**Kilcommon N.S**

**Newsletter – January 2024**

**News from the Board of Management**

* **BOM:** Our new board of Management is now up and running with training taking place shortly.
* **APPLICATIONS:** These are now open. Please tell anyone you know who has a child interested in starting school in Kilcommon this September to contact the school asap. 
* **HOT SCHOOL LUNCHES:**. Our school is one of the schools recently included in this free Dept run programme. We hope that this will be available from April 2024 in Kilcommon NS. More information on the way.
* **POLICIES:** We will be reviewing some school policies this term. Please check in regularly on the draft policy section of our school website and email principalkilcommonns@gmail.com with any questions / suggestions for the draft policies shared on the page.
* **SOLAR PANELS**: The board is in the process of obtaining quotes for solar panels which will be installed later in the term.
* **NEW WALKWAY**: Working alongside the PTA, we hope to install an all-weather walkway around the school field, providing access all year round to pupils to walk and run. This ties in to many aspects of school life - promoting exercise and positive wellbeing (supporting our active schools and wellbeing programme), providing a nature trail (supporting our environmental programmes). This will be a fantastic addition to our school playground. Progress will be shared via Seesaw.

**News from the P.T.A.**

* **CHRISTMAS QUIZ:** Well done to everyone who participated is the PTA Christmas armchair quiz. Once corrected, winners and answers will be shared via Seesaw!
* **BEETLE DRIVE:**.The PTA beetle drive has been rescheduled and will now take place on Friday 23rd February at 7pm.

*No prior knowledge is required by adults attending, and no need to come as a team, as this will all be organised, and everything explained on the evening!*

*Cost per participant is 5 Euro. Lots of fun - There are prizes for the first beetle in each round and for the overall highest scores on the night!*

*There will also be a raffle on the night with 1 strip for €2 and 3 strips for €5. (It would be extra helpful to have the correct amounts on the evening, as we will only have a certain amount of change available!).*

*To ensure we have enough tables and seating ready for the Beetle Drive, a new google form will soon be shared with all families via seesaw.*

#### CLAY EVENING: The PTA held their social ‘clay making’ evening last term. This was a great success and the PTA would now like to run a ‘clay making’ evening this term which will be open to all parents on Tuesday 27th February, 7pm. The tutor will be Christien Van Bussel. Everyone attending will get the opportunity to make several items. The cost for the evening is €25. To be paid on the night. This will be run on a first come first served basis (maximum 12 participants), with names being taken via the google form which will soon be shared via Seesaw.

**News Update**



* **SCHOOL CLOSURE.** As shared on Seesaw, please note that Kilcommon School will be closed this Friday 19th January, as we have been informed that there will be no ESB (so no light, power or heating!) from 9am until 4.30pm that day.
* **GOOD LUCK!** Best of luck to all pupils who will represent the school over the next couple of weeks in GAA blitzes, tag-rugby blitzes, the Credit Union Schools Quiz in Baltinglass and the county Spelling Bee competition. 
* **TAG RUGBY:** It is great to welcome back Barney Hynes who will teach tag-rugby to 3rd – 6th classes for the next few weeks.
* **T.Y. STUDENTS:** We look forward to welcoming back one of our past pupils, Christopher Maher, in February. Christopher comes to us as part of his school’s TY work experience programme.
* **VISITING TEACHER**: It is always a pleasure to welcome student teachers to Kilcommon and this year we welcome Ms Ruth Dunne to the school. Ms Dunne will teach some lessons to 1st 2nd classes during February, March & April, alongside Ms Kiersey, as part of her teacher training.
* **DUBLIN FIELD TRIP**: 5th 6th will travel on their bi-annual trip to Dublin on Wednesday 20th March. This trip involves a journey by train to Dublin and a visit to several museums and educational places of interest in the city center. More details to follow on Seesaw. 
* **NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS**: kilcommon.weebly.com

Please check our school website for policies, our gallery of photos from Term 1 events, along with newsletters & updated calendars etc

**Some dates for the diary - Term 2**

Bank holiday Monday 5th February. School closed.

Midterm closure Wednesday 14th (12pm closure), Thursday 15th & Friday 16th February.

PTA Beetle drive Friday 23rd February, 7pm. All welcome!

PTA Easter bonnet walk Friday 22nd March (more info to follow).

Easter holidays School closes Friday 22nd March, 12pm. Reopens Monday 8th April.

**Looking ahead to term 3!**

School tour date: Tuesday 28th May

Dicesan soccer blitz, Bunclody: Thursday 30th May