

**Plunkett’s Post**

**February 25th 2020**

**Welcome Back**

We hope that everyone had a fantastic midterm break and that the boys and girls are full of enthusiasm for what lies ahead for the remainder of the term. We have lots of exciting things planned for the next few weeks in our school.

**Food Dudes**

Our school was selected for the most recent cycle of the ‘Food Dudes’ campaign. This campaign is organised by The Department of Education and Skills (DES), The Department of Agriculture and An Bord Bia. We are delighted to be part of the programme and we are excited about giving our children the opportunity to further enhance their healthy eating habits. If parents wish to learn more about Food Dudes, they can visit [www.fooddudes.ie](http://www.fooddudes.ie), where they will get a comprehensive overview of the programme. We will also be sending home healthy eating diaries, which we ask you to fill out with your child.

**World Book Day**

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 5th March 2020. We have lots of exciting activities planned for the day. Boys and girls can also dress up as their favourite book character, to add to the excitement of the day.

**Sacramental Preparations**

We wish our boys and girls in 6th class all the best for their upcoming Confirmation ceremony on Saturday 7th March. Mrs. Noonan and her fantastic group of children have been tirelessly preparing for this special day and we look forward to celebrating it together.

We also want to wish our boys and girls in 2nd class all the best as they prepare for their First Confession on Thursday 12th March. This is a very special time in their Catholic journey and we are very proud of the work that they are putting into their Sacramental preparations.

**Active Schools Flag:**

Swimming Lessons:

1st and 2nd class have enjoyed their swimming lessons in Edenderry Swimming Pool. We would like to thank all the staff at Edenderry Swimming Pool for their help and for making the lessons fun for all.

The Daily Mile Challenge:

'The Daily Mile Challenge' was a great success. All of the children participated in the challenge by walking or running a mile every day. We were very proud of the effort made by all the children. We might have a Mo Farrah in Killina in the future! Well done everyone!

Active Breaks:

The children have enjoyed engaging in different activities at break time, which are led by our Active Committee and Playground Leaders. The children are fully engaging with all of our lovely P.E. equipment.

Badminton:

Ms. Dalton and Mrs. O' Sullivan attended a Badminton Ireland Course in Kilcullen. As a result the school will receive a kit including rackets, shuttlecocks and nets. We are hoping to attend a badminton blitz in April.

Cross Country:

Cross Country trials will be held the week of the 16th of March. All children from 3rd-6th class are welcome to try-out for the Cross Country Team. Children have been training and we wish everyone the best of luck!

Hurling:

The children have been enjoying hurling training with Kelly from Broadford G.A.A. They have been learning the fundamental skills of the sport and are having great fun too!

Active Schools Walkway:

Our Active Walkway is up and running. It is proving very popular with all of the children. It's great to see the children doing their talking while they are walking!

Active Schools Week 2020:

Active Schools Week will be held from May 18th - 22nd. A letter has been sent home requesting volunteers for activities during the week. We would really appreciate any help you could give us during the week. We are really looking forward to a healthy and active week!

Active Schools Slogan:

The children entered a poster competition to create our Active Schools Slogan. Le'ts get chanting! This is Killina's slogan:

*'Run! Run! As fast as you can,*

*And then you'll be like Superman!*

*Walking, running, dipping in the pool,*

*1, 2, 3 being active is cool!*

*Move well! Move often! Bígí ag spraoi!*

*Na leanaí gníomhacha i gCill an Fheadha.'*

**Engineers Week 2020:**

Engineers Week is running from the 29th of February - 6th of March. Parents can gain more information from [www.engineersweek.ie](http://www.engineersweek.ie/) There are several free courses and activities being held in The National University of Ireland Maynooth. Please visit their web page <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/electronic-engineering/events/engineers-week> for more information. We look forward to celebrating Engineers Week in Killina.

**New Email Address**

With changes to Eir (Eircom) email billing our school will have to change our email address. Our new email address is [office@killinans.com](mailto:office@killinans.com). We have gone all upmarket by linking our email address to our school website using G-Suite for Education.

**Parent Association**

We wish to thank our wonderful Parent Association for the work that they are doing on behalf of our children. The Parents participated in a recent bag-pack in Dunnes Stores, where they collected a fantastic €935. We are delighted with this money and we look forward to putting it to great use within our school. We have just purchased six more Chromebooks, which now means that our children can work in pairs to complete ICT projects in class. Your fundraising has also been used to put a new door onto our PE shed and to purchase a new mower for our playing field. Daithi is also working tirelessly on our school garden/outdoor classroom and Parent Association funds were effectively used to purchase all of the materials that will allow us to develop this wonderful learning space. We are very excited about using it!!

**Lá Glas**

We will have a Lá Glas on Monday 16th March in our school. The boys and girls can wear in their green clothes and we will have some exciting activities planned for the day.

**Stay Safe**

We are making great progress with our Stay Safe lessons in class and we also wish to thank our parents for the work that they are doing with your children at home around these sensitive topics. This programme works best when parents and teachers work together to share the key messages with our children. We pride ourselves on the safe space that we have created for our boys and girls and this programme allows us to discuss these important topics (friendship, bullying, feeling safe/unsafe, cyberbullying etc…) within a very comfortable environment for our children. If parents have concerns around these topics please feel to contact us in the school.

**Gaeilge**

Some useful phrases to try out at home as we continue to promote Gaeilge across our school.

* Glan an bord. - Clean the table.
* Glan do sheomra - Clean your room.
* Faigh an folúsghlantóir - Get the vacuum cleaner
* Maith thú! - Well done!
* Déan deifir/Brostaigh ort! - Hurry up!
* Cé leis é seo? - Who owns this?
* Ar aghaidh leat…. - On you go/Go on
* Tá an dinnéar réidh. - The dinner is ready.
* Tabhair é seo do…. - Give this to….
* Líon an miasniteoir - Fill the dishwasher
* Folamh an miasniteoir - Empty the dishwasher
* Cas as an telifís - Turn off the television.
* Pioc suas é sin. - Pick that up.
* An bhfuil …. sa ghairdín? - Is …. in the garden?
* An bhfuil …. sa charr? - Is …. in the car?
* An bhfuil …. sa chistin? - Is …. in the kitchen?
* Cad atá cearr? Leat? - What’s wrong? With you?
* Slán go fóill. - Goodbye for now.

**Important Dates**

* Tuesday 17th March – St. Patrick’s Day (school closed)
* **Wednesday 18th March – School closes at 12pm (Staff training for new Primary Language Curriculum)**
* Friday 3rd April – last day before the Easter Holidays
* Monday 20th April – School re-opens after the Easter holidays