**Agreed Report Board of Management Meeting – 23rd October 2024**

​A Board meeting took place in the school on Wednesday 23rd October at 7p.m.

The meeting was opened by Chairperson Keith Dransfield. The opening prayer was led by Martin Delaney.

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed and seconded.

**Correspondence**

Correspondence was read out

* School received a cheque for €1,000 from the Cappoquin Senior Citizens Committee account. They closed their account and they donated €1,000 to the school. Keith will send a thank you card to Noel Mason and Maria Uniacke.
* School received a letter from the Bishop to wish all staff and pupils all the best for the new school year.

**Principals Report**

Principals Report was presented. It included the details of enrolment, staffing, curriculum, the Summer Provision Programme, ethos, extracurricular and fundraising. See some of the following details from the report.

**Principal’s Report 23/10/2024**

All the children returned to school on Wednesday 28th August.

**Enrolment**

We have an enrolment of 192 pupils for the 2024/25 school year and this is the number recognised on the POD system as of 30th September 2024. There are fifteen new pupils in the Junior Infants mainstream class and there are three new Junior Infants in Le Chéile 1. There are also new pupils in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class this year.

**Staffing**

● Teachers- 14 posts being covered by 16 teachers and there 15 hours per week EAL hours covered by 1 teacher and 5 SET EAL hours being covered by another teacher.

Welcome to Karen Murray who is covering Breda Feeney’s maternity leave in 6th Class.

●SNA’s – 6 posts covered by 8 SNAs

● Bus Escorts - 5.

**Work Placement**

●One on SNA placement on Wednesdays for 5 weeks during October and November. When this placement ends another SNA placement will begin continuing with a Wednesday each week in November and December.

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| **Principal** | Martin Delaney |
| **Deputy Principal** | James Casey |
| **Special Education Teachers** | James Casey  Máire Kearney  Aisling Fennell/Tracy Hogan |
| **Le Chéile Class 1**  **Le Chéile Class 2** | Caoimhe Ní Chuirrín  Jenny Kiely |
| **Junior Infants** | Leonie O’Brien |
| **Senior Infants** | Maria Moore/Susan Amy Scanlan |
| **1st Class** | Caroline Price |
| **2nd Class** | Eilish Curran |
| **3rd Class** | Louise Lyons |
| **4th Class** | Laura Roche |
| **5th Class** | Mairéad Veale |
| **6th Class** | Breda Feeney (Karen Murray) |
| **15 EAL Hours**  **5 SET EAL Hours** | Louise Kennedy  Catriona Bulman |
| **Special Needs Assistants** | Olivia O’Daly, Deirdre Cahill, Therese Walsh, Mary O’Brien, Deirdre Buckley, Cathy Halley, John Twomey and Aileen Buckley. |
| **Bus Escorts** | 5 |
| **School Secretary** | Mary Casey |
| **School Maintenance** | Jamie Corcoran, Lois Crotty & Janice Barry |

**Ethos**

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On Wednesday 2nd October Fr Keogh celebrated an Opening Year Mass with the whole school. Thanks to Mr Casey and Fr Keogh for organising the Mass and thanks to all the boys and girls who read or carried gifts for it. First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 10th May at 11 a.m. in Cappoquin.

***Curriculum***

***New Primary School Curriculum***

There is a new primary school curriculum currently being phased into primary schools in Ireland replacing the 1999 Curriculum. It started with the introduction of the new Language Curriculum (English agus Gaeilge) over the last few years.

**New Maths Curriculum**

We are now on the 2nd year of a new Mathematics curriculum. 2023/2024 school year was introducing the new Maths Curiculum and this year, 2024/2025 school year is embedding the new curriculum in schools.

The aim of the new *Primary Mathematics Curriculum* is that children see maths as important and useful to their everyday lives.

On Thursday 3rd October there was in-service training for all the teaching staff in Waterford Teachers Centre. This training day was run by Oide. The school was closed for the children on this day.

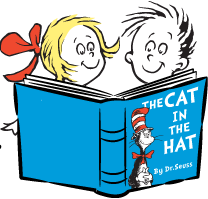
**Maths**

Maths Week Ireland took place from 14th to 20th October. Thanks to the children and parents for participating in Maths Eyes –taking photos and sending them into the school of the different mathematical objects in our environment. Other extra mathematical based activities took place in many of the classrooms, some classes logged into live online Maths Week lessons and there were Maths trails around the school as well. A number of classes also used Maths apps on the ipads and we continue to use Mathsletics this year. Just to also mention a huge thank you to Fresh Today for sponsoring the cost of our Mathsletics subscription this year and Fresh Today sponsored our Reading Eggs subscription last year. Thanks to Mr Casey for organising Maths Week in the school.

Station Teaching

A number of classes are currently using station teaching in Literacy or Numeracy when the SET teacher is timetabled to work with their class.

**Summer Stars**



Well done to the pupils from Bunscoil Gleann Sidheáin who participated in the Summer Stars reading programme in Lismore and Dungarvan Libraries (unfortunately Cappoquin Library is still closed but will hopefully be back open soon.) Sheilia Curtin has sent in the certificates and medals to the school and we will present the children with their medals and certificates at Assembly this Friday before the mid-term break.

**Music**

# **Peace Proms**

Mrs Veale has set up our school choir again this year and it is made up of pupils from 4th, 5th and 6th classes. The choir will be participating in Peace Proms again this school year.

The Choir will also perform at Santa At the Strand in Lismore on Thursday evening 28th November.

**SESE (Social Enviromental & Scientific Education)**

# **Seachtain na hEolaíochta**

**Science Week** Ireland is from 11th to 17th November. We will have a Science Day here in the school on Thursday 14th November. There will be plenty of science activities in school and we will be encouraging the children to carry out their own investigations and experiments as well. Thanks to Ms O’ Brien for co-ordinating Science Week this year.

Ms O’Brien is also going to have a look at our Science Plan with a view to updating it in the coming months.

NEPS Psychologist Teresa Thornton was in the school in early October and she is due back again after mid-term.

**PE, Sport and Extracurricular**

**GAA**

Gaelic Football for all classes will take place on Thursday 24th October and Thursday 7th November with Conor Prendergast. Congratulations to Lily Quann on winning the Division 2 under 13 Ladies Football Championship Plate with St Oliver’s. Well done to Cailean Nixon, Kain Keniry, Odhran Prendergast, Daniel Whelan and Adam Wilkinson who were on the Cappoquin/Tourin/Naomh Bríd panel who won the under 13 Divison 3 County Final in September. A number of our past pupils were also involved.

Cuman Na mBunscol

The Cuman na mBunscol Primary games Gaelic football competitions started back in September. Our boys’ and girls’ teams were both in groups with the same schools, Ballymacarbry, Lismore and Scoil Na Leanai. The boys blitz took place in Cappoquin on Tuesday 1st October and the girls blitz took place on the same day in Lismore. Both teams finished 4th in their groups. Next up were the Shield semi-finals where the girls lost out to Garranbane and the boys lost out to St Joseph’s after a great battle.

**Gymnastics**

DK Sports will be in to do a six week block of gymnastics with all the classes after mid-term.

**Cycle Right**

5th Class are participating in the Cycle **Cycle Right** programme with Donal Jacob and Ollie every Tuesday morning for four weeks.

**Athletics**

A number of our students participated in the primary school cross country took place in St Augustine’s on Friday 20th September.

**Active Schools**

Ms Lyons and the Active School Committee organised a European Sports Day in the school on Friday 27th September.

**Social Media**

Thanks to Mrs Scanlan for looking after the school’s Facebook page.

**School Lunches- Hot meals**

We had a School Meals Inspection through the Department of Social Welfare on

Wednesday, 18 September.

**Assembly**

We had a whole school Assembly on Friday, 27 September and Junior Infants led the Assembly with a song and a few words as Gaeilge.

#### **Parents Association**

The committee members of the Parents Association/Council held a meeting in the school on Wednesday evening 11th September. The Parents Association suggested that we get the children to design their own Christmas cards this year through Christmas Cards for Schools and we agreed to do this.

# Parents Committee 2024/2025

**Current Committee Members:**

**Chairperson**Kathleen Coffey

**Secretary**Rachael McLaughlin

**Treasurers**Elaine Singleton & Angela Wilkinson

**Committee Members:**Ita Fitzgerald, Christine Coffey, Tim Lobby, Stephen O'Rourke, Mairead Prendergast, Billy Garvey, Megan Hurley,Tracey Quann and Rebecca O' Farrell.

Blackwater Community School had an Open Night for 5th & 6th Class pupils and their families on Tueday 1st October.

**Photographs**

Billy Whyte took school photographs of the Junior Infant pupils and their siblings on Monday 30th September.

Halloween Dress Up will take place in the school this Friday 25th of October.

**Maintenance**

Jamie Corcoran painted the hall in Le Chéile during the summer months.

This was the end of the Principal’s Report.

**Child Protection**

Oversight Report was presented by Martin Delaney.

***Health and Safety***

● First Aid kits and items purchased

●Weekly battery checks of the defibrillator are being carried out

●Monthly checks on break glass units, fire extinguishers, emergency lighting and RCBOS are being carried out.

●Guardian Fire Service carried out a quarterly service of the fire alarm system.

Thanks to James Casey for the Health & Safety Report.

**Enrolment**

Next year’s potential enrolment numbers were discussed.

**Summer School Programme**

Martin spoke about the four weeks’ school provision. There was positive feedback from children and families who participated. Between Summer Provision and DEIS camps we had almost 60 children participate this year. This was our first year of the DEIS camps.

**Pre- School**

A conversation took place about the demand for pre-school spaces in the Cappoquin area.

**Solar Panels**

Martin said that the school are still waiting for solar panels, he doesn’t know why this is the case.

**Uniforms**

The new school tracksuit was introduced at the start of the school year.

**Parents Association**

December is a busy time with the Kelleher’s Raffle. Parents Association will pay for the Little Red Kettle Theatre Company for every class in December.

**Finance**

Mary Casey is using a new accounts system from FSSU, we will move over to this system now that she has trialled it for September and is pleased with it.

As Sheila Curtin was unable to attend the meeting, Martin presented the financial report.

**Plans & Policies**

Bí Cineálta – New Anti-bullying policy has to be in place for September 2025.

**A.O.B.**

Votes of sympathy to the Wilkinson family of Mary Wilkinson (sister of Ollie Wilkinson) on her passing. ​