

Scoil Chroí Ró Naofa
Ballymurn, Wexford
Board of Management – Annual Report 2018-2019

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 2018-2019.

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, 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.

2018-2019 was another busy and active year for the Board of Management of our school with the following summaries of our work:

Board of Management 2018/'19

Chairperson	–	Matthew Kelly
Treasurer	–	Dermot Berry
Secretary	–	Maria Brophy
Teacher Nom		Niamh Lawlor
Parent Nom.	–	Sinéad Bishop
		Greg Wade
Community Nom.	–	Margaret Prendergast
		Dermot Berry

Policy Development

The following policies were developed/reviewed and ratified during the year: Child Safeguarding Statement Review, Code of Behaviour Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Safety Statement, Leave of Absence Policy, Enrolment Policy and Data Protection Policy.

School Ethos

We are an inclusive Catholic school. Our staff work in conjunction with Fr. Jim Finn to uphold our Catholic ethos. During the past year 13 pupils received the sacrament of First Holy Communion. A Christmas Carol Service was held in December 2017. The school marks the various Religious Feasts and Festivals throughout the year.

Emergency Works/Buildings

Our school has been successful in an application for Emergency Works (EWS) funding to the DES. We have received a grant to remove the Leylandii trees beside the senior yard and replace them with a concrete posted, wood slatted fence. The contractor for these works has been appointed. This project will take place over the summer holidays.

Summer Works Scheme (SWS) – windows in 'old' school building shall be replaced with double glaze ones over the summer holidays.

EWS – both flat roofs were replaced this year. Corridors had new flooring fitted along with 2 new mat wells.

Curricular Development

The following curricular areas were approved: School re-engagement in the SSE process. Chosen areas were 'Oral Language in both English and Gaeilge' and Handwriting. On-going discussions and staff CPD took place as regards planning for Primary Language Curriculum.

Parents, pupils and teachers completed an 'Oral Language' survey with results being collated and published on our school website 'www.ballymurnns.ie' under the SSE tab.

Parents from 1st to 6th Class were surveyed in relation to 'Homework' with results being collated and published on our school website 'www.ballymurnns.ie' under the SSE tab.

The new Language Curriculum is being implemented from Junior Infants to Rang II. Aistear is fully implemented in the Junior/Senior Infant Classes and 1st/2nd Classes.

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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 are thanked for making their 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, Tractor Run, Pancake Day, non-uniform day and very generous sponsorship from local businesses.

Croke Park Hours

All teachers and SNA staff have completed their commitment to work their Croke Park Hours for 2018-2019.

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 2019/2020, our school will have a Teaching Principal, 5 class/mainstream teachers, 1 Special Education Teachers, 1 shared teacher (7 hours per week), 1.5 SNA posts, 1 administrative staff, 1 caretaker and 1 cleaner.

All members of the teaching staff are employed in a full-time, permanent capacity.

Our projected pupil numbers for September 2019 is 117.

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 the windows to a higher spec in the 'old school building'.

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 current school Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is the school principal, Mrs. Maria Brophy. The Deputy DLP is Ms. Niamh Lawlor.

They are 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/or administrative development at any time during the school year.

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:

- 19th July, 2018
- 25th September, 2018
- 13th November, 2018
- 29th January, 2019
- 20th March, 2019
- 27th May, 2019
- 5th June, 2019

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
- €500 donation towards cost of school tours.
- Sports Day BBQ

ICT Investment

The BOM have received funding from the DES in the form of an ICT grant. These monies shall be used to purchase the following equipment:

- 1 Interactive Touch Screen Panel (Junior Room)
- 1 Laptop
- 10 Tablets (total of 15 in the school after this purchase)
- The Listening Programme (SEN Room)
<https://advancedbrain.com/the-listening-program/>

Mandatory Curriculum Programmes

The BOM can confirm that all classes have been taught the Stay Safe and Relationships and Sexuality Education programmes this academic year.

Pre-School/Before and After School Care

The BOM in conjunction with Bloomfield Childcare are opening a **Pre-School** in September 2019. Children may avail of the ECCE government programme.

Our school also offers both 'Before' and 'After' School Care. Hours are 8.15am to 6pm (Monday to Friday). Parents can contact Paula on 087 6631288 or email 'bloomfieldbaypreschool@gmail.com'.

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 departing 6th Class who have successfully completed their primary school education. We wish each of them the very best for the future as they move onto second level. We are so proud of all of them.

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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

5th June, 2019