

# ST. COLMCILLES'S S.N.S.

October/November

2021

## NEWSLETTER



### 4th Green Flag.

Congratulation to all involved on earning our fourth Green Flag on the 6<sup>th</sup> October. This was the Travel Flag which the children did a lot of work for over the past two years. The ceremony took place online which meant all the classes were able to view it from the comfort of their classroom. Sincere thanks to Mr Nugent for all his hard work.

### Tree Ceremony.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of October we had a lovely Tree Ceremony where a large Silver Birch tree was presented to the school. This was National Tree Day but also it was a celebration to remember the life of St. Colmcille 1500 years since his birth. Aimee Lynch and Ryan Gillick Reilly represented the children of the school.

Ciarán Mangan Meath County Library, Dr. Loreto Guinan, Heritage Office Meath, Deirdre Harte Colmcille 1500 Co-ordinator, Donegal Co Council, Miriam Manning, Colmcille 1500 Kells, Cllr Séan Drew, Cllr Mike Bray, Rev William Seale and Mark Smith, local artist were also present.

### After School activities:



Many children have been busy with after school activities.

Third class children took part in Handball coaching with Ms Farrelly and members of the Handball club.

Sixth class boys are doing football with Mr Bird and Mr Donagh on Mondays.

Fifth and Sixth class girls and boys are doing hurling/camogie with Mr Cox, Ms Dolan and Ms Briody on Tuesdays.

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class girls football is on Thursdays with Ms Newman, Ms O'Rourke and Ms Briody. Ms Berrill and Ms Mc Manus are doing

basketball with the fourth classes on Tuesday.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the teachers for giving their time after school to these activities.

All children also participate in 20 minutes track time daily. But at least the fitness levels and enjoyment for the children will improve in the meantime. We have not received any information yet on inter sporting competitions

Children need written permission from parents if they are participating. Parents must make arrangements to have their child collected at 3.30pm.

### Safety on the school grounds:

Other than school activities which are organised by staff, large groups of children should not be in the school yard in the evenings or weekends. It is not safe and is unsupervised. The children have also been informed of this.

### First Communion:

Congratulation to the 6 children who made their First Communion on the 17<sup>th</sup> October. We extend a huge thank you to Fr David for the lovely ceremony as

these children had been unable to make their First Communion with their own class a few weeks earlier. They certainly were the most important people in the church that day!

### Halloween Dress Up:

There were some very creative outfits worn by the children and teachers on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October! Thank you to all those parents who were up a little earlier to get the children sorted and out the door to school! We realise that anything different takes that lit bit of extra time in the mornings! It was a lovely day in school with many classes playing some of the old traditional Halloween games.



### Parent Teacher Meetings

will take place from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November. Due to rising case numbers of Covid 19, face to face meetings cannot take place in the school. Instead, teachers will phone parents to talk about how your child has settled into class this year and discuss their progress. Class teachers will organise

a day and time for your discussion.

### Phones in school:

Children are not allowed to bring their phone to school. However, we do realise that there are some days that they may need to. If this is the case, children need to bring a note from parents for the class teacher stating this parental permission. Children then leave the phone with the class teacher and collect it at the end of the day.

### Homework policy:

At this stage, children should be in a routine of doing homework. Third and Fourth class should spend 40/45 minutes whereas 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> classes need to spend up to an hour at homework. If your child is spending a lot less or a lot more than this, please contact the class teacher.

### Uniform:

During the summer months when it is very warm, children can wear shorts to school instead of trousers/skirts. Now that the weather is much colder, children need to wear their full uniform to school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and their school tracksuit can be worn on Tuesday and Thursday.

During these Covid times, ventilation is extremely important in classrooms. The heating is on but some children may still feel a little cold. If they are, they can wear leggings/tights under their school trousers or an extra layer under their T shirt. Please put names on all jumpers and coats. Children need to bring a coat to school every day from now on.

### Covid 19 Symptoms:

Please do not send your child to school if they have any symptoms. It has been well documented on the News about the rising number of positive cases in Primary school children. This has been the case in our school too as the numbers in the Community rises. If your child develops symptoms in school, we will contact you. Please ensure that the office has 2 contact numbers. If a child tests positive and the parent agrees, I will inform the parents of the rest of the children in the Pod.



### Design a Card:

The children's Christmas card templates have been

submitted. When we receive the proofs parents can order them on-line. A percentage of the payment received will go towards resources in the school



**Dates to Remember:**

Happy Holidays!

**Christmas Holidays:**

**Close:** Wednesday  
December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021 at  
12.10 pm

**Re-open:** Thursday January  
6<sup>th</sup> 2022