



Kilgarvan Central School

kilgarvanschool@gmail.com

064 – 6685428

086-2313246

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2025

It's hard to believe that we've reached the Summer Holidays. This year has really flown and both staff and students have been looking forward to the summer break. The school was buzzing with activity this term. Below are some of the events and activities which kept us busy.

School Activities

Wellness/ Kindness / Active Week

We were really active during the first week of June. The Student Council together with the teachers organised a very successful fun-filled week from June 3rd until June 6th. The children enjoyed crazy hair day, friendship day, pyjama and movie day, and sports day. The pupils from Infants to 2nd Class brought in their scooters and bikes which was great fun. Our Sports Day was a massive success with the pupils enjoying obstacle courses, Zumba, and skills session from our special guest, Dara Moynihan, Kerry County Footballer. We ended the day with delicious ice cream from Kenmare Ice Cream.

Great credit is due to the Ms Moriarty and the students in 5th and 6th Classes who organised such a successful day for our school. Thanks also to our wonderful past pupils, Eibhlin, Cian, Aleisha and Kevin who provided great help on the day.

Sporting Achievements

We are incredibly fortunate to have some fantastic athletes in our school. Our talented young people have represented their school, their parish,

and community and their county over a wide range of activities this year. From GAA to soccer, from community games to athletics, from gymnastics to Tae Kwon Do, Kilgarvan School and Parish have featured very positively in sporting events through the year. We're so proud of all our pupils and love to see them receive recognition for their achievements. To see the photos of all our superstars please visit our very active Facebook page.

Garda Visits

On Monday, 16th of June we welcomed Detective Garda Denise Moriarty to the 5th and 6th classroom. Topics discussed were Farm and road safety, Garda Training and equipment and the areas of Internet and Social Media safety and awareness were also discussed. Míle buíochas to Denise for taking the time out to visit us and deliver a very worthwhile presentation.

Graduation

On Thursday, the 19th of June, our school community gathered together to celebrate our 13 graduates in 6th class. We were lucky that the sun shone and we were able to hold the ceremony outside. The 6th class pupils and their teacher had prepared a beautiful ceremony and Fr Liam O'Brien celebrated a very special and meaningful mass. Ms Moriarty composed a poem paying tribute to all 13 students. Eamon Horgan spoke on behalf of the parent body, wishing the pupils the very best for the future and thanked the school staff, both past and present for all their work. The students were presented with certificates, a voucher, sweet treats and cupcakes. We're very sad to say good bye to these wonderful group of young men and women, but we look forward to keeping up to date with all they'll achieve in the future.

First Communion

The children in 2nd class celebrated their first Holy Communion on Saturday, 19th of May at 11 am in St Patrick's Church Kilgarvan. Thanks to Fr Liam for making the ceremony so meaningful and to Ms H Cronin and Khayla for all their work in preparing the children. Thanks also to the choir and the musicians who greatly added to

the occasion, under the guidance of Eileen

Music Generation

The pupils from 1st to 4th classes got the opportunity to participate in music classes provided by Music Generation Kerry. They worked on body percussion, tin whistle, and also got the opportunity to start learning how to play the ukulele. It was a wonderfully positive experience for the children, and we look forward to expanding the programme through the whole school in September 2025. Thanks to Music Generation Kerry and to our amazing music teacher, Caroline.

Bí Cineálta

To coincide with the introduction of new national Anti- Bullying Guidelines (Bí Cineálta =Be Kind) Ms J Cronin and Ms O'Connor asked the children to design posters with slogans which would represent our student -friendly Bí Cineálta Policy. The children, as always, produced work to a very high standard and on our last day, we had an assembly in the hall to celebrate the winners. Well done to everybody. We're looking forward to displaying your work in September around the school.

Green Flag

During the same assembly the children who won prizes for their Green Flag Slogans were also presented with prizes. We're working towards our Global Citizenship Flag and the Green School Committee under the guidance of Ms H Cronin and Ms J Cronin have been really busy encouraging us to become more eco conscious as a school.

School Tours

Summer term means all of us looking forward to our school tours and this year great memories were made on all our school tours. The Infants really enjoyed their day out in Active Kingdom. Castleisland, while 3rd and 4th classes had a fun-filled day at the Let's Go Day in Mallow GAA Complex. Meanwhile 5th and 6th classes enjoyed water-based activities and tubing in Roscarbery. Last but not least 1st and 2nd classes had a brilliant day on their tour to the Wetlands, in Tralee. All the children, and staff, came home exhausted but happy!

Coffee Morning

Our annual Coffee Morning took place on Friday, the 30th of May. As always, the Parents' Association had put a huge amount of work into the organisation of the morning and it really showed on the day. Some of our lovely past pupils also turned up to lend a hand. It was a very enjoyable day for all. The pupils were delighted with their baked goodies and raffle prizes and the adults in the community were happy to relax, enjoy a hot drink and a treat from the beautiful baking stands. As usual we are indebted to our sponsors for their generosity to our school. Local businesses, community groups and suppliers were extremely supportive and the amount raised exceeded all our expectations, with the total of €11,000 being raised. As a school we are committed to working with our local community and do our best to support local businesses whenever possible and we would urge all our school community to do likewise.

Open Day:

We held our Open Day on Friday, May 16th to meet our new pupils starting in September 2025. The children got the chance to play in their new classroom and the parents had the opportunity to meet and have a chat over a cuppa.

Roll Time

A reminder that in line with Department of Education & Skills rules, children who arrive at school later than 10.30am will be marked absent in the school roll book for that day. Children arriving later than 10.30am are recorded as a late arrival.

Mobile Phone / Address

Please inform the school of any changes to your mobile phone number or if you have changed your address. Also, a reminder that pupils are **not permitted** to bring mobile phones to school unless they are connected to a medical device.

School Drop Off

Morning Supervision begins in our school at 9.10 am. Please ensure that children, whether being dropped by parents, childminders or buses, are not left unattended at the school gate, or its environs, before that time, as the school cannot accept responsibility for their safety until official supervision

begins at 9.10 am. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Healthy Eating

The children are encouraged to bring healthy foods every day. We would ask that parents restrict lunchtime treats to Fridays only.

Party Invitations

Please do not send in Birthday Invitations for distribution in school.

Communication with Class Teacher

If you need to communicate with your child's class teacher, **please do so directly** by using the Aladdin Connect platform. From September 2025 this will be our main communication platform. Individual teacher emails will no longer be in use from September 1st. Also, please note that teachers will have access to their Aladdin messages from 8.45 until 3.15pm each day. Messages received outside of those hours will be responded to on the next working day.

School Uniform:

Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their school uniform - maroon jumper, dark grey pants and light grey t-shirt. Tracksuits may only be worn on PE days (usually Thursday and Friday). **Infants to 2nd Class** may wear the school tracksuit as their uniform. Your co-operation in this matter is much appreciated.

School Website and Facebook Page

Our school website is www.kilgarvanschool.ie. We've been busy updating our website with lots of photos of recent events. Don't forget to check out our Facebook Page which is updated regularly with photos of school events.

Board of Management News

The following school plans and policies have been ratified by the Board and will be available to view on our school website shortly

- English
- Bi Cineálta, Anti-Bullying Policy
- Substance Use Policy
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Hot School Meals Update:

Due to issues with procurement documentation not being made available to schools by the Dept. the provision of Hot School Meals to

recently qualified schools has been delayed nationally.

In our school we are working to resolve issues with our electricity supply to provide school meals to our pupils as soon as the above has been resolved.

Parents' Association Update.

Our amazing PA have been extremely busy this term organising our Coffee Morning, which was a fantastic success. This year, through the efforts of our PA, the following activities and resources have been provided Science Adventures, Relax Kids, Music Generation classes, Internet Safety talk, school playground and equipment upgrade, classroom upgrade, maths equipment, Christmas, Easter and Sports Day treats.

We are very appreciative of all the work done by our PA. Without their fundraising, our school would not be able to provide such a great range of activities for our pupils. We say a huge thank you to our outgoing Chairperson, Siobhan Horgan, for the massive contribution she has made to our school over a long number of years.

Appointments:

As all teachers, including the principal, have fulltime teaching responsibilities in our school, parents and visitors are respectfully asked to arrange an appointment should they wish to speak to any member of staff, please send an Aladdin message, text or call the above to arrange an appointment. Unfortunately, unscheduled meetings cannot be facilitated. This includes meetings outside of teaching time (9.20 – 3pm)

A Reminder!

Parents are asked **not to send their child to school** if they are unwell. Please check HSE guidelines regarding returning to school after tummy bugs, colds etc.

We wish everyone a happy and safe summer and look forward to welcoming back all our pupils on Monday, 1st of September 2025

