



Nun's Cross News

September 2021



A Note From The Principal

I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to school to all our children, parents and our extended school community. A special welcome to all of the new Junior Infants and new pupils throughout our school. We have returned to another great school year and myself and all the teachers are very excited for all the learning and growth that will

take place this year. We are planning lots of exciting things for the year ahead and we hope, after the previous two years, that it will be a somewhat 'normal' year, if we can even remember what that is! We appreciate all of your co-operation in the difficult months gone by. I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy year!

Ms Ward



Nun's Cross have welcomed 19 new Junior Infants to school this year and they have all settled in so well. Every child is coming to school with a big smile on their face and enjoying lots of new things

Sports At Nun's Cross

We are delighted to have begun an 8 week term with Aidan from Leinster Rugby. Aidan will be coming in each Week and working with all classes.

Shortly, Darren from the GAA will joining us each week. He will work with 2 classes each term for the full year. We love having sports coaches in to teach the children a variety of fitness skills, giving them team building opportunities and teaching them the rules of the sports.



Music Generation



After years of applying, we are delighted to finally have a place on the Music Generation programme. Every year more schools apply to be part of the programme than the programme can cater for so we are very lucky to have been chosen this year! Each week the junior school have a wonderful teacher Annaleisa visit us to do foundation music lessons with Junior infants -3rd class. The senior classes are joined each week by their teacher, Sean, who is teaching them to play the ukulele. In addition to this we are also facilitating small group guitar and piano lessons each week and we have been overwhelmed with the enthusiasm and interest in these lessons! It's going to be a musical year!



Green Schools

The green schools committee is up and running and excited for another proactive year in doing our bit for the environment. We are delighted to have recently been awarded our Green Flag award for Global Citizenship, Litter and Waste. We have been working hard on achieving this flag, our schools 6th green flag, for the previous two years and we are looking forward to attending the virtual award ceremony next week!

Well-Being Committee



Nun's Cross value the well-being of our whole school community and are looking forward to planning activities and events to help promote well-being in our school and our homes.

Active Flag Committee



This year is a big year for the Active Flag team and it is time to renew our Active Flag status. We received our first Active Flag award in May of 2018 and have continued to work hard to keep our school as active as possible since. The committee are excited to get brain storming again and to come up with new and exciting ways to keep Nun's Cross Active

Student Council

Now that the children have settled back in to school, our student council will resume their activities in October. The student council is a very important body of pupils within our school whose responsibility it is to represent the voices of all the children in the school. We are sure they will continue the great work carried out by last years council.

Yarn Bombing



We are delighted to be getting involved in the yarn bombing event in Ashford in the coming weeks. Each child in the school will be working on an individual or a class project involving creating something from wool. All of the creations will then be used to decorate the village for the duller winter months

Church Announcements



Sunday 3rd October at 11am Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Saturday 4th December in the afternoon

Ashford Christmas Market is in the course of being planned for the afternoon of Saturday 4th December by the parish. It is expected to take place in Ashford Community and Heritage Centre. It will consist of various stalls, including a cake stall, and the provision of teas, coffees and tray-bakes. If you can help by baking cakes and making tray bakes, that would be much appreciated.

A joint Raffle is being planned with Ashford Parish with excellent prizes on offer.

Every Sunday there is a service in Nun's Cross Church at 11am.

Every Wednesday there is an online service at 7.30pm with details on the parish website which is www.nunscrosschurch.ie

Please remember to contact your child's teacher directly if you have a concern about your child. All teachers' email addresses are as follows:

- Mrs Gannon, Deputy Principal and Junior Infants – mrsgannon@nunscross.ie
- Ms Turner, Senior Infants– msturner@nunscross.ie
- Ms Wolohan, 1st Class – mswolohan@nunscross.ie
- Mrs Nolan, Assistant principal – 2nd/3rd class – msbyrne@nunscross.ie
- Mrs Smith, 4th/5th Class – mssherwoodsmith@nunscross.ie
- Ms Bennet, 5th/6th class– msbennett@nunscross.ie
- Ms Pearse, SET – mspearse@nunscross.ie

Should you have a query or concern regarding your child, **please contact your child's teacher** as soon as possible.



If your child is absent you **must** provide an explanation, via email to Sandra (school secretary), stating the dates and reason for the absence, upon returning to school. Sandra's email is secretary@nunscross.ie

Nun's Cross After School Club Schedule

We are delighted to be able to offer a host of after school clubs once again this year. All after school clubs are facilitated by Nun's Cross but are independently managed by the club facilitators. All clubs operate on the basis of a minimum number of participants and where this number is not met clubs will not be able to operate. Where possible, all queries about after school clubs should be directed to the club organisers.



Heart & Soul Karate

After school classes offering self defence skills, fitness, fun & discipline.

Tuesdays and Fridays

Classes for infants and 1st-6th class

Contact Felicity on 085-733 1022

Coding



Learn about Robotics,
Making Games
Scratch, Python

with Minecraft and Web Design. We cater for students with all computer abilities.

Wednesdays from 3-4pm for 2nd -6th class students

Contact ciaran@coughlanweb.ie to be added to the waiting list

Julie's Homework Club



Julie has extensive experience at running homework clubs and offers a fully supportive relaxed space for children to complete their homework. Finisher activities and games provided for children who finish their homework before the end of the club.

Club will run Monday –Thursday from 2:50-4:30pm and is open to students from 1st-6th class. For more information contact Julie on 085 795 4369

Ray Of Sunshine After School Care



Ray of Sunshine will be offering their service, on site at Nun's Cross National School, after the midterm break. Our after school clubs are open until 7pm.

Children are fully supervised by trained staff who organise different activities each day to keep the children occupied. Children will have access to outdoor play and can have snacks heated for them if provided by parents.

Please see www.roskids.ie for more information



Playball

Our aim at Playball is to introduce your child to sport in a positive, fun and non-intimidating way. The programme is progressive in nature and recognises the different stages of development in young children. This means that your child will be introduced to basic movement and ball skills in the initial stages of the programme and will progress to formalised and structured sports coaching in the latter stages of Playball. Playball also teaches the basic skills of 8 different sports which means that children are able to realise at an early stage which sport they like and are good at.

Classes take place on Mondays from 2-3pm for infants and 3-4pm for 1st-6th

Contact carl@playball.ie to register or for more information



IN LOVING Memory



It is with great sadness that we have learned of the passing of two wonderful past colleagues of Nun's Cross National School in recent weeks.



Roland Evans was an exceptional teacher who taught in Nun's Cross school for many years. He had a great ability to inspire and feed the imagination of children. He was like a pied piper when children were around. Sadly, he had to retire early when he was diagnosed with Motor Neuron Disease. However, he had an indomitable spirit and made a number of return visits to see how the school was developing. Years after his retirement, parents of his pupils spoke of him with great affection. He was cared for by his loving wife, Annette, until she passed away following a long illness bravely borne. Mr Evans died suddenly on 11th September 2021. Our thoughts and prayers are with his son Peter, daughter Rebecca and his other family members at this sad time.



Stephanie McDonald who was a former Principal of Nun's Cross NS for over 20 years, passed away peacefully in St Vincent's Private Hospital on 15th August. Her funeral service took place in Nun's Cross church and she was buried with her parents in Lorum churchyard, Co Carlow. The attendance at the funeral service was testament to her many interests, with people attending from diverse backgrounds. Mrs McDonald was also an active member of Killiskey parish and Secretary of the Select Vestry for six years. In addition, she was a member of the Unity Gospel Choir, she played table tennis, enjoyed foreign travel and table quizzes, was active in the ICA, walking groups and a photographic club. She kept up to date with technologies, of which her electric car was witness. She was a keen lover of animals, especially her cat "Mavros" who was a great comfort to her. Anything she turned her hand to she wanted to do well and yet she was unassuming. When Mrs McDonald became ill with cancer, she did not broadcast this fact widely but rather bore the pain with dignity. We console ourselves with the belief that she is at peace and pray that her

daughter Jennifer and Jennifer's father Brian, her brother Robert, other family members and her friends may be comforted as they remember her.

Mrs McDonald and Mr Evans will both be remembered with fond memories by all in the Nun's Cross community. May they Rest In Peace.