

Nuachtlitir

Kilkenny School Project NS

Thursday, 4th September 2025

The Board of Management and staff of KSP extend a warm welcome to all pupils, parents/guardians, and members of our school community as we begin the new academic year. A particular welcome is offered to our new Junior Infants and to the families who are joining our school for the first time.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Rosemary Kennedy and Ms. Judith O'Hara to the teaching staff of KSP. We also extend a warm welcome to Ms. Laura O'Flaherty, who has joined our Special Needs Assistant (SNA) team.

We wish all pupils, families, and staff a wonderful school year ahead!

Additional School Closure Dates to the Calendar

24/10/2025	Polling Station: Presidential Elections
04/12/2025	Child Protection Procedures – Whole School Professional Learning Day / Nósanna Imeachta um Chosaint Leanaí- Lá Foghlama Gairmiúla don Scoil Uile
13/03/2026	Lá 1 - Creatchuraclam na Bunscoile / Day 1 - Primary Curriculum Framework
05/06/2026	Lá 2 - Creatchuraclam na Bunscoile / Day 2 - Primary Curriculum Framework

School Times

- All pupils: Classes commence at 9:05 a.m.
- Junior Infants: Collection time at 12:00 p.m. until Wednesday, 10th September. From Thursday, 11th September, collection time will be at 1:45 p.m.
- Senior Infants: Collection time 1:45 p.m.
- 1st – 6th Class: Collection time 2:45 p.m.

Drop-Off and Collection Procedures

- Pupils may enter the school grounds from 8:50 a.m.

- The Turning Circle will be accessible to parent/guardian vehicles from 8:50 a.m., allowing a 15-minute arrival period. Prior to this time, access is reserved exclusively for school buses and staff vehicles to ensure safety and efficiency.
- Designated areas along the railings are reserved strictly for school buses and wheelchair users. These must remain unobstructed at all times. Parents/guardians may be asked to move on should the need arise.
- When using the Turning Circle, parents/guardians are requested to remain in or beside their vehicles while awaiting their child.
- Turn off your vehicle while waiting for your child.

Please remember, we have almost 200 children leaving the building at 2:45pm. Please drive under the speed limit of 10kpm as children can run out on the roads very suddenly, and it's simply not worth the risk. We greatly appreciate the cooperation, patience, and support of all parents/guardians in ensuring a safe and smooth start and finish to the school day.

Class Payments

Payments may now be made via **Aladdin**. These charges are kept to a minimum and fund educational materials and school experiences. Families who cannot pay in full immediately are welcome to pay in instalments—please inform the class teacher or office confidentially if this applies.

Swimming

Senior Infants and **Fifth Class** will begin swimming on **Friday, 5th September**. Senior Infants should be collected from the Watershed at **1:45 p.m.** Payment of **€35** can be made via Aladdin—thank you to those who have already paid.

Spanish

This year, **5th and 6th Class** will have Spanish for six weeks, followed by **3rd and 4th Class** for six weeks, taught by a visiting teacher. Later this year, in line with the **New Primary Curriculum Framework**, modern languages will be timetabled for **one hour per week from 3rd to 6th Class**.

Insurance Forms have been sent home by schoolbag post. One form per family – please include siblings on the same form. Forms must be completed signed in order to avail of the Pupil Personal Accident insurance.

Milk: Orders for milk should be made by making your payment on Aladdin – thank you.

Homework Hour: Homework hour will start on Monday **8th September**. This is open to First Class upwards, and takes place Monday to Thursday 2:45-3:45 p.m. Children must be collected promptly at 3:45 p.m. from the front of the school.

The cost is €5 per day and pre-booking is not required.

A Homework Hour Permission slip (for completion please) will be given to your child on their first day of attendance. Thank you.

School Communication: Aladdin Connect provides you with access to all communication from the KSP, relevant to you and your child. Please use the Attendance feature on Aladdin for absence explanations and for early collections.

Administration of Medication: Administration of Medicine consent forms have been sent home to children who submitted a form last year. This should be completed and submitted to the office as soon as possible. This form needs to be completed annually. Please supply up to date **inhalers** and **adrenaline devices (Anapen® and EpiPen®)** where necessary. You will need to collect last year's medication to dispose of at home.

Healthy Eating & Food Allergies

Parents are reminded to provide children with a small, healthy snack for the little break. Our **Healthy Eating Guidelines** offer further advice. Please note that **KSP is a Nut-Free Zone**. To protect all children, food should not be shared or swapped, and whole-class treats (cakes, sweets, etc.) should not be sent in. Hot lunches will continue with Glanmore Foods (Junior Infants will begin on **15th September**).

Mobile Phones

KSP operates under a **Mobile Phone Policy**, which is being updated in line with recent Department of Education guidance. In brief, mobile phones are **not permitted** during the school day or at school activities such as tours or matches. Parents/guardians may contact pupils through the school office in cases of emergency or medical appointments.

Permission to Leave Unaccompanied

If your child has permission to walk home alone, please complete the form on **Aladdin**.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEWS

KSP Fun Run - Save the Date!

This year's Fun Run will take place on **Sunday, October 5th at 12 noon** in the Castle Park!

Details on how to register for the Fun Run will be shared nearer the time. For now, put the date in your diary and dust off your runners!

We look forward to seeing you on the day.

Voluntary Family Contribution 2025–2026

For the first time since 2014, we are revising our Voluntary Family Contribution to help meet rising operational costs such as insurance, resources, professional services, and affiliation fees. Families may contribute **€110 (standard)**, **€150 (extra support)**, or **€250 (Charitable Donation Scheme, with up to 45% tax relief reclaimable by the school)**. Instalments are available. We are sincerely grateful for all contributions, which directly support the quality and inclusivity of our school. **Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our school community.**

The Executive Committee.

The Willow

Sadly, our **Willow Structure**, a much-loved feature since 2003, had to be removed over the summer as it had become structurally unsafe. Despite attempts to rejuvenate it, the main branches had rotted beyond repair. The area has been reseeded while options for the site are being considered.

Music Generation

Music Generation intend to hold an After-school String classes on Wednesday afternoon here in the KSP. They want to get an idea of how many children are interested and have asked me to share the following link with parents/guardians.

<https://forms.office.com/e/rJKadZYzLZ>