

Cookstown Credit Union have continued their sponsorship with Lissan Primary School this year by presenting them with a cheque for £500. The purpose of this sponsorship comes from the school savings scheme in which Lissan have continued to roll out to their pupils. Cookstown Credit Union call weekly to the school to lift savings from the pupils of Lissan Primary School.

Charlie Colton, Marketing and Communications Officer of Cookstown Credit Union, had this to say "We were delighted to present Lissan Primary School with this sponsorship money in order to help them with their library facilities within the school. The reason we gave the school this money is a gesture of thanks and appreciation to them for continuing to come on board with our school savings scheme. At the start of the academic school year we provide them with a letter to give to the parents explaining what the school savings scheme is, along with membership application forms. The Credit Union gain more junior members from this and we are very appreciative of this as our junior members are our future. Not only does this scheme benefit us, it has great rewards for the children also."

"This year we came up with a reward scheme for the children to encourage them to save consistently, as this is the key to saving. Every four weeks of saving we reward the children with prizes which include pencils, pens, rubbers, sharpeners, lodgements into their accounts, free swims and free cinema passes. Saving is a positive thing; it can help to give a feeling of independence and a sense of responsibility to the children. They will only develop a savings habit by actively and regularly saving. If this habit is encouraged from an early age, it should stay with them for life. As I said, the key to saving is consistency. It is not so important how much is saved, rather they become accustomed to putting away a small amount on a regular basis."

Charlie continued "Cookstown Credit Union not only offer the schools saving scheme to Lissan Primary School but other schools as well within the area. We have Moneymore Primary School onboard as well. I also reached out to all the schools within Cookstown and surrounding areas at the start of the year, encouraging them to sign up to the initiative. I understand we are in a pandemic and schools are getting used to the 'new normal', so we might get them on board in the future."



Pictured is Charlie and Mrs Ciara McIntyre, principal of Lissan Primary School.

Ciara – "We are absolutely delighted with the cheque we received today. We will use the money towards extending our reading material. In Lissan PS we operate Accelerated Reading, and this money will enable us to extend our library which will be accessed by all our pupils. A massive thank you to Cookstown Credit Union".