

SCOIL MUIRE GAN SMÁL

Green Lane, Carlow



Principal: Bernie Murphy

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we reach the end of our second term I'd like to wish you all a Happy Easter and hope that all our families enjoy the Easter Holidays.

School closes at 12 noon this Friday, April 11th.

School re-opens on Monday, April 28th.

Please note: the girls do not have to wear their uniforms on Friday.

NO GYMNASTICS CLASSES ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Staff Change: Ms. Darcy will be returning from maternity leave after Easter. WE wish to thank Ms. Glennon most sincerely for all her work during her time with us.

Cyber-Bullying: Grateful thanks to Ms. Healy and the committee members of Ms. Balfe, Ms. Glennon, Ms. Hourihane and Ms. Rowan who organised our recent Anti-Bullying week. The pupils' workshops were most worthwhile as was the after school session with staff. Parents have given a very positive feedback also on their evening session. As a follow-up to the workshops a poster competition was held for 1st – 6th classes. The winners were presented with their prizes by rugby star, Seán O'Brien, and their posters are now on display on the main corridor, Thanks also to Ms. Lacey for organising Seán's visit to the school.

Aistear Room: Sincerest thanks to all the families who have sent in items for the structured play room to be used by infant classes. Work on organizing the room has begun and I'd like to acknowledge the time and work which both Ms. McDonald and Mrs. Brennan are spending in organising the room.

Sport:

Cricket: Congratulations to both our cricket teams who were winners and runners-up in the recent inter-schools competition. The winning Scoil Muire gan Smál / Bishop Foley team featured, Eve Craddock, Leanne Kane, Sarah O'Connor and Robyn Purser. Beaten finalists were Áine Fahy, Meryl Clifford, Sophie Hughes-Doherty and Petra Robinson. Thanks to Jimmy Dooley and Ben Parameter for coaching the teams.

Swimming: Swimming has commences for 2nd – 4th classes.

Basketball: Congratulations to our Basketball team who played their first match yesterday against Bennekerry in the inter-schools event. Their next away match will be against Graiguecullen and their two home matches will be against Gaelscoil and Askea. Sincerest thanks to Ms. Griffin for her work with the team.

Soccer: The soccer skills lessons conducted by Carlow I.T. students have concluded and were, yet again, very popular with pupils in 1st and 2nd class.

G.A.A.: We welcome back Brendan Hayden and the TY students from St. Leo's who commenced coaching today for 4th – 6th classes.

Coaches from O'Hanrahan's Football Club have finished coaching 1st and 2nd classes.

As ever grateful thanks to Mrs. Lambe and Mrs. Woods for organising sport in our school.

Quiz: More quiz success! The senior team of Meadhbh Broderick, Beth Evesson and Rachel Whelan have done it again! This time, they won the Leinster U-13 Pioneers Table Quiz. It's wonderful to have another shield to display in school girls!

Junior Entrepreneur: Congratulations to Ms Shore's 5th class girls on producing the impressive J-Mitz! They are developing valuable budgeting, marketing and other entrepreneurial skills. Thanks to all who have supported them.

Gentle Reminder: Any parents who have not yet made the payment for Art Materials, Photocopying, Insurance and Tests are respectfully asked to do so.

Collecting Pupils: Please remind your daughter that if nobody arrives to collect her from school that she is to come back to the office and the secretary will ring home for her. Staff are always on the premises after school and we want the children to know that they will never be left behind alone!

Dropping lunches/homework to pupils after school has started is discouraged. It is disruptive to class and encroaches on valuable teaching time.

Reminder of important dates:

Confirmation Sunday May 11th. Time yet to be decided by the Parish office.

First Holy communion Sunday May 18th 10.30am

Parking: Adequate parking space is always an issue. However, I have to request parents not to park in front of the barrier at any time or to walk under it.

Remember to let us know when you change your mobile number/ address so you will receive all school texts/ correspondence.

Absences: It is not necessary to telephone the school when your daughter is sick. Please send a note explaining the absence on her return to school. Lateness and leaving early is recorded in school records.

Old Mobile Phones: We continue to collect old mobile phones for the Jack & Jill Foundation. If we collect 300 mobile phones we will receive an interactive whiteboard for our school. Please place phones in the box provided in classes.

Lost Property: There is a variety of items in the lost property box at school. If you are missing items, please check the box. We also have a number of jackets and coats. Please contact the office regarding these.

Remember to label everything for easy identification!

Parents' Council Once again we are indebted to our wonderful Parents 'Council for their hard work and support. They have just arranged yet another successful Easter raffle, raising valuable funds for our school. Thank you all. Results will be published at a later date.

Bikes: Sincerest thanks to the dad who gave us the two bicycles to raffle. The lucky winners are:

Hafsa Hafsa in Mrs. Brennan's Junior Infants and
Dana Medvedeva in Ms. Glennon's Senior Infants.

Lions Club Cycle/Walk: I'll be doing the Lions Club sponsored cycle on Sunday next in aid of the school. If you care to join me, please contact the office.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter.

Bernie Murphy

Principal