



# St. Comgall's N.S.


Connons, Clones, Co. Monaghan

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**New Faces** – A special word of welcome to our new pupils... Welcome to Seán, Aoibhinn, Amy, Molly and Maisie in Junior Infants. We also welcome Jade Crudden, a past pupil of ours, from St. Kevin's, Lisnaskea, who will be doing two day's work experience in the school for this academic year. We look forward to an exciting year of learning and wish all pupils success, inspiration and happiness in the year ahead. Here's to another great year!



**A school Mass** to bless our new school year will be held at 1:30pm on next **Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September** across the road in St. Alphonsus. Fr. John McKenna C.C., Scotshouse is, once again, our school chaplain for this academic year and will be responsible for pastoral work and sacramental preparation with the pupils. Looking forward to seeing families at Mass on the day.

**IMPORTANT!**  
**A school closure** will take place on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**. As per the agreed guidelines with the Department of Education & Skills, this day will facilitate in-service training for teachers on the Primary Language Curriculum by an advisor from the teachers' professional development team, the PDST, in Monaghan Education Centre.



**A Bike Skills** session for all classes will take place on Thursday next, the 19th of September with Sorcha Brophy, An Taisce. This session will mark another step on our journey towards our fourth Green Flag for 'Transport'. On that morning, parents are asked to bring children and their bicycles to school. -On arrival at the school, the side gates will be open and pupils may park their bicycles under the veranda. -All pupils must bring their own bikes to school in good working order. -Please ensure there are no wheel punctures and that brakes are operating correctly. -Each pupil must wear a helmet.

**Allianz Insurance:** I have attached pupil personal accident insurance forms from Allianz Insurance to this newsletter. The cost for 'Option B' is €13 per child. However, as a school, we can avail of the cheaper 'Option A' rate, which costs €8 per pupil, providing all pupils on the register are insured. Consequently, if €13 is received from all pupils, then I will return €5 per pupil to you with a new 'Option A' form to be signed. I will then forward money to Allianz, on your behalf.

**Arrival/Dismissal:** A reminder, regarding arrival and dismissal times and the school's legal obligation regarding its Child Safeguarding Statement. As per legal obligation, the school's 'Supervision Policy' states that St. Comgall's N.S. will open to receive pupils at 9:10am and pupils will be supervised by their class teacher in their classroom. If a class teacher is unavailable, supervision will be undertaken by the SET teacher. No responsibility is accepted for pupils before that time. Classes will commence each day at 9.20a.m. Classes will end each day at 2.00p.m. for Junior/Senior Infants and 3:00pm for 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils. Teachers will release their pupils at the school's main entrance each afternoon at 2:00pm/3:00pm. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to make arrangements for the collection of their children at these times.

**School Communication:** We are legally obliged to ensure pupils are supervised at all times under our '*Child Safeguarding Statement*'. Therefore, parents are asked to make a telephone call to arrange a meeting with either the Principal or class teacher by appointment. In so far as is possible, we will endeavour to meet parents, either immediately after school or early mornings. We consider Wednesdays and Thursdays most suitable as our secretary, Stephanie, is in the office to make appointments. This provides an excellent opportunity to exchange information or to discuss matters of concern. We are asking parents not to approach teachers during teaching sessions as it is unfair to deny the other pupils their entitled teaching times.



**Recycling:** Sincere thanks to parents for continuing to generate fantastic school funds through the recycling initiative. Our collections for 2018-2019 have credited our school account by a very impressive €695 and as always these funds will help to pay for our music lessons. Bags will be collected again, in the next two weeks.

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**Catriona Donnelly (Principal)**