

*St Senan's NS  
Junior Infants 2010/2011*



*St Senan's NS  
Sixth Class 2010/2011*



# St. Senan's P.S. Kilrush School News

30TH ANNUAL FUND RAISING SCHOOL WALK



*Scoil Sheanáin Naofa*

**2010 - 2011**

[www.kilrushns.ie](http://www.kilrushns.ie)  
Email: [kilrushns@eircom.net](mailto:kilrushns@eircom.net)

*Dear Parents and Friends,*

*As we come to the end of another exciting and eventful year it's my pleasure to recommend our School News to you. Once again harmony was the main theme and all events were made possible due to the fantastic co-operation of the entire school community – staff, pupils and you the parents.*

*With the current edition of School News I say farewell and take this opportunity to thank you for the tremendous support you have given me over the past 37 years but especially during my time as principal. I trust you will continue to support the school and especially our new principal Mrs A. Bolton. She is a worthy successor and I wish her the very best in the years ahead.*

*I would also like to wish my colleagues Mr John McGuire and Mr Tom Prendeville many years of health and happiness as they retire and thank them sincerely for their dedicated service to the children of Kilrush  
Slán agus Beannacht*

*Patrick J. MoInerney (Principal)*

School Staff 2010 / 2011	
STAFF	CLASS
Mr. Patrick J. Mc Inerney	Principal
Mrs. Susan Young	Junior Infants
Ms. Helen O' Brien	Junior Infants
Ms. Jean Keating	Senior Infants
Ms. Lianne Harrison	Senior Infants
Mrs. Karen Hogan	1st class
Mrs. Avril Bolton	1 <sup>st</sup> class
Ms. Danielle Lillis	2 <sup>nd</sup> class
Mrs. Gráinne O' Shea	2nd/3rd class
Mrs. Aoife O' Malley	3 <sup>rd</sup> class
Ms. Michelle Eustace	4 <sup>th</sup> class
Mr. Kevin Clohessy	5 <sup>th</sup> class
Ms. Clare Mac Namara	5 <sup>th</sup> class
Mr. John Mc Guire	6 <sup>th</sup> class
Mrs. Mary King	LS/RT
Ms. Majella Griffin	LS/RT
Mrs. Áine O' Brien	LS/RT
Mrs. Michelle Garrihy	LS/RT
Ms. Brid O' Mahoney	LS/RT
Mrs. Linda O Gorman	LS/RT
Ms. Noreen Lynch	LS/RT
Ms. Claire Malone	Language Support
Mr. Tom Prendeville	H.S.C.L.
Ms. Deirdre Kenny	Sp. Class Multiple Disabilities
Mrs. Mary Fitzgerald	ASD Unit
Mrs. Deirdre Hehir	French

Special Needs Assistants

Monica Brennan, Teresa Carrig, Laura Crowley, Geraldine Grace,  
Roisin Coleman, Ailish Malone, Mary Marrinan, Regina Mannion, Carmel Ryan  
Secretary: Bernadette Dillon      Caretaker: Martin Burke

## Our Blog

Mr. Clohessy's class set up a class blog. We set it up on Edu blogs. Every now and again Mr. Clohessy checks our free writing and picks a few stories to write on the blog. We share it with Ms. Mc Namara's class. We put some links on it where you can play maths games, English games, watch the children's news on RTÉ player and lots more. We update it with whatever project we are doing like the chicken eggs that hatched in our class, Mr Prendeville's walk and the Green Flag we made out of recycled cans but we mostly put stories we have written on it. We also put pictures we have taken on it. Some people have been to concerts and then wrote about it on the blog when they came back. The colour of the outline and the theme can also be changed. The class votes on what colours and themes we should use. If you type in the address below people from all over the world can look at our work. You can also leave comments on what you think of any of the stories. You can enter the new school website by clicking on school website link. It is a great way for kids to learn and have fun at the same time.

To visit just go onto

[www.stsenansnskilrush.edublogs.org](http://www.stsenansnskilrush.edublogs.org)

## School in St. Senan's

9:15 ding ding ding  
Students rush to the door.  
Copy out, its spellings time,  
Take one last glance.  
Oh please let them be right.  
Now its maths  
By the end my head is fried.  
The numbers are appearing  
In front of my eyes.  
Break in the yard  
A chat and a giggle  
Ringing of a basket ball  
As it travels round the world.  
Where are we now,  
Reading Where on Earth  
Oceans and sea across my mind.  
But now school is over  
There is no more to learn  
Except for Monday morning  
When the clock will turn.

By Ruth

### Art Gallery

The school's Art Gallery in the main hall was officially opened by our Principal Mr. Mc Inerney before Easter. It features prints of paintings by Irish and European artists. A competition was run during Seachtain na Gaeilge where pupils were asked to do a painting based on the theme M;Áit Dhúchais..Pupils Aisling O Connell , Fia Donovan and Dylan Broderick were successful and their original paintings are now hanging in the gallery based on this theme.

## My Primary School Experience.

Daunting for some not for me ,walking through those big white double doors with school bag on back we thought we were the business, big school now with all the big boys and girls. Mam was "tearing", not me though I wanted her to go away so I could go and play with all the boys and girls. Every day we all brought our chairs into the circle and the leader lit a candle for prayer time.

Senior infant's bigger class now, new teacher, some new students. I knew my way around the school and I was much more settled. First class I remember, we had a huge spelling test, well seemed huge then, 100 spellings. I was proud as punch, got every single one right, the only one in the class. I got a mini flake for a prize.

2<sup>nd</sup> class a big year preparing for my 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Day. There were 5 of us in the class the rest in another. We were a mixed class with 1<sup>st</sup> class. There was one other girl in my class she turned out to be one of my best friends. We had been told there would be a new pupil coming, we had hopes it would be a girl, but no the girls were overruled. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> were two years of work. We moved to the next class and that was it really. Although there were no real milestones in 4<sup>th</sup> class I thought it my favourite year ever. Learnt a lot, had lots of fun and became friends with new people.

In 5<sup>th</sup> class we entered a tidy town's competition and painted murals to hang up on a street in Kilrush. Next, 6<sup>th</sup> class, preparation for secondary, Confirmation and soon graduation. The journey is nearly over in primary school. It was great, great teachers and great friends. There were good things like school tours, some bad things, but all an experience to prepare us for life.

Moving through the school, seeing the hallways differently every year. Making phone calls at the office "I forget my gear for football can you get it for me please". New teachers, teachers retiring. Charity fundraisers, bake sales no uniform days, jersey days, and funky hair days. New friends, losing friends becoming better friends. Past pupils pictures hanging on the wall, football teams, basketball teams and soccer teams, supporters and coaches. These, all memories of my primary school years. By Ruth

## **Girls Basketball**

St Senan's eagerly awaited the basketball season to start again this year after winning the Marion Keane Basketball competition last year. After numerous training sessions, the girls played Drumdigus NS, Gaelscoil Uí Chomin and Cooraclare in their regional blitz. With emphatic victories against Drumdigus and the Gaelscoil, it was always going to be a good sporting game against Cooraclare NS. With our girls leading in the final seconds by a point, Cooraclare scored what was going to be the killer blow and the final whistle sounded leaving our girls defeated on a score line of 12 -13. The Marion Keane hosts were out but it was a gutsy performance for the very talented St Senan's Girls.

## **Boys Basketball**

The boys were very excited to play in their regional blitz against Gaelscoil Uí Chomin, and Drumdigus. We played our near neighbours first and lost by one point, it was a thrilling and exciting game. We had it all to do against the physically strong Drumdigus NS. It was all square after fulltime and it took a period of extra time and sudden death basket time to decide a winner. It was Drumdigus who were the victors and the Gaelscoil who both progressed onto the next round. Hard Luck boys! **Soccer:** A soccer league for the boys was held at lunchtime and teams were selected from children interested in 5th and 6th classes

## **Gaelic Football**

St. Senan's N.S. fields teams in the respective boys' and girls' competitions in Clare. These include the Sevens and 15-a-side competitions organised by Cumann na mBunscoil in Clare. Mark Downes and Ruth Nolan were both selected for Clare trials. A fun league for both boys and girls was held at lunchtime for children in 5th and 6th class.

Our Girls Football team this year qualified for the county Final by beating Doonbeg and Miltown. It was to be a tight affair against Kilmihil in the final but it wasn't to be our day..However a tremendous effort was shown by all the girls. Well done girls.

## **West Clare Cross Country**

### **Championships, Kilmihil 2010**

All decked out in our new running kit, St Senan's made a proud attempt to get 'four in a row' for the best running school in West Clare. They were narrowly defeated by 2 points but were very happy with their winning teams. Girls U8 won 4th team, while Orann Copley came 3rd over all in Boys U8. The U10 girls ran very well, while Christopher Hehir came 4th over all in the boys U10. They also won 3rd team. Girls over 10 did very well with Chantel Burke coming 2nd. They got the 2nd team prize. While boys over 10 got first team prize. A great day over all. Well done everyone.

**View pictures [www.kilrushns.ie](http://www.kilrushns.ie)**

We walked towards the school, hand in hand. Watching with great caution. I curiously watched as other children played strange games, said strange things, long words that I didn't understand. The suns rays gleamed through the trees that stood on the left side of the yard, illuminating the chalk drawings on the tarmac that I had not spotted before.

The warm air of the school brushed against my skin when I entered this strange building. This is when I cowered behind my mother, who was slightly emotional. It was chaos inside. Big girls and boys rushed around carrying books and other teachers walked to their classrooms followed by a line of smiling children dressed the same as me.

We arrived at a great wooden door, and beyond it you could hear the laughter of lots of happy children. My mom and dad walked straight in being greeted by the warm smile of what I thought was the teacher. The classroom was amazing. All around colourful pictures hung, toys scattered on the floor and other children played happily on desks.

"Well" said the smiling teacher, "What's your name?" I said nothing. I grew frightened. She smiled at me again, "Why don't you go and play kitchens with some other nice girls." I smiled, I loved kitchens. I walked over smiling at one of the girls who heard me approach. She smiled back handing me a plate with plastic banana and broccoli placed neatly beside each other. "Thank you" I mumbled. "Do you want to play kitchens with us?", she said smiling, showing her missing front tooth. "Look!", I said opening my mouth wide to show her I was also missing my front tooth. "Oh!, we are twins"

All day I played kitchens, listened to stories and sang songs. When my parents arrived I was reluctant to leave but eventually gave in to a new dolly.

Everyone's schools days start out the same, but mine was special because of that one friend who helped me not to be upset about leaving my parents for a while. My parents were incredibly proud of me when I arrived home and was able to tell them all these stories of my first day at school, a day I will always remember. The start of my journey.

By Samantha

## My First Day At School

My first day at school. Most people's memories are vague from the start of life's journey. Life's journey. That's what people call it, isn't it? The start of the rest of your life, for me., I remember my first day at school, the start of my journey.



"Samantha!" "Samantha!""mmm!" I groaned as I stretched out on my pink frilly bed. "Ya!" I replied, unaware of the situation." Get up miss!". My ears heard the soft patter of her footsteps across the landing and into my bedroom. Pushing the dolls and bricks out of the way with her foot. "I thought you'd be up by now miss!" "Mmm!" I groaned, falling back into a sleep. "Well" she continued "I'll just ring the school and cancel then" she said sarcastically, "My eyes flickered with excitement. And I sprang out of bed and headed for the bathroom. My mam giggled behind me.

"Hey!" My dad yelled as he appeared in the hallway. "Daddy!" I laughed, at the silly facial expression he made. "Quick miss!" get dressed or you'll be late. He knew I would have an instant reaction. And I flung open the door and sprang for the sink. I pulled my light green stool from under the cabinet, and clambered up to reach the gleaming sink. My mother was fixing up my room when I returned, my dolls were neatly placed on a shelf that I once used as a pretend skateboard. Downstairs eggs sizzled in a pan, and before I knew it, I was dressed in a new pinafore wine tights and new shoes, and cameras flashed in all directions. I love this, for when I was younger; I LOVED to be the centre of attention.

The ride to school was full of excitement. When a tiny little speck of dirt or dust landed on my shoes, I instantly wiped it off. I wanted to look my best for school. The place for learning I was told, the place where you meet new friends, the place where there was a teacher. I thought of new friends and fun, we passed numerous buildings. And for most I pestered my parents, asking, "Is that my school, Daddy?" Leaning towards a guards station, but when the car stopped, and we had arrived at this place known as school, my mood completely changed.

## Marion Keane Finals

Exciting times for St Senan's this year as we hosted the Marion Keane Basketball finals. A huge team effort made sure that the finalists were well taken care of and our newly decorated courts looked well on day. Well done to all involved. We look forward to it again next year.

## Christmas Concert

The following is the itenerary of our Christmas Concert held on the 15th December.

J. Infants:	Nativity Play
S. Infants:	Snowman at Sunset
1st Class:	Whoops-a-Daisy Angel
2nd/3rd Class:	The Landlord's Cat
3rd/4thth Class	X Fatcor
5th/6th Class:	Snow White & the Seven Jockeys

Banna Cheoil Sheanáin Naofa entertained the audience with their music between acts.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge.

Tharla Seachtain na Gaeilge i mhí Márt agus bhí ceol, dráma, a m h r á n a í o c h t , f i l i o c h t , damhsa,comortais ealaine agus tráth na gceist againn. Sheinn Banna Cheoil Sheanáin Naofa sa Leabharlann Poiblí agus bhain gach dalta taitneamh agus scléip as an dráma, 'Na Trí Bhéar'. Tionnóladh seisiún mó� sa Halla chun críoch a chur le chursai cultúrtha na scoile seo 'gainne. Thaitin seachtain na Gaeilge le gach duine agus táimid ag súil leis arís an bhliain seo chugainn.

## Easter Bonnets

Our school has a long tradition of holding an Easter Bonnet Parade. each year on the day of the Easter Holidays. A similar parade is held on 5th Avenue, New York on Easter Sunday. In both venues the bonnets are home designed, made and modelled. In our school the children in 6th class design and make the bonnets and the children in 5th class model them. Each year the standard is very high and the children display immense creativity and skill in their designs. Each bonnet has to be given an appropriate title and below are a list of some of this years titles .

Shelletto, Who Said Chicks Can't Skate, A Day in the Life of a Chicken, Fighting Chicks. Rabbits Fly High. You can view the overall winner : 'A Day in the Life of a Chicken' on our website [www.kilrushns.ie](http://www.kilrushns.ie)

## Super Valu/ Tesco

Thank you again this year to Super Valu for their very generous sponsorship of our annual Easter Egg Hunt, and also for the garden equipment which we received from them.

Thank you to all children , parents and friends who sent in Tesco tokens. Among the items received last year were: Literacy and Numeracy kits for Infants, Weather Station, Calculators, Laminator, Shredder, Loud Hailer.etc.

## A.S.D./Multiple Disabilities Units

We have reached the end of another successful School year where the children here work on individual based programmes. The children participated in activities e.g. swimming, cooking, music therapy integrated P.E. programmes and yoga. They also benefited from cranial osteopathic treatment on a regular basis.

Our life skills programme include shopping at Supervalu, saving for school tour in the Post Office, developing reading skills in the Library and being part of the local community celebrating morning mass.

## Field Trips:

Each year classes in our school go on a number of field trips , All classes from Infants to sixth participate in the trips which are both educational and enjoyable : Some of these trips for the junior classes include : Bakery, Firestation, Library, Walled Gardens , Millenium Park, Halloween Hobble and Cappa,

## Swimming

All classes from 1st to 6th enjoyed 6 weeks swimming lessons in Kilkee Waterworld . The classes were every Wednesday from May 4th to June 8th.

## Charity: € 4500 +

During the year St.Senan's N.S have donated € 4500 to various charities as well as about 200 boxes to Samaritan Purse FoundationWe have contributed to West Clare Kidney Association,Sick Children to Lourdes Fund, Malawi Appeal, RNLI. . This money was raised by running various activities during the year namely: Bake Sale, Easter Egg Hunt, Non Uniform Day, Sponsored Walk, Confirmation and Communion Classes donations.

## The Sacraments

The Sacraments this year were both celebrated in May. 26 children made their Confirmation on the 7th of May and 28 children made their First Holy Communion on 28th of May. Bishop Kieran O Reilly officiated at the Confirmation ceremony and Fr. Sheedy officiated at the Communion ceremony.Following both ceremonies refreshments were provided in the Community Centre. by the parents of the fifth and first classes respectively

## May Celebration

On May 19th fifth class attended Regina House to celebrate the unveiling of a statue of Our Lady. Together with the residents and staff mass was celebrated and Our Lady was crowned.

Without pause I ran and dived over our garden wall with my sister close behind, but the demon grabbed one of her legs, so I pulled her arms to try and make the demon let go. My sister then came flying towards me and it seemed as if he did, but I then saw only torn pieces of flesh where my sisters leg should be.

She was shrieking, "Help help!!!!" I then did something I would always regret. I left her there and ran.

By the time I had cleared the next and final garden wall the screaming had stopped. There was silence. I was standing there, shaking in disbelief of what I had just done, but it was too late now, too late to save her, too late to try.

By Cathal

## Green Schools

Our Green Schools Committee has been working hard for the past few years concentrating on the themes of Litter and Waste. In October an application for the Green flag was submitted to An Taisce. The assessment took place in February and we were subsequently awarded the flag. Fifth class constructed a replica green flag using recycled soft drinks cans in commemoration of this great achievement.

The next theme which we will be concentrating on is Energy. We look forward to the continued support and co-operation of our school community in helping us to be successful in achieving this next flag.

## St. Senan's Exhibition:

A display consisting of seven large panels exploring life on Scattery Island is now on display in the Senior section of the school.

## Waiting

As the day goes by  
We patiently wait  
For that moment  
When the bell will ring  
And we're released  
For the time of our lives.

I'll go camping  
He'll go to Spain  
But what we all want  
Right now  
Is to hear that noise  
3...2...1...DRINGGG.

By James

## **It's Too Late Now.**

I was a normal kid with a normal life, school, a family, friends. **Was** but not anymore. I am standing here shaking, in disbelief of what I have just done, but its too late now, too late to save her, too late to try.

It all started one boring Monday morning sitting at the kitchen table eating cereal. My sister and I heard screaming so we looked out the living room window. At first I thought I was hallucinating , after giving my eyes a quick rub it was still there. It seemed to be Jacob the local bully playing some sick joke on some young kids, after all this was right up is alley. But it could not have been as it then lunged at the children with inhuman speed. This was it hell was unleashed.

I then got my first good look at it's face, wide yellow eyes and a wolf-like structure to its face. It must have been 7 feet tall with 4 arms and ..... no legs. He was floating about 10 inches off the ground, he had a wide laceration on his left shoulder, from which a clear liquid was oozing out.

This demon-like creature was now upon the unsuspecting children his first victim was Johnny, a toddler of only 2 years of age. It fell upon the child in a single bound covering Johnny, obscuring him from view but I knew what had happened as I then saw blood seeping out from underneath them.

A police officer who just happened to be nearby saw the incident and began to fire upon the demon, but the bullets had no effect on him. He merely flinched before giving the same treatment to the cop as he did to the infant.

what I had just done, but it was too late now, too late to save her, too late to try.

By now the whole neighborhood was in disarray, people running and screaming. I screamed for mum and dad but soon remembered they were already gone to work. A voice inside me then said, "you have dwelled here too long, run unless you want to be next". Obviously I ran, out the garage door only to find the corpses of my parents lying in the front lawn, a similar demon standing over them.

## **French**

Fifth and Sixth classes have had another fun filled year learning French. We've learned how to talk about ourselves, our familes, our school, hobbies, weather and so much more. C'est fantastique!

## **Banna Cheoil Sheanáin Naofa**

This year the school band practised every Monday evening and extended the repertoire of tunes greatly. They gave recitals in The Walled Gardens and the Library and accompanied all school masses and celebrations throughout the year, these included confirmation and Holy Communion, Christmas Concert, Easter Bonnet Parade and many more.

## **Reading Recovery/ Literacy Hour**

Reading Recovery and Literacy hour are both continuing very successfully in our school. Children are finding it a very enjoyable means of learning to read. It is a very rewarding experience for both teacher and pupil.

## **Ready Set Maths**

This is a hands on maths programme taught in Jun Infant classes that is extremely beneficial in ensuring children's early experiences of mathematics. It develops key concepts and skills in early number, using maths games.

## **Home School Community Partnership**

The HSCL programme seeks to further the links between St Senan's and the wider community. Parents, as prime educators, are the central focus in bringing forward educational programmes that enhance family learning. During 2011, the Local Education Committee comprising parents', pupils' and mainstream educational interests organised courses in response to the concerns and needs of parents. Specific practical strategies were included in the design of courses such as 'Fun with Numbers', 'Fun with Science', 'Enhancing Your Child's Learning at School', 'Basic Computers for Parents', 'Grandparents' Day', 'Seachtain na Gaeilge'.

The Home School Community Liaison programme at St. Senan's recognises the complementary skills of parents in their child's education. St Senan's actively facilitates the vibrant interaction between home, school and relevant community agencies in enhancing the educational outcome for our young people.

Tom Prendeville, HSCL Co-ordinator at St Senan's.  
Telephone 9051792 or 087-7694141

**School Enrolment Forms** may be downloaded from our website at [www.kilrushns.ie](http://www.kilrushns.ie)

*Junior Infants at play*



*Grandparents Day*



*Bake Sale*



*The Seven Jockeys*



*Recycling cans*



*Easter Egg Hunt*



*Artists in Residence*



*Easter Bonnet*



*Music for everyone*



*Marion Keane Basketball Tournament*



*School Activities Board*



*Girls Football Team 2011*

