nuts, and leaves collected locally. All contributions are greatly appreciated!

Parent-Teacher Meetings

You will shortly receive an email to book a slot for **Parent-Teacher Meetings**, which will take place during the week beginning **Monday, November 17th**. Families with siblings in the school will receive priority booking to allow for coordinated scheduling.

Road Safety

Over recent months, both the Board of Management and the Hall Committee have repeatedly highlighted to Galway County Council the urgent need for traffic calming measures outside the school. Unfortunately, our appeals have not yet been met with a satisfactory response.

We strongly encourage parents to also raise their concerns. You can email your local councillors directly (see list below), and we ask you to also contact roads@galwaycoco.ie, outlining your personal observations or experiences of hazardous incidents near the school. Without continued pressure, we cannot expect to secure real improvements.

The Municipal District of Loughrea consisting of the Local Electoral Areas of Loughrea and Gort - Kinvara

[Cllr. Ivan Canning](#)

[Cllr. Michael Regan](#)

[Cllr. Geraldine Donohue](#)

[Cllr. Gerry Finnerty](#)

[Cllr. Declan Kelly](#)

[Cllr Paul Killilea](#)

[Cllr. Martina Kinane](#)

[Cllr. Michael "Moegie" Maher](#)

[Cllr. Jimmy McClearn](#)

[Cllr. Laurie Harney](#)

School Website

The school website is updated regularly with news and activities. Please check the blog to see what we've been up to: www.kilricklens.org/blog.

School Calendar – Closures & Key Dates

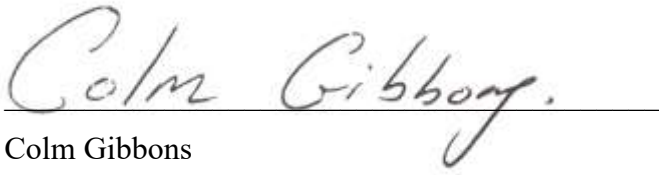
- **Halloween Holidays:** School closes **Thursday, October 23rd** and reopens **Monday, November 3rd**.
- **Planning Meeting:** School closes at **12:30pm on Friday, November 7th** for a staff planning session on the new Primary Curriculum Framework.
- **Christmas Holidays:** School closes at **12pm on Friday, December 19th** and reopens **Monday, January 5th, 2026**.

Sacramental Dates:

We expect that these dates will be announced in the coming days ahead and we will let you know as soon as we are told.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter and we appreciate all your support on the above matters.

Le gach dea-ghuí,
Colm Gibbons

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.