

*Scoil Iosaif Naofa  
Bothair an Chlochair  
Cinn Mhara  
Co. na Gailimhe*



*St. Joseph's N.S  
Convent Road  
Kinvara  
Co. Galway*

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## Newsletter June 2011

**Dear Parents,**

**Congratulations:** to 6<sup>th</sup> class on their graduation from St. Joseph's N.S. on Tuesday June 21st. Many thanks to the families whose children have now left the primary school, the Wallace, McCormack, Hotchkiss, MacMahon, Connolly, Tóbin, Deegan, McNamara, Glynn, Kelly, McDonagh, Keady Tabbal and O'Shea families. We hope that the pupils will leave the school with fond memories. We wish them well in their secondary schools and hope that they are looking forward to the challenges and experience's that secondary school will provide. Each year sixth class graduation is celebrated and remembered by a class booklet. This year Ms McGrath class compiled a DVD with all individual memories and some live footage of pupils works. This involved a huge effort and time. I thank sincerely Lisa Kilkelly, Aisling Murray & Áine McGrath for all of their work in production of DVD of stylish quality.

**Parents Association:** I would like to acknowledge all the hard work carried out by the Parents Association over the past year. Parents have willingly given of their own time to help us with events during the school year. A lot of work is sometimes taken for granted and goes unnoticed. The First Communion Party was a most enjoyable day. All of the visitors to our school were made feel very welcome. A huge amount of work goes into preparing the room, baking scones, cakes etc, organising cups, saucers, making teas and coffees, cleaning and washing and many other chores in catering for so many people.

The Parents Association also helped in the same way to make the 6<sup>th</sup> class graduation ceremony a memorable event.

I thank all of the parents of the parents association for their efforts throughout the year.

**Sports Day:** Due to the bad weather this year sports day was less formal than other years. Not with standing the informality a great day was had by all. Classes arranged their own activities as well as mixing senior & junior classes in various sports. Shared skipping and zumba were a few that were most enjoyable. I would like to thank John Burke form Londis who sponsored drinks and goodies on the day.

**Sixth class school tour:** Sixth class had their usual tour to Dublin on 13<sup>th</sup> of June. The tour of Croke Park was once again fantastic. The pupils spent two hours taking in all of the history and view all of the old photographs and memorabilia. It is always a great tour. It offers a chance to see our national stadium as pupils may not get an opportunity to visit Croke Park and get to see the dressing's rooms, warm up areas, corporate boxes and presentation gallery.

The Viking Splash Tour offered an opportunity to view Dublin from land and water whilst leaving all of "old Dublin's" history. I would like to thank Deputy Michael Healy Rae for inviting our class into Dáil Eireann. We were given an excellent guided tour of Leinster House. The pupils learned about the first meeting at the Dáil right through to the present day events of the Dáil-voting and seating, portraits of former Taoisigh and presidents of Ireland.

I would like to compliment the pupils of sixth class on their exemplary behaviour and the interests they showed on the day.

**School Garden:** I thank all the parents who helped with the school garden this year. This project is very worth while and proves to be very popular with our pupils.

**Board of Management:** I thank most sincerely the members of the Board of Management. The current Board has served for the past four years. The Board has worked exceedingly well and have achieved a great deal for our school community. A new Board of Management will be elected in October 2011. The school owes a great deal of gratitude for all the hard work and efforts put in over the past term of office by all board members.

**Soccer Tournament:** I would like to thank Ger Ryan & Ronnie Graham for organising the annual Inter schools soccer tournament. Once again this was a great opportunity for the three local schools to meet and have a day of sports.

**KYM:** After a very successful summer series of concerts last year, Kinvara Young Musicians will again present a concert of Irish Traditional and World Music in Johnsons Hall during the summer months. The concerts will begin in mid July (watch for the posters and e mail) so please spread the word. Adults €5 Children free with accompanying adult.

**School Tours:** This year saw 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> classes visit the Burren for their school tours. Located on our doorstep this local wonderland provided fun, action, and unlimited educational opportunities for our pupils. The tours were organized and presented by our own Burren expert Dr. Brendan Dunford and his team of helpers/accomplices from Burren Beo (his wife Ann & Brigid). The pupils got to see a multitude of plant and animal species, examined rock formations and saw historical features such as turf tiles Bóthar na Mias and Colman's cave. Indeed the magic of "The Flight of the Dishes" was re-enacted to a degree with lots of "goodies" discovered I St. Colman's Cave.

The children have great memories of this year's school tour and we are indebted to Brendan Dunford and everyone who helped on the day for their time and for sharing their expertise with our pupils.

**Camogie:** Ms Smith, Ms Laharte & Ms Tynan would like to thank all of the camogie girls for their enthusiasm and dedication this year. We can end the school year feeling very proud of ourselves after our 4:1 win over Maree. Well done everyone!

**Web Page:** Please view our website to see some pictures of recent events at the school. [www.kinvarans.ie](http://www.kinvarans.ie) & also to see school information for the school year ahead. This will be updated over the next few days.

**School Uniform:** The National School's Uniform Centre has special offers for the month of June & July.

**Junior Infants:** A céad míle fáilte to all the Junior Infants who had their first day in St. Joseph's. We wish them well for the years ahead.

**School mobile number:** For new families please note that the school mobile is **086 6067500**.

**Note:** The school will reopen on **Thursday 1st of September** for all pupils and booklists will be posted on school website.

Please also see school calendar attached for the school closures for the school year September 2011-June 2012.

Junior & Senior Infants will be issued with a booklist bill in September.

I would like to thank all parents for your support and generosity that you have shown throughout this school year. I hope you and your children have a happy and a safe holiday.

Is mise,

*Dominic Ó Gallacháir (Principal)*

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