

It is simply superb to be back in school with our pupils in the classrooms. How we missed the hullabaloo and fun in the classrooms and the school yard! The children are now accustomed to our adjusted school routines and they have settled back into school life seamlessly. We are so proud of them!

The staff have been outstanding and supportive, as have the parents, the Board of Management, and the wider school community. As our Kinsale motto states we are #stongerttogether. I would like to extend a massive thank you to all stakeholders for all you do to keep our school and our pupils safe.

We will be enrolling for September 2021-2022 from Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November. Please let any prospective parents know.

Le meas,  
Jill Horan.

### **Some gentle reminders...**

Please note that we will not be responsible for children arriving before 8:50 a.m.

Please ensure all clothing and other possessions are clearly labelled with indelible ink. With Covid-19, we will be unable to go around to all the classrooms with lost property. If there is no label, it will be donated to charity.

### **Change of Address/ Emergency Numbers/ Email Addresses**

If you have changed any of these or your standby contacts, we would ask that you let the school secretary know immediately. This information is necessary for the safety and care of your child during school hours.

### **Student Council**

We have elected a new student council. The council will meet with Ms Horan on a regular basis to discuss student affairs! One representative from each class was elected and will take a seat on the Council for the duration of this academic year. The elected pupils are required to be active participants in the Council, to attend meetings regularly, participate in activities and be a role model for other pupils. All Student Council members wear specially designed badges for easy identification.

This year, the Student Council members are:

Junior Infants: Myles Tindal

Senior Infants: Savannah O'Dowd

1<sup>st</sup> Class: Abel Hay

2<sup>nd</sup> Class: Cherie O'Sullivan

3<sup>rd</sup> Class: Naomi O'Riordan

4<sup>th</sup> Class: Oscar Kinahan

5<sup>th</sup> Class: Vivienne O'Sullivan

6<sup>th</sup> Class: Lucy Taylor



### **Amber Schools**

Last year Ms Nestor and the Amber School committee worked together to promote positive mental health within our school community. They held a Valentines Bake Sale for Pieta House, coordinated 'Friendship Week' and organised many other fantastic activities for our school. We were successfully awarded our first Amber Flag in May 2020.

This year, to maintain our Amber School status, we need to continue the fantastic work from last year. We have a new committee which will be the same committee as the Student Council. Ms Whitley and Ms Horan will be coordinating it this year.

### **Wrap up warm!**

We need to keep the windows and doors open to keep air circulating in the classrooms during the day. Please make sure that your children wear lots of layers and bring their coats to school as we are going outdoors a lot more now too!

### **Active School**

Ms Buttimer and Ms Kingston are coordinating Active Schools this year. So far, we have elected our new committee. The following children are on the Active School Committee:

Junior Infants: Emma Nnamani

Senior Infants: Lucille Schaffhauser

1<sup>st</sup> Class: Rachael Foulds

2<sup>nd</sup> Class: Luke Johnston

3<sup>rd</sup> Class: Olivia Ingles

4<sup>th</sup> Class: Paddy O'Riordan

5<sup>th</sup> Class: Alice Connaughton

6<sup>th</sup> Class: Elma Renault-Pallone

### **Green School**

Ms Hadden and Ms Curtin are coordinating Green Schools this year. So far, we have elected our new committee. The following children are on the Green School Committee:

Junior Infants: Sienna Sloe

Senior Infants: Scarlett O'Sullivan

1<sup>st</sup> Class: Lotam Nnamani

2<sup>nd</sup> Class: Samuel Stevens-Dorman

3<sup>rd</sup> Class: Tom Harte

4<sup>th</sup> Class: Eve Smith

5<sup>th</sup> Class: Harry Devlin

6<sup>th</sup> Class: Archie Woodcock

### **Birthday Buns**

As much as we all absolutely ADORE our class birthday buns, unfortunately we will temporarily have to stop our wonderful tradition due to Covid-19. We will be reintroducing this as soon as we can. Thank you for your understanding on this.

### **Website**

Please make sure to have a look at the website, we have changed it up a bit. If you have any suggestions for the website, please let us know!

### **Maths Week**

Ms Hadden has been busy preparing exciting activities for the classroom for Maths Week which will be held from 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October. We are really looking forward to the fun activities.

### **Halloween Dress-up**

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, we are asking all pupils to dress up in homemade Halloween costumes. We do not have a theme this year – the only requirement is that your costume needs to be homemade! This is a fundraiser organised by the PA. It is €5 per child. All monies raised by the PA this year will be spent on our proposed outdoor classroom, which we hope will be ready to use in the Spring/Summer term! More information to follow soon.

### **Pupils Walking Home**

Parents/guardians of pupils in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup> class, should you feel your child is responsible enough to walk/cycle home please complete and return the 'Pupils walking/cycling home alone permission slip'. This document has been added to the school website for your convenience.

### **Water Fountain will not be operating**

Due to Covid-19, the water fountain will remain out of use. Please ensure that your child brings adequate fluids with them to school daily.

### **Parent -Teacher Meetings**

Formal Parent – Teacher meetings will take place during the week of the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. This will take place via video conferencing or phone call. You will receive a link from Google Forms to select your appointment time. If you select video conferencing, a Zoom link will then be sent to you. If you select phone call, please expect a phone call from a private number. As we have a quick turnaround time with Zoom calls and phone calls, we ask you to be punctual and ready for the call. Please ensure that you are in a quiet, private location to take the call. If you have more than one child in a classroom, please book one appointment per child.

### **Book Fair**

We will still be holding our Book Fair. It is due to arrive on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. We have been liaising with Scholastic Books to facilitate this in a safe manner. Book purchases will be made remotely. More details to follow.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> classes are back playing GAA. We say goodbye to coach Anthony and welcome coach Gavin Webb from Kinsale GAA. GAA takes place on Wednesdays. Please make sure your children are wearing suitable footwear.

### **Creative Clusters**

We are very excited about our new journey with Creative Clusters. In hope to bring the Ukulele to St. Multose and to our friends in Ballymoney NS and Kilgarriffe NS, Ms Buttimer set about applying for this wonderful opportunity. Ms Buttimer was successful in her application and each school has been awarded with €3100. More information to follow soon.

### **Bike Week**



Well done to all the pupils who cycle or skateboard or walk to school! It was National Bike Week recently, from 19<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> September. Here are some of the pupils who cycled to school that week – all wearing their helmets and hi-vis jackets. Well done all!

### **Mental Health Talk**

Mental health and wellbeing are a vital part of life, especially right now. With many Covid-19 safety precautions put in place, Martina Ryan from Cork Mental Health will be coming in to talk to our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils about mental health. Martina will be covering the following topics:

- Keep talking
- Talk about how you're feeling.
- Exercise

- Get some fresh air every day.
- Be confident
- Don't just follow the crowd.
- Sleep well & eat well
- It makes a difference.
- Have fun
- Do things you enjoy!
- Don't bottle things up!

### **Ms Horan's Class**

What a fantastic first month back! The infants and new pupils have all settled happily into school routine and I am getting to know all their personalities. The infants have been busy in Aistear, learning about the 'Signs of Autumn', while 1<sup>st</sup> class have been learning about transport. They conducted a survey of the vehicles passing the school. They have learned lots of new playground games. They are also great at remembering the hand washing and sanitising steps - Well done class! 😊

### **Ms Curtin's Class**

What a fantastic 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class I have this year. It is so wonderful to be back in the classroom again with that great 'learning buzz' and to see the children so happy with all their friends. They have adapted so well to our new routines, remembering their sanitising and handwashing, keeping us all safe! Thank you boys and girls! We have been spending a lot of time learning outdoors, running every morning for five minutes. We have even done some of our Irish lessons and English lessons outdoors too! The children have really enjoyed listening to and discussing some fantastic stories such as 'The Giving Tree' which taught us some life lessons and they thought of what they could give others that doesn't cost money.

### **Ms Kingston's Class**

Although the return to school has brought many new routines and practises with it, I think it is safe to say both the children and teachers are glad to be back in the physical classroom! The children in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> class have made a wonderful start to term one, settling back into school life well. Recently, we have been improving and working on our basketball skills with our new basketball stands. We are due to begin some GAA training with Gavin, a coach organised by Kinsale GAA Club. We look forward to this! We have been busily researching topics and

learning how to write clear and informative reports. An impressive effort so far, well done to all.

### **Ms Nestor's Class**

After what has felt like a never-ending six-month break, we are finally back where we belong! 5th and 6th class are living up to their responsibilities as the senior class, by demonstrating their maturity and resilience to our new learning environment rules. They have taken all the changes in their stride, and after 5 weeks in school, are settled back into a happy and safe school day routine. We have nominated and elected our class representatives for the Student Council, Green Schools committee and Active Flag Committee and have commenced work on retaining our Discover Science Plague. GAA began last week to make sure we keep our minds and bodies fit and healthy. We are very much looking forward to our first term back together! It is going to be a busy one!

### **Update from the Parents' Association**

Usually at this time of year, we would be in the throes of final preparations for the annual Harvest Fair. With the fair on hold for the foreseeable, the committee have come up a variety of smaller, low key events beginning with non-uniform days, Halloween or Christmas dress up days in the weeks and months ahead. Our aim will always be to organise fundraisers that are fun and inclusive and cost little to be involved. Please keep an eye on Whatsapp for updates from your class rep.

Our AGM will take place in November, the date for which has to be confirmed. We'll be in touch closer to the date with more details and information on how you can participate.

Remember if you have any queries that you would like raised at any future meeting or you would like to join our committee, please get in touch!

Ann Harte  
Chairperson of the PA

### **Dates for your diary:**

- 20<sup>th</sup> October - Mental Health Talk for 6<sup>th</sup> Class
- 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Halloween Dress up.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Mid-term Break.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Back to school.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Book Fair