



23/08/24

Dear Parents,

I hope this email finds you well and that you are looking forward to the new school year. We would like to wish all our new pupils, starting next week, the very best, and we are excited to meet them all. **A reminder that school re-opens this Wednesday, August 28th.**

New Board of Management Chairperson

The whole school community would like to thank Paul Rogers, who held the role of Board of Management Chairperson over the last decade. Paul oversaw tremendous work during his tenure, including two school extensions, the upgrade to the school play area, and the expansion of childcare services on the school grounds.

Carmel Lawlor, who has served as Board of Management Treasurer, will now take on the role of Chairperson. We wish her every success in her new role.

Infants Hours

The children in Junior Infants will finish their school day at 12.30pm each school day up until Friday, 13th of September. On the following Monday, and thereafter, they will finish at then normal time of 2pm. Should this be a difficulty to parents, please let me know – mrgibbons@kilricklens.com.

Parking

As both our school and preschool expand in numbers, so do the risks on the busy road near our school. We, therefore, implore you to please pick up and drop off your children at safe places around the school. The information below may be helpful:

- Do not park along the footpath beside the school. Temporary cones are placed on this footpath.
- In the interest of safety, please use the community car park. Those children who can be trusted to walk independently could be encouraged to walk to school from this car park.
- Allow for a *Drop and Go* system if smaller children are dropped off at the front of the hall. Please do not park in front of the school hall, as this obstructs others.
- Do not park at the hall in a manner that obstructs others from driving around it. If other adults bring your children to school, please make them aware of these guidelines. We deeply appreciate your goodwill and judgment in supporting this.

Morning and After School Services

If you wish to avail of morning and/or afterschool services, please contact Elaine Rowley at 087 1352582. These services are available each school day. Morning club starts at 8 am, and Homework club finishes at 5 pm. If you require additional time after 5 pm, please contact Elaine. These clubs can be availed of once school starts back but please contact Elaine to book your days.

Music

Yvonne Barrett will be teaching tin whistle to pupils from 1st class upwards again this year. Details on costs for these classes will be sent out shortly. These classes will begin on Tuesday, September 10th.

School Photo Day

County Photos will be coming to the school on Wednesday, September 4th. Individual photos will be taken of each pupil, and those with siblings will have their photo taken together also. Class photos will be taken for both Junior Infants and 6th Class. A whole school photo will also be taken. Samples of the photos will be provided to all families, with no obligation to purchase them.

Ms. Gallagher's Music Classes

Ms. Gallagher will be running her music classes again this year for children from 1st class upwards. These classes will take place before school on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Ms. Gallagher will provide further information to interested students in the coming days.

Morning Hurling

Mr. Gibbons' Morning Hurling will resume on Monday, September 2nd. This is a great opportunity for children from 1st class upwards to engage in sport each morning before classes begin.

Art Supplies and Insurance

You will soon receive a request to pay for insurance, homework journals, art/craft materials, photocopying, and digital expenses for the school year. If you have any queries regarding the amounts owed, you can view this information in the school booklist section of the school website under "[Books + Dates](#)." Payments can be made online via the Aladdin payment system, which was in operation last year, or in cash.

Summer Works

The school has undergone some significant changes over the summer. New toilets have been installed for the preschool children, and the school has fully connected to the new Kilrickle Water Scheme.

Contacting Teachers via Email

If you wish to contact your child's class teacher, you can do so via email:

- Ms. Kate Gallagher: mshgallagher@kilricklens.com
- Mr. Seán Kelly: mrkelly@kilricklens.com
- Mr. Colm Gibbons: mrgibbons@kilricklens.com
- Mrs. Gwyneth Lusted: glusted@kilricklens.com

Absences

If your child is absent on a school day, we ask that you write a note, send an email, or call the school/class teacher to notify them of your child's absence.

Keeping Updated with School Events

You can keep up to date on all school events by visiting the school website at <https://www.kilricklens.org/> and the school Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/kilricklenationalschool>. Both are updated regularly.

Flowers and Garden

Thank you to the parents who helped maintain and look after the school garden and the flower boxes over the summer break. It was very much appreciated. Go raibh maith agaibh.

Opening Mass

There will be a beginning-of-year school mass on Friday, September 20th, at 2:00 pm in Kilrickle Church. We invite parents and members of the community to attend.

Labelling

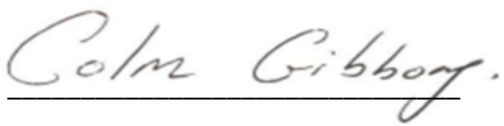
We ask that all school jumpers, coats and tops are clearly labelled before the beginning of the school year with your child's name.

Childminders

If you or anyone you know in the wider Kilrickle community provides childcare and would like to share their details with the school, please let us know. Many people contact the school looking for information on local childminders. If you wish to have your name included on the list, please let us know.

We look forward to seeing you all in the coming days.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colm Gibbons". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Colm Gibbons

Principal

Kilrickle National School