

**Scoil Chroí Ró Naofa  
Ballymurn, Wexford**

**Board of Management – Annual Report 2017-2018**

Fáilte romhaibh go léir. Caithfidh mé a rá go raibh bliain an-ghnóthach ag an mBord Bainistíochta. Seo a leanas cúntas ar imeachtaí an Bhoird i rith na bliana 2017-2018.

The purpose of this Annual Report of the Board of Management of Scoil Chroí Ró Naofa National School is to provide a summary of information on the operation of the school in line with the requirements of the 1998 Education Act.

This Report serves as an addition to the information provided on the school's website [www.ballymurnns.ie](http://www.ballymurnns.ie), the various Newsletters issued by the school, circulars to parents, texts to parents, FaceBook page, Induction evening, Booklet for Parents of Infants Starting School and information provided to parents at parent teacher meetings.

2017-2018 was another busy and active year for the Board of Management of our school with the following summaries of our work:

**Board of Management 2017/'18**

Chairperson	–	Matthew Kelly
Treasurer	–	Dermot Berry
Secretary	–	Maria Brophy
Teacher Nom		Niamh Lawlor
Parent Nom.	–	Sinéad Bishop Dermot Berry
Community Nom.	–	Margaret Prendergast Peter Doyle (Resigned)

**Policy Development**

The following policies were developed/reviewed and ratified during the year: Attendance Strategy, Child Protection Policy, Code of Behaviour Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Safety Statement, Critical Incident Policy, Intimate Care Policy, Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and Leave of Absence Policy.

**School Ethos**

We are an inclusive Catholic school. Our staff work in conjunction with Fr. Jim Finn to uphold our Catholic ethos. We also had a very successful visit from our Diocesan Advisors in January. During the past year 12 pupils received the sacrament of First Holy Communion while 37 pupils received the sacrament of Confirmation. A Christmas Carol Service was held in December 2017. The school marks the various Religious Feasts and Festivals throughout the year.

**School Inspection**

An Incidental Inspection was conducted in our school by the Department of Education and Skills in May 2018. The Board of Management welcomed the very positive Incidental Report, affirming the good standards of teaching, learning and inclusion in the school. Further details are available in our May Newsletter.

**Emergency Works/Buildings**

Our school has been successful in an application for Emergency Works funding to the DES. We have received a grant to replace the two flat roofs on our school and to replace the linoleum on two corridors with anti-slip material. These works shall be carried out over the next few months.

**Curricular Development**

**The following curricular areas were approved:** School re-engagement in the SSE process. Chosen areas for coming academic year are 'Oral Language in both English and Gaeilge' and Handwriting. On-going discussions took place as regards planning for Primary Language Curriculum. PDST provided a Facilitator to assist with this planning. Staff continue to develop planning templates for this new Language Curriculum being implemented from Junior Infants to Rang II. Aistear is fully implemented in the Junior and Senior Infant Classes. This shall be rolled out in 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Class from the 2018/2019 academic year.

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**Board Finances**

The financial management of our school is conducted in strict compliance with the DES requirements. Our accountant, Mr. Brian Foley, certifies our accounts annually. The Treasurer, Mr. Dermot Berry, issues financial reports re account balances at each BOM meeting. The accounts are computerised by Ms. Leanna Redmond, our office Financial Administrator.

Parents, have been requested, for the first time, to make an annual voluntary contribution of €100 per family towards the running costs of the school.

Additional funds were provided by these successful events: Hallowe'en Hike, Christmas Craft Fair, Ballymurn Fun Run, non-uniform day and very generous sponsorship from local businesses.

Upcoming event: 'A Night at the Dogs' in July.

**Croke Park Hours**

All teachers and SNA staff have completed their commitment to work their Croke Park Hours for 2017-2018.

**Correspondence**

Both DES Circulars and general correspondence were discussed, with appropriate replies/plans of action decided, as necessary.

**TUSLA Reporting on Pupil Attendance**

The school completed all mandatory reports and End of Year report to TUSLA.

All pupil absences in excess of 20 days were notified to TUSLA.

**Staffing**

For 2018/2019, our school will have a Teaching Principal, 5 class/mainstream teachers, 1 Special Education Teachers, 1 shared teacher (6 hours per week), 1 SNA posts, 1 administrative staff, 1 caretaker and 1 cleaner.

One teacher shall be on Secondment and two teachers shall be on a Career Break for the 2018/2019 academic year.

**Maintenance Concerns**

A Maintenance Report outlining general maintenance issues/concerns is discussed at each BOM meeting. Any maintenance problem is promptly rectified. We look forward to replacing our two flat roofs and linoleum inside the schools.

**Health, Safety, Vetting & Child Protection**

A report is presented at each BOM meeting in relation to these matters. A new Child Safeguarding Statement was developed and ratified by the Board.

All members of staff have been fully Garda Vetted.

All volunteers/coaches who work with our children must be Garda Vetted before they start working at our school.

**Child Protection**

The school Designated Liaison Person is the school principal, Mrs. Maria Brophy. She is legally obliged to refer all child Protection concerns to the TUSLA Local Area Child Manager.

**Parental Review & Observations**

The BOM and staff invite parental involvement and contributions on school curriculum, organisational and administrative development.

Any suggestions/recommendations are welcome and can be emailed to the school principal at 'ballymurnscoil@gmail.com'.

These suggestions will be discussed at both staff and BOM meetings.

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**Board of Management Meetings**

Board Meetings were held on the following dates:

- 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2017
- 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2017
- 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2018
- 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2018
- 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2018
- 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2018
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2018
- 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2018

**Parents' Association**

The Board of Management thank the Parents Association for all their hard work and support this year. Some of the events undertaken by the PA have been:

- Book Savings Club
- Christmas Craft Fair
- Grandparents Mass – Refreshments
- Easter Raffle
- Confirmation – Children's Excursion
- €500 donation towards cost of school tours.

**Word of Thanks**

The BOM conveys sincerest thanks to all the teachers who work so hard and give the children so many opportunities to develop their talents. All our teachers deserve special praise for their flexibility and willingness to participate in after/before school activities. In the past 12 months our school enjoyed many successes as itemised in our various Newsletters.

The BOM would like to take this opportunity to applaud the excellent working being done in implementing the new Primary Language Curriculum. The BOM would also like to thank the Parent's Association for their tremendous support and Trojan work throughout the year.

A huge 'bualadh bos' to our Green Schools Committee and Active Schools Committee who have secured for us our 6<sup>th</sup> Green Flag and 1<sup>st</sup> Hurling 365 Flag respectively and to our girls who are the current Rackard League District Final winners. We are so proud of all of them.

**Conclusion**

May I take this opportunity to wish all parents, children and staff a most enjoyable summer holiday and a well-deserved rest.

Bainigí go léir taitneamh as laethanta saoire and tsamhraidh.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Matthew Kelly  
Chairperson  
Board of Management

13<sup>th</sup> June, 2018