

— The Spring Issue —

2025

Nuachtlitir

Kilkenny School Project NS



We are excited to bring you the latest updates and happenings at our school! From musical performances to academic achievements and fun-filled celebrations, our students have been shining brightly.

🎵 National Children's Choir 🎵

We are thrilled to announce that our 5th and 6th class students will be participating in the prestigious National Children's Choir (Cor Náisiúnta na n-óg) Performance at St. Canice's Cathedral. This bi-annual event is a fantastic opportunity for our young singers to showcase their dedication and talent in a truly inspiring setting.

📍 Venue: St. Canice's Cathedral

📅 Date: Thursday, 3rd April

🕒 Time: 7:30 PM

Our students have been rehearsing diligently, and we couldn't be prouder of their progress. A huge thank you to Marie, Caitriona, and Daragh for their incredible effort in preparing our 5th and 6th class students for this event. We hope to see many of their parents there supporting them!

Credit Union All-Ireland Finals

We are incredibly proud to announce that four of our students (Emma, Ella Rose, Neasa & Levi) will be representing our school at the Credit Union All-Ireland Finals in the RDS! This is a tremendous achievement, and we commend them for their dedication and hard work. The competition will take place on Sunday, April 6th, where our students will compete against some of the best young talents from across the country. We wish them the very best of luck and know they will make us all proud!




GO TEAM!




Seachtain na Gaeilge


Our Seachtain na Gaeilge celebrations were a huge success! There was a strong focus on Teanga ó Bhéal (oral language), and it was fantastic to see our students fully engaged in using Irish in fun and interactive ways.


Some highlights included:

 Tionól (Assembly) - All classes gathered to celebrate the Irish language.

 Agallamh Beirte - Classes paired up for engaging Irish dialogues.

 Tráth na gCeist - A fun and educational Irish quiz.

 Lá Glas & An Dreoilín - A fantastic way to end the week with students dressed in green and enjoying traditional festivities.

One of the most exciting moments was when our teachers surprised the students with a flash mob Irish dance! They performed The Haymakers Jig, much to the delight of everyone. The energy was electric, and the students cheered them on - truly a "Dancing with the Stars" moment, Kilkenny School Project style!  A huge maith sibh to all the children and staff for making the week so enjoyable. Let's keep the Gaeilge alive all year round!

Wellbeing

Bí Cineálta - Anti Bullying

Wellbeing & Anti-Bullying Initiatives 

Our Wellbeing Committee has been working diligently on the school's Wellbeing Strategy, which is now nearing completion. This strategy will play a crucial role in our action plan for the coming year, ensuring a positive and supportive environment for all.

In addition, we are starting work on our Bí Cineálta Anti-Bullying Policy, which will begin with a whole-school survey. Parents will soon be invited to participate in this important process as we work together to foster kindness and respect throughout our school.

Thank you for your support in these vital initiatives!



Sports News

Girls and boys from Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Class proudly represented KSP in the SPAR 5-a-side competition in Thomastown this term. Well done to all who took part, and a big thank you to those who came to support and helped with lifts!

We're excited for Active Week and Sports Day ahead. Teachers will be reaching out for parent volunteers to assist with both events.





Going Green: Environmental Committee in Action!

Our school's Environmental Committee is on a mission to make a difference! This month, they are leading the way with three fantastic initiatives: Food Dudes, promoting healthy eating and reducing food waste; Incredible Edibles, encouraging students to grow their own food and learn about sustainable agriculture; and a school-wide Litter Picking campaign throughout April to keep our grounds clean and green. With their dedication and hard work, they're inspiring all of us to be more mindful of our environment. Let's support their efforts and do our part to keep our school and community eco-friendly!

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The school Book Fair

The Book Fair was a great success and raised €662 for the school! The children will benefit from having new books in their class libraries. Thank you to Khans books, Nicola Malone and the parent helpers for ensuring the smooth running of the fair. It was an enjoyable experience for the children.



April Fools' Day Shenanigans: The Chicken Dance Takeover

This year, the Student Council pulled off the ultimate April Fools' prank, and the whole school was in on the fun—whether they knew it or not! After lunch break, the intercom crackled to life with what seemed like an urgent announcement asking everyone to go to the hall for important student council business. We all filed into the Hall, sat on the floor and waited for the announcement only to be followed by the unmistakable tune of The Chicken Dance. Confused at first, students and staff quickly caught on as the "Student Council members" started flapping their arms, encouraging everyone to join in. Within moments, the entire school—yes, even the principal—was clapping, flapping, and waddling along in a hilarious, school-wide dance break. It was a prank for the history books, bringing laughter, energy, and just a little bit of embarrassment to an otherwise ordinary school day!

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day in all classes. The whole school dressed in comfy clothes and snuggled up with a favourite book. Look at our Potato book characters!



Literacy Lift Off

We are delighted to share that Literacy Lift-Off is running smoothly in our Senior Infant class! This incredible program is designed to boost reading and writing skills, and our young learners are already showing great progress.

A special thank you to our Special Education Team and Nicola Malone for their dedication in planning and teaching each station. Their hard work combined with their parents work at home ensures that every child receives the support they need to grow in confidence and ability. Keep up the great effort, everyone! 🎉

3rd and 4th Class Assembly


Third and Fourth Classes beautifully shared their Learn Together work on Love during a Whole School Assembly. Parents were invited to attend and witness their thoughtful presentation. The students creatively demonstrated what love means, making it a heartfelt and memorable experience. Well done to both classes!



Student Council Easter Raffle



The Student Council is organizing a fantastic Easter Raffle for all students in the school! Each class will have the chance to win amazing Easter egg hampers filled with sweet treats. This raffle is being held as a fundraiser to help purchase new goal posts for the yard, making playtime even more fun for everyone!

 Tickets: €2 each or 3 for €5

We truly appreciate your support and look forward to making this a great success!


Learn Together


April 2025	
World Autism Awareness Day April 2	Passover/Pesach (Judaism) April 12 - 20
International Day of Sport for Development and Peace April 6	Vaisakhi/Baisakhi (Sikhism) April 13
World Health Day April 7	School Holidays April 14 - 25
International Roma Day April 8	World Art Day Apr 15
International Day of Human Space Flight April 12	Easter Sunday (Christianity) April 20

KSP Day 2025

Theme: Peace

We are delighted to invite you all to celebrate KSP Day with us this year! 🎉

 Date: May 9th

 Time: 9:05 AM

 Theme: Peace

We look forward to coming together as a school community to reflect on and celebrate this important theme. We hope you can join us for this special event!

Dates for your Diary



11th April: School closes for Spring Break - Half Day of School

28th April: School Reopens - Normal Full Day of School

2nd May: School Closed: Teacher in-service on the new Primary Maths Curriculum

5th May: Bank Holiday School Closed

9th May: KSP Day - Half day of School


30th May: Half Day of School - Staff in-service on Bí Cineálta (Anti-Bullying Policy)

2nd June: Bank Holiday School Closed

3rd June: School Closed


27th June: School Closes for Summer Holidays - Half Day of School

Additional Information

 12th - 23rd May - Standardised Testing Fortnight

 4th - 6th June - Active Week

 23rd - 27th June - Wellbeing Week

 Wellbeing Homework will continue on the first Wednesday of each month throughout Term 3.

Swim Gala Updates

◆ Swim Gala Trials - Friday, 16th May at 1 o'clock (For competent swimmers who wish to participate)

◆ City Schools Gala - Tuesday, 18th June

PTA Update

The PTA continues to play a vital role in supporting our school, and we appreciate all the who contribute their time and effort.

We are currently focusing on upcoming events and initiatives, including KSP Day, the End of Year Picnic, and the Graduation.

We also encourage parents to get involved in our ongoing projects, including supporting the Bí Cineálta initiative.

Your participation makes a real difference!

As always, we welcome new ideas and volunteers—if you'd like to get involved, please reach out. Together, we can continue to create a positive and enriching experience for all our students. Stay tuned for details on our next meeting!

Visit our School Website

www.kilkennyschoolproject.ie



Board of Management

The Board meeting this month including discussion about the:

- **Special Needs Facilities/Universal Access Project:** Bluett & O'Donoghue will provide architectural consultancy for repurposing a storage space into a universal access toilet and shower, along with access point modifications.
- **Energy Audit:** Recently completed with SEAI funding; results will guide carbon footprint and cost reduction efforts.
- **Policy Focus:** Next term will see the development of the Bí Cineálta policy.
- **Pedestrian & Cyclist Safety:** The Board is reviewing Kilkenny County Council's proposed Waterford Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvements scheme, including a bus bay. Works are planned for summer, with further upgrades in 2026.

Executive News

The Executive Committee met last week to review key updates, including progress on building projects like universal access improvements and boiler replacement. Wellbeing was also discussed, highlighting the success of Inclusive Games on the yard. The committee reviewed finances and projections for 2025/26, ensuring sustainable growth. Thank you for your continued support—we'll keep you updated!

Summer Programme



Building on last year's success, we're excited to announce the Summer 2025 Programme - "Building Confidence and Connections" will return this year. This programme offers children a chance to engage in fun activities, build friendships, and boost confidence in a supportive environment. Organiser Marie will be in touch with eligible families soon. We look forward to another enriching summer!

Note from the Principal

As we step into a busy and exciting time at school, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the fantastic efforts of our students, staff, and wider school community. From the National Children's choir performance, Quiz Team, Soccer teams, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Environmental Committee's ongoing initiatives to the Student Council's April Fools' fun, there is a real sense of energy and engagement in our school.

I'd also like to highlight the work being done on our Wellbeing Strategy, and we are looking forward to working Bí Cineálta policy, reinforcing kindness and respect as key values in our school.

With building projects progressing and the Waterford Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvements scheme in discussion, we are always looking ahead to improve our school environment.

Thank you for your continued support,

Best regards,

Ann Marie O'Keeffe