

Kiltale National School

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Scoil Mhuire Naofa

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9th November 2018

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Mid-term is over, November is here and the children are settling back into their school routine. Hallowe'en - we had a wonderful dress-up day of fun with prizes for the best homemade costumes.

Now that the long dark evenings are here, encouraging a family board game or family '**DEAR**' time (**Drop Everything and Read**) time, would be a beneficial and enjoyable activity for all the family. Listening to your child read his/her book provides a wonderful opportunity to share a rich language experience with your child as you laugh together, express opinions and discuss the events in the story.

The school days are demanding and children need to get enough sleep to concentrate, learn, stay well and cope with the challenges of the school day. Please make sure your child brings a coat now that the colder weather has arrived and please ensure the coat has your child's name clearly printed.

If you need to communicate an urgent message, please send in a note or ring the school after 10.00am. Please ensure that your contact details are up to date at the office. If the school needs to contact you in the event of an accident, illness or emergency it is essential we have at least two contact numbers. If you have recently changed your home phone, mobile, or work numbers please advise the office.

Parent teacher meetings begin on November 19th, this is an invaluable opportunity to get an update on your child's progress and communicate any concerns you may have with their teacher. This is a short meeting so if you have an issue that requires a more lengthy discussion please make an alternative appointment. Please note that teachers are not available for meetings except by appointment.

The new Parent's Association first fundraiser is in full swing and the children are enjoying the '**Coin War**'. The challenge is, which class can bring in the most money in coins to win a prize for the class? So be warned guard your purse/wallet, and keep an eye on your loose change. The winner will be announced next Friday and we depend on your continued support to make this effort a big success.

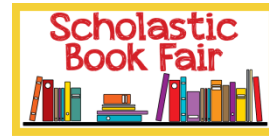
Yours Sincerely,

Eileen O Reilly, Principal.

NOTE: School finishes for all pupils at 1:40pm on Monday 19th November 2018.



School News



- The **Board of Management** held their first meeting on 10th October where they reviewed and ratified the Date Protection Policy.
- Sunday 11th November is the **Enrolment Mass for the First Communion** children in 2nd Class.
- **Book Fair:** comes to our school next week and will be open to the children to read and enjoy the books every day. The parents are welcome to attend on Thursday 15/11, Friday 16/11 and Monday 19/11 afternoons from 1.30 to 3pm.

This is a great opportunity to pick up early Christmas presents for the family.

- The **Parent's Association** held their AGM on Thursday 4th October. There was a good turn out and I would like to congratulate our new committee; Seanean Clancy, Rachel Mc Cormack, Imelda Mc Cormack, Grainne O'Connor, Nicola Quinn, Aisling Ryan and Áine Phelan. If you can support them in their work in anyway please contact them and provide your contact details. I am looking forward to working closely with the parent body in the months ahead. Please keep 9th December after 10am Mass free for their next event, details to follow next week.

➤ Green Schools:



We are working hard on our Green Schools Theme on 'Litter and Waste'. The senior classes have completed projects on, 'Plastics and the problems of plastics in our world'. The students made presentations to all the classes and we are working hard to reduce our use of plastics, use recyclable drinks containers and eliminate plastic from our lunch boxes.

Our Halloween decorations competition was very successful. The students made decorations from recyclable materials. They were very creative and it was a great success, prizes were awarded at assembly on the day of the holidays.

➤ Student Council:

We plan to form a student council over the next weeks so that students have a platform to discuss opinions and ideas about our school and that students can have an input on decision making.


➤ Science Week:



Next week is Science Week and we will be celebrating science in our school. On Thursday 'The Big Bear Planetarium' visits the school, bringing a mobile 3D Dome to create a real planetarium in our school, this exciting immersive interactive experience with digital projection and computer simulations will be the highlight of our week and we hope everyone will enjoy this unique learning experience.

➤ Active Schools Flag:



- **The Daily Mile – Children fit for life:** Each day, weather permitting, the children are continuing to clock up a mile – building greatly on their fitness levels. 
- **Dancing** has started last week and will continue until the Christmas break.
- **Cross Country:** The school team goes to Bellewstown on Wednesday 14th November. Representing the school are pupils from 3rd to 6th Class who qualified for their event.
- **Athletics Coaching** continues on Fridays with Pat and Fiona Diskin. The children are showing signs of benefitting greatly from this – constantly increasing their fitness levels while at the same time having lots of fun.
- **Active Playtimes** also continue during break on Fridays.