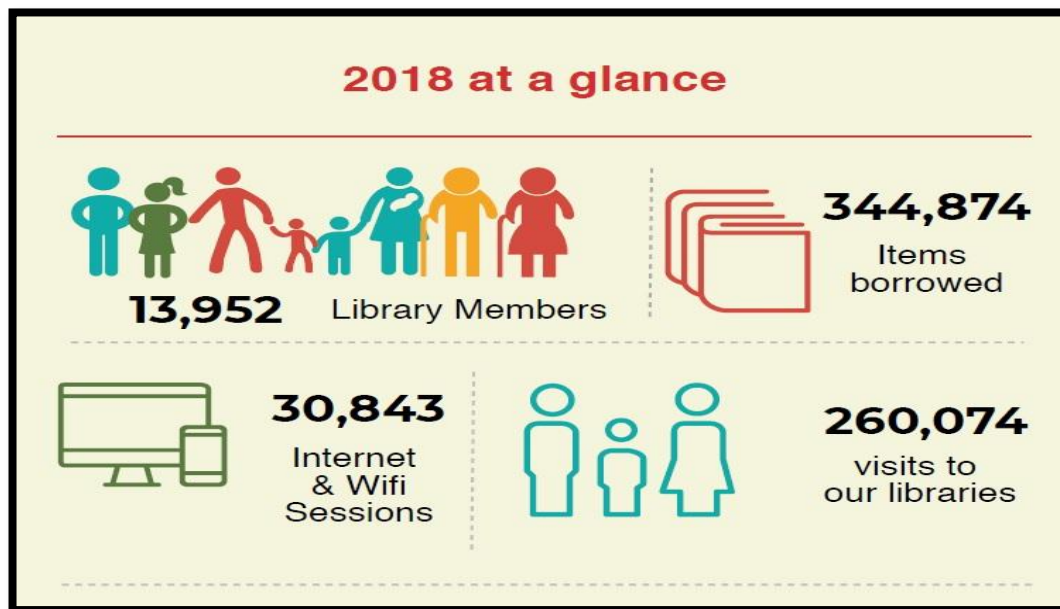


Library Services

- **15%** increase in people who have joined the library
- **38%** increase in people using eBooks and eMagazines and **6.5%** increase in the amount of items borrowed from the library
- Increase in opening hours in City Library
- Revamped library website and new Kilkenny Digital Archive website.
- **1,263** children completed our Summer Reading Challenge and **2,774** children attended Bookville Kilkenny.



Science week in Ferrybank Library



2D Felting during Bealtaine in City Library



Family History Resources in Loughboy



Wayne O'Conner, Bookville in Castlecomer



Living with dementia Talk in Graiguenamanagh

Learning

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

- A departmental grant of €112,000 was received to upgrade & develop digital spaces with access to coding, 3D printing, podcasting and digital education.
- A range of digital classes were provided by trainers, as well as one-to-one supports from TY students from local schools.
- Provision of community education opportunities in partnership with other agencies across the library network, providing people with access to craft workshops, flower arranging, art classes, knitting classes and Irish Language classes.

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.

- We had over 30,800 public internet sessions
- Increased usage of our suite of online services and social media platforms.
- Development of Kilkenny Digital Archive at <http://digital-archive.kilkenny.ie/> and revamp of Kilkenny Library website at www.kilkennylibrary.ie to increase public engagement and usage.
- Rollout of Work Matters in Graiguenamanagh & Castlecomer, supporting the information and research needs of businesses and jobseekers.

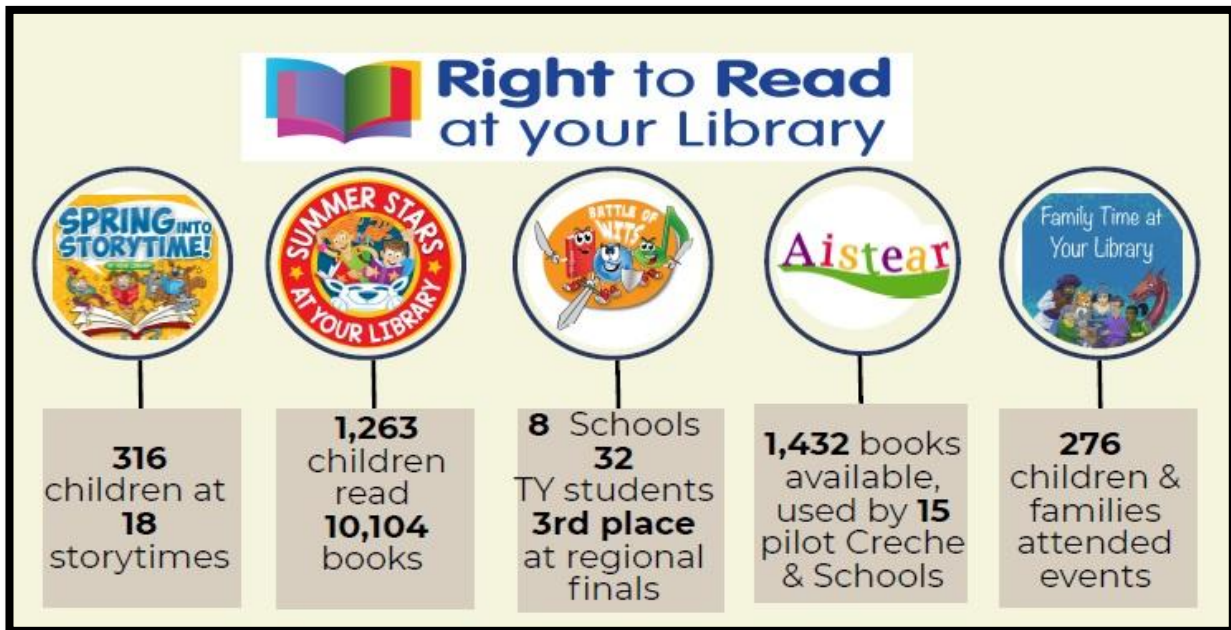


Duiske College IT classes through Action in Graig Library

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:



- Opportunities to join Language Circles, Bookclubs, Creative writing groups, Storytimes
- Rollout of Healthy Ireland at your Library with a comprehensive stock and dynamic programme of events in all library branches.



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 2018 Programme including Cruinniú na nÓg, Bookville Festival, Bealtaine, Mná na hEireann Roadshow.
- The library service worked in close collaboration with a range of agencies and organisations including Glanbia to roll out farm safety workshops.
- The service continues to participate and engage with national and local festivals and programmes including: Heritage week, Science week, Savour Kilkenny, Tradfest, Yulefest, Mental Health Week, Culture Night.
- Development and completion of the Library Development Plan as part of Kilkenny County Council's Cultural Strategy, Arts, Heritage and Libraries 2018-2022.



Agrikids Farm safety Workshop in Callan Library, in association with Glanbia Agribusiness.



Insect hotel making during Cruinniú na nÓg in Thomastown library



Messy Play Workshop during Bookville in City Library

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:

- Interior reconfigurations including flexible shelving
- Create modern, vibrant and accessible spaces using modern furniture and colour
- Heating and Lighting upgrades as part of a range of positive energy efficiency measures with the energy officer and 3 CEA.
- Streamline and automate processes and increase ICT and digital options
- Self service RFID services are available across the branch network
- Self service printing is available across the branch network



Loughboy Library



City Library



Callan Library

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.