

Our Lady of Good Counsel GNS, Johnstown.



NEWSLETTER

September 30, 2024

Dear parents,

Welcome back everyone! We would like to extend a special welcome to all our new students who have all settled in very well. Also, congratulations are due to our new Junior Infants and new Meadow students, on their smooth transition to 'Big School'!



On-going Electrical Upgrade Works

As you will be aware, major works took place in the school, particularly during the school holidays. These are still in progress, although we expect them to be completed soon. The works involved a full electrical upgrade to the school. This has resulted in improved lighting and wiring throughout the school. The works are funded by the Department of Education and Skills.



An Roinn Oideachais
agus Scileanna
Department of
Education and Skills



Parental Involvement

Our Parents' Association AGM took place on Wednesday the 25th of September. Even if you were unable to attend, you are always welcome to get involved and support the school. There will also be opportunities to support the school for one-off projects/events throughout the school year.

We are very grateful to the parents who volunteered to help with our school garden, over two Mondays this month.

We have been busy clearing beds and emptying beds as part of our new design for our school garden. In our new design we will have a sunny picnic area, a play area for the infant classes, as well as class beds for flowers, herbs and vegetables. Many thanks to our wonderful parents who worked hard to help clear and empty out the beds.



Thanks in advance to the parents who have volunteered to run our annual Halloween cake sale.

Sponsored Walk



Our annual Sponsored Walk took place on Friday, September 20th. We had a fine day and the whole school enjoyed the walk. It culminated in a picnic in Kilbogget Park. Thanks to all who generously supported this important fundraiser for the school. We raised €7,480, which will go towards sport, externally sourced specialist coaches and school resources.



Sports Update



- A coach from Cricket Ireland, is taking 4th and 5th classes for cricket.
- For the last few weeks, we are participating in a GAA blitz on a Thursday afternoon.
- A coach from Cuala GAA Club is training 4th, 5th and 6th classes weekly for 7 weeks.
- Junior & Senior Infants, 2nd and 3rd classes, are enjoying gymnastics, led by an experienced coach from Trojan Gymnastics.
- Irish dancing classes with Joanne have started for Infants and 3rd and 4th classes.
- Basketball has started for 1st and 6th classes with Ed Randolph.
- Rugby has started for 1st classes.



Spanish Language Lessons

We are delighted to announce that the school have been successful in our application to the 'Say Yes to Languages' programme for a second year in a row. This programme is fully funded by the Department of Education and means that 5th and 6th classes have Spanish for one hour per week. The classes are provided by Lingotot and our Spanish teacher is Sofia Cólás. The children are enjoying the lessons, which are fun and engaging.



School Mass

The whole school attended a mass in the church on Friday, September 27th to mark our return to school. The mass was celebrated by Father John.

Well-being Week

This year Well-being Week took place from September 16-20. All pupils enjoyed various well-being activities with each day having a daily theme.

Mindful Monday; Thankful Tuesday; Well-being Wednesday and Thoughtful Thursday.

Homework for the week was a suggested well-being task. The week was enjoyed by all.



Many thanks to all of you for your continued support and collaboration as members of our school community.

Kind Regards,

Lisa Breen & the Johnstown GNS Team

Please see our website, www.Johnstowngns.com, for additional news, photos and important information.

