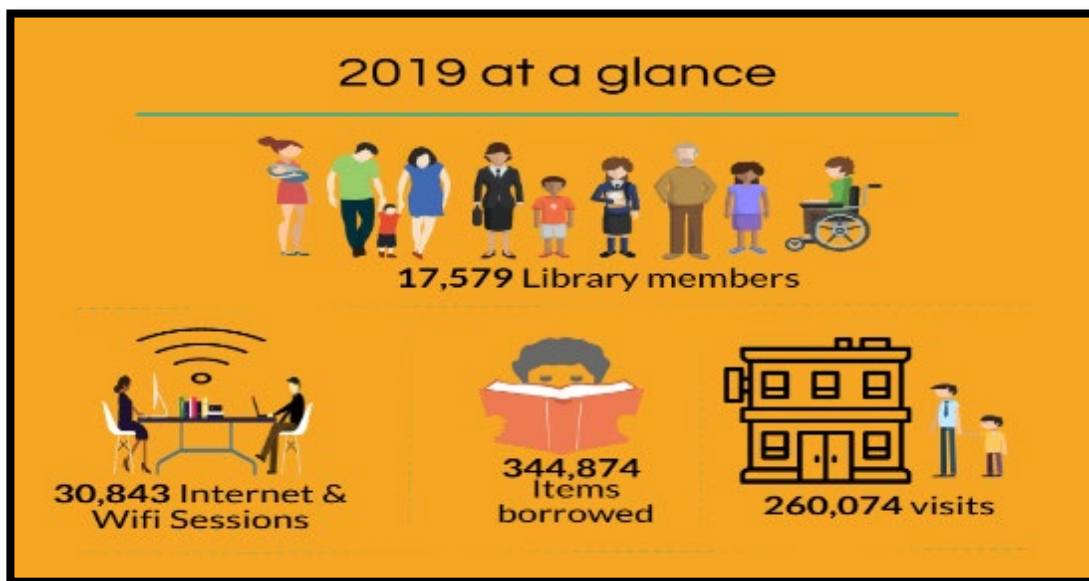


Library Services

- **26%** increase in people who have joined the library
- **36%** increase in people using eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines and **44%** increase in wifi use.
- Digital hub developed – 3D printer, Podcasting, training tablets and laptops
- My Open Library is in operation in Castlecomer, with 266 members.
- **1,988** children completed our Summer Reading Challenge – an increase of 57%, and **2,294** children attended Bookville Kilkenny Festival.



Learning

Kilkenny Library Service supports and facilitates lifelong learning, helping people to develop skills to empower their development.



Bubbly Maths, Science week - Graiguenamanagh Library

- Creative Active Times Age Friendly programme of events ran throughout the year, in line with our commitments under the Age Friendly Kilkenny strategy. 1215 people attended 83 events from art classes to gardening, and computer classes to history lectures.
- We received the Age Friendly Charter as part of the National Age Friendly Libraries Recognition programme.
- We utilised Dormant Account funding, to ensure our libraries are sensory friendly, leading to the installation of a magic table in Loughboy Library, in partnership with Kilkenny Leader Partnership and Yulefest Kilkenny.
- A range of digital classes were provided by trainers, as well as one-to-one supports from TY students from local schools.



Art Classes - Urlingford Library



Age Friendly Library Charter Awarded



Magic Table, Yulefest - Loughboy Library

Information

Kilkenny Library Service continues to provide a wide range of information resources in a variety of formats and is a vital information hub within the local community.

- Continued development of Kilkenny Digital Archive at <http://digital-archive.kilkenny.ie/> and additional of new collections.
- Our Decade of Centenaries programme was very successful, with 125 attending lectures, and 168 primary and secondary school students attending practical workshops.



Decade of Centenaries workshop - Castlecomer Library

Reading and Literacy

Kilkenny Library Service is at the forefront of supporting and developing literacy skills, reading, creativity, innovation and helping people realise their potential. Right to Read Action Plan delivered a variety of programmes including:

Right to Read at your Library



622
Children
at 33
Storytimes



1,990
Children read
over 16,000
books

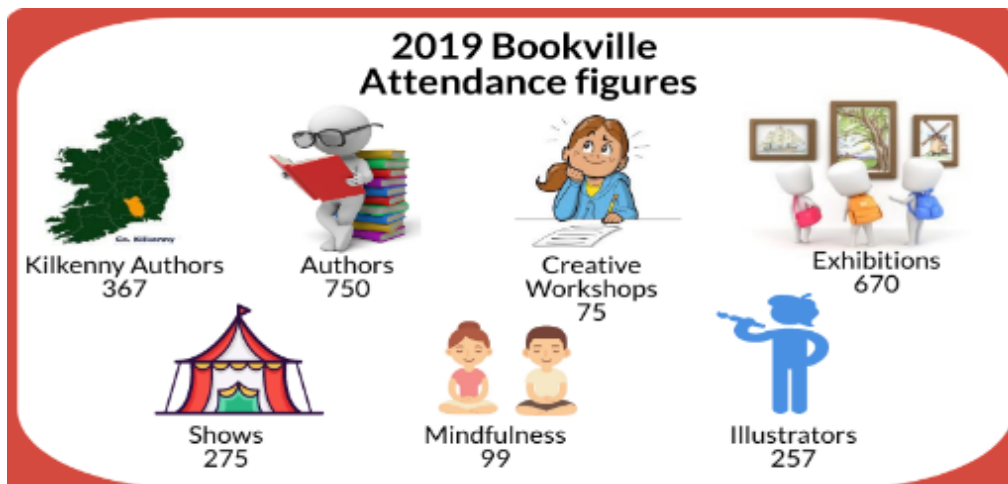


78 primary
classes
with attendance
of 2,294 overall



220
attended
our family
events

- Opportunities to join language circles, bookclubs, creative writing groups and storytimes.
- Rollout of the next phase of Healthy Ireland at your Library with a comprehensive stock and a dynamic programme of events in all library branches.
- Received a Right to Read Champion award for 2018



Right to Read Champion Awarded for Literacy work

Community and Culture

The library is a centre of community and cultural activity. It provides a welcoming space for individuals and all communities, bringing people together, celebrating diversity and facilitating personal development.

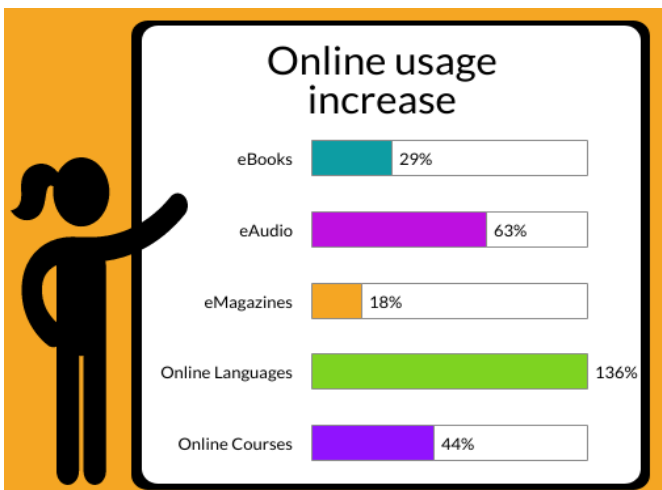
- Participation in Creative Ireland 2019 Programme including Cruinniú na nÓg and Bookville Festival.
- The service continues to participate and engage with national and local festivals and programmes including: Heritage week, Science week, Bealtaine, Savour Kilkenny, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Yulefest, Culture Night.
- Home Energy Saving Kits were rolled out in both rural and central locations, in partnership with Kilkenny County Council Environmental Department, along with a range of other initiatives, such as Spring clean packs and upcycling events.



Service Development and Infrastructure

Our public libraries are places of free civic participation and vibrant focal points of the community. To this end we constantly strive to redesign our spaces to reflect changing community and individual need. Investment is made to address:

- In line with national targets, Kilkenny's sign up month and other ongoing initiatives led to an increase of 26% in membership.
- Progression of capital projects in Kilkenny City, with regular liaison with the design team.
- Create modern, vibrant and accessible spaces using modern furniture and colour and flexible shelving.
- Streamline and automate processes, and increase ICT and digital options
- Close liaison with Libraries Development Unit and the Department of Rural and Community Development.
- Increased promotion of library services with a dedicated video and animated film to increase engagement.



Workforce

Kilkenny Library Service works to contribute to the vitality and success of its public libraries and the diverse community they serve by positioning the library staff to be proactive, customer focused and well trained. A range of training and development courses were attended as well as library conferences and workshops. A workforce plan has been agreed and recruitment has commenced.