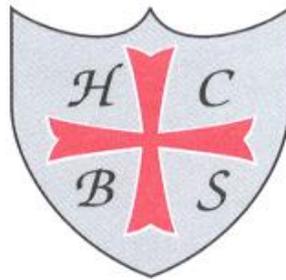


Holy Cross Boys' P.S.

BUNSCOIL GASÚR NA
CROISE NAOLA



Holy Cross Boys' Primary School

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

2016 – 2017

**The annual meeting will be held in the school
Assembly Hall on**

**Tuesday 28th November 2017
@6pm**



Holy Cross Boys' P.S.

Report of the Board of Governors to parents for the year 2016 – 2017

The annual meeting of parents will be held in the School Assembly Hall in Holy Cross Boys' Primary School.

The purpose of this meeting is to give those in attendance an opportunity to discuss the annual report and to air their views in relation to the Board of Governors, the Education Authority, CCMS and the Department of Education.

The agenda for the meeting will be:

- 1. Welcome and introduction by the Chairman**
- 2. Presentation of the Annual Report**
- 3. Discussion of the Annual Report**
- 4. Any other business**

Introduction

Each school is required to give parents an annual report so they will continue to know what is happening and to be involved in the education of their child.

We, on the Board of Governors, are delighted to take this opportunity to report to you on the work of our outstanding school. We know you will read it with interest and accept the invitation to attend the Annual Parents' Meeting. We thank Mr McAreyvee for his assistance in preparing this report. On behalf of the Board of Governors, I thank you for your past support and look forward to your continued interest.

Steven Magennis

Chairman of the Board of Governors'

General Aims of Holy Cross Boys' Primary School

We are a Catholic school seeking to promote throughout the school an ethos which reflects Christian teaching and values.

All our activities are underpinned by our Mission Statement.

Mission Statement

At Holy Cross Boys' School we aim to create a calm and caring community where teachers teach and children learn.

Each child will be encouraged to fulfil his intellectual, spiritual, physical, social, aesthetic and emotional potential. Central to the creation of this environment is a commitment to Christian values, the recognition of the worth and value of each child and the cultivation of self-respect so that the child may accept his appropriate responsibilities and show respect for others.

At Holy Cross Boys' we aim to establish a community wherein pupils, teachers, parents and support staff enjoy a sense of belonging and have an important part to play.

Such a statement requires the development of several policies on curriculum development, special needs, the pastoral dimension, staff development, home school links and a positive discipline policy.

Duties of the Board of Governors

The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the effective management of the school.

The Board comprises of the following members:

Trustee Representatives

Mrs Gerry O'Reilly
Fr Eugene McCarthy (Vice Chair)
Mrs Ann Maginn
Mr Sean Moyes

BELB Representatives

Mrs Geraldine Prenter
Mr Stephen Magennis (Chairman)

Teachers' Elected Representative

Mr Ciaran Curran

DENI Representative

Mr Sean Devine

Parents' Elected Representative

Ms Darragh Lee

School Principal

Mr McArevey

The term of office of each member of the Board, excluding the Principal, will expire in December 2017.

Enrolment

- 60 Primary One pupils started in September 2016 and 57 pupils left in June thus giving an enrolment of 435 children for September (2017) this year.
- Expected enrolment for September 2017- 48 pupils- low birth rate.
- The Acting SENCO and Primary 1 teacher visited the Nursery Schools to discuss the transition for the prospective pupils for enrolment in September 2017.
- Primary 1 Induction Day took place on 20th June at 1.15pm. Miss Loughlin oversaw this Primary 1 Co-ordinator.
- Pips testing commenced Friday 2nd June 2017.

Primary 1

- All nursery transition visits organised and facilitated by Miss Loughlin (P1 Coordinator) and Mrs Reel (SENCO).
- The nursery pupils visited the school and participated in outdoor and indoor play, visited the nature garden and also had eating break in the school. These visits were arranged to help the nursery pupils with their transition to Holy Cross Boys'. Due to the success of this initiative it was extended to include other feeder nurseries/ playgroups this year.
- Successful P1 Open Day and a new Primary 1 induction booklet produced.
- All testing completed for P1 admissions (Sept 2017)
- Met with Assessment co-ordinator and made changes to January Test templates.
- Familiar word boxes continue to be used for homework to promote and develop a sight vocabulary.
- Transition programme still running in conjunction with parish nurseries- consisting of transition lessons, play sessions & Bailey Bear visits to the various pre-school settings.
- New 'Pre- school to Primary Transition Form' designed to obtain information from parents on intervention from outside agencies and SEN info.
- New P1 induction booklet produced and PowerPoint for induction day (20th June).
- Split new classes starting September 2017 with SENCO.
- Due to the success of transition lessons/mornings for the new intake in May 2016, it took place this year again week beginning 12th June 2017. It involved Holy Cross Nursery, Holy Cross Pre-school and Holy Cross Girls Play and Learn.
- Interview dates/times and start dates distributed for September 2017.
- Contact made with West Belfast Partnership to enquire about the Barnardos 'The Incredible Years' school readiness programme for parents.
- Primary 1 Nurse Visits- Mon 3rd May – 10th May 2017.
- New Summer activity packs distributed to Nursery pupils.

Staffing

- Staff attendance was excellent overall. Indeed, many have had an excellent attendance record for years. A couple of staff have still been off on long term sick and Miss Mc Alinden has retired.
- Budget decreases have resulted in staffing and hour reductions (effective Sept 2017). Temporary point for initiatives has come to an end.

Finance

- The school budget for 2016/2017 was £1,426,926.
- Final LMS Budgeting meeting - Cuts of £84,000.

Religion

- Miss McLaughlin coordinated the RE programme including the various sacraments preparations for P3, P4 and P7.
- New 'Grow In Love' scheme will be phased into P5 and P6 September 2017. Running successfully to date.
- Children attended Masses including The Mass for the Starving and the Mass for the Deceased.
- Visit from Aidan Donaldson based on the Catholic Ethos: A Framework for Self Reflection.
- Service of Commitment and Light- 17th January 17
- Catholic Schools' Week 30th Jan- 3rd Feb 17
- Prepared notes/ class work/ booklets for Confirmation.
- Organised displays/ readings/ prayers/ offertory gifts etc.
- Confirmation seating plan.
- Arrange and collect Confirmation covers/ poster from Education Authority
- Distributed Trocaire Boxes.
- Arrange Monthly Masses.
- Newsletter insertions.
- Update Tree of Hope (Seasonal).
- Ash Wednesday Service- 1st March 17
- 'Inside Out' Workshop for P.7 boys and girls from HCG and Mercy P.S hosted in our school hall.
- Co-ordinator attended a Catholic Ethos training course in St. Mary's College – 8th March 17.

P7 Leavers' Destinations

- The Primary 7 pupils' destinations were as follows:

St Malachy's College

St Patrick's College

St. Mary's CBGS

Edmund Rice College

Belfast Royal Academy

Mercy College

Building and Site

- Hazard Assessment completed by Steven Magennis (Chair BOG), Lorraine Gilbey (Caretaker), Anthony Smyth (Teacher) and Kevin Mc Arevey(Principal)
- Termly evacuation drills were conducted.
- Nature Garden- Mr Diamond continuing to oversee this project in conjunction with the Working Men's Shed. Garden work completed with various classes taking on different projects. (Vegetables and flowers planted/ tadpoles/ Art projects)
- As part of the school's response to severe weather or critical incidents a text service for parents remains in use and is updated by the Vice Principal and Secretary.
- Still awaiting approval for installation of security cameras to cover rear of the school and garden.
- Planning application submitted for 3G pitch.

Curriculum

Communication

- The Communication Profile remains on-going.
- The school ran a very successful Scholastic Book fair in October 2016 which raised a total of £2160. The school was given a percentage of this amount in the form of free books, of which an amount was used to replenish Accelerated Reader resources.
- Worked alongside Mr Connolly to produce the 2016-17 Communication Action Plan.
- Monitored the Communication aspects of the Term 1 Six-weekly plans. Made recommendations for improvement / met with teachers or year-groups concerned.
- Worked along with Mr Connolly to monitor Homework / Spelling and Reading Record Books for P.1-P.7 / give feedback to staff, followed up on any issues and prepared a report.
- Organised and ran the 2016 Scholastic Bookfair recording a total of £2160.
- Analysed results and attended the Assessment Round Table Meeting for Primary 1 PIPS Testing.
- Analysed the results and attended the Assessment Round Table Meetings for NILA assessments for P4-7 and P7 NfER tests- raised queries and any necessary recommendations that should be put in place e.g. promotion and relegation etc.
- Sourced and ordered new titles for Accelerated Reading programme using Scholastic voucher from the previous year's Bookfair.
- Along with the KS2 Co-ordinator and after consultation with all the staff, the Marking Policy was updated and agreed marking symbols. New grids provided for all staff and a pupil friendly version for the pupil's books.
- Monitored 6-weekly notes for Primary One – Four, met with specific year-groups to provide
- Ordered books to be used for the Accelerated Reader Program to provide enough resources for each individual level based on the results of the Star Reader test carried out from P. 1-4. guidance.
- O.T.O.S. Programme – Alongside class teachers selected pupils / Communicated programme aims and contracts with parents, P.4 and P.5 teachers and mentors / Carried out a parent workshop on “Hearing and Improving Your Child's Reading” / Matched pupils to their Mentors / Prepared resources, managed the programme and any difficulties that arose.
- With the help of the Classroom Assistants – carried out an audit of Reading Materials available from P1-P7.

KS2 –

- 2016-17 Action Plan created to incorporate communications school development objectives.
- Monitored 6-weekly plans of teachers, producing report.
- Monitored Homework / Spelling and Reading Record Books for P.1-P.7 and prepared a report.
- Helped to organise the Scholastic Bookfair.
- Setting up the Accelerated Reader site for 2016-17 including the updating of pupil records, setting individual targets for each pupil.
- Worked with staff members individually to refresh their knowledge of how the AR system works.
- Printed off diagnostic reports and met with each teacher individually to discuss what these reports show regarding the results of the STAR tests.
- Provided information to parents on the AR Library showing them how to logon from home. Parents were also asked to loan or donate books to the library which has been very successful with regards contributions.
- Continuation of non-fiction biographies for P6 & P7.

- Provided teachers with novel recording sheets to track which pupil has which novel in order to know where the books are at all times.
- Continuing the process of scanning class library books onto the accelerated reader programme to get reading ages.
- Monitored November's six weekly notes and checked to see that all amendments were made on advice given.
- Completed the new communications assessment sheets for Key Stage 2 and assessment tests.
- Added new book titles to the accelerated reader library.
- Along with the KS1 Co-ordinator and after consultation with all the staff, the Marking Policy was updated and agreed marking symbols. New grids provided for all staff and a pupil friendly version for the pupils books.
- All new additions to the AR Library in the school scanned, labelled, colour coded and organised into levels for the Accelerated reader Library.
- Printed off diagnostic reports and met with each teacher individually to discuss what these reports show regarding the results of the STAR tests.
- Managed the admin side of AR, clearing locked students, answering any teacher queries.
- Provided information to parents on the AR Library showing them how to logon from home. Parents were also asked to loan or donate books to the library which has been very successful with regards contributions.
- Monitored 6-weekly plans of teachers, producing report.
- Reorganised the AR Library.

Mathematics

- Monitored 6-weekly plans of teachers for November, produced a report, and liaised with individual teachers to ensure all recommendations have been followed up.
- Monitored homework books from P1 – P7 and produced a report, liaised with individual colleagues or year-group teachers to show examples of good practice, made recommendations for improvement and ensured these were addressed by follow up monitoring where necessary.
- Analysed performance of P4 – P7 CBA results, attended meetings, raised queries and identified areas for teachers to address in their Remedial Action Plans or pupils for possible promotion or relegation.
- Analysed the P7 NFER results, attended meeting, discussed queries / patterns / recommendations / concerns etc. for individual pupils, each class and the year group as a whole.
- Pupils/ mentors have been selected for Maths Partnership initiative. Initiative will commence in Term3 due to numerous other initiatives taking place at this time.
- Monitored 6-weekly plans of teachers, producing report.
- Analysed performance of KS1 pupils in January Maths assessments; liaising with teachers to identify development areas for addressing in Remedial Action Plans.
- Monitored 6- weekly plans for all year groups, producing a report.
- Completed end of year evaluation and highlighted areas to work on next year.
- Attended roundtable meetings, P2-P6 NFER and P1 PIPS testing. Further provided feedback regarding year group and class performance. The co-ordinator also highlighted pupils failing to make progress/ pupils who were progressing well for possible promotion and relegation or any measures that could be put in place.
- Produced Playground Markings Scheme- which detailed photographs and suggested uses for each of the new markings.
- Updated the Using and Applying Maths Scheme to make it more teacher friendly.

ICT

- Usernames and passwords distributed to staff.
- New staff allocated usernames and passwords (temp ones also renewed).
- Colour printer cartridges ordered for Wi-Fi printers and black cartridges ordered for laserjets.
- New Laserjet printer ordered for Success maker.
- Mac Mini Server ordered and installation organised for iPad Wi-Fi access to alleviate problems we have been having with amount of iPads looking access to internet.
- iPads allocated to classes and chargers given out.
- CBA assessments set up successfully- all classes completed assessments within 2 weeks which has been the fastest so far.
- Contacted C2k regarding some machines having problems starting up, engineer had to fix them on site.
- EWO given access to the Sims module within school.
- Website continually updated with general information/ photos and important dates.
- New apple server installed to remedy wifi problems.
- iCal training booked with iTeach for Term 2.
- Facebook & Twitter accounts updated on a regular basis
- NAACE Award renewal applied for.
- Scheme updated.
- ICT Assessment Grids updated.
- CCEA tasks completed for accreditation levelling.
- ICT Ipad club running on a Monday- now piloting new coding Apps.
- Problems with projector and sound system in main hall rectified.
- Co-ordinator attended Securus Training to implement new eMonitoring application.
- New technician M. McFarlane regularly updates website.
- New ICT Scheme implemented and monitored in planning.

World Around Us

- Monitored six weekly notes for each year group prepared a report and provided feedback to each year group.
- Completion of Science Scheme- monitored through planning.
- Co-ordinator met with teachers to discuss PRSD lessons and to offer advice.
- Evolution lessons fully integrated into the P7 topic Incredible Journeys.
- PowerPoints sourced to help learning experience for pupils, for the majority of Thematic Units being taught. These have been disseminated to staff to use.
- Assessment sheets updated and ready for teachers to complete.
- Completed an analysis and stock take of practical resources available within the school.
- Materials have also been purchased to help delivery lessons using the new garden.
- Creating a library of website resources for all Thematic Units.
- Co-ordinated with PQH student when planning to create scheme of work for school garden.
- Co-ordinator met with individual teachers throughout the year to provide support/advice on science lesson planning.
- Assessment sheets created and disseminated for completion by all year groups.
- Liaised with staff involved with the garden redevelopment, ordered resources and science testing kits that can be used in the garden.
- Completed end of year coordinators report.
- Collected in all practical equipment and disseminated it to the year groups for next year.
- Continuing to create a list of websites to help teach science and thematic units through ICT.

PDMU

- First Aid boxes refilled and in the process of making up a new order.
- Action Plan for PDMU completed.
- YHEA –visit for P5, P6, and P7s on the topics of alcohol abuse, Tobacco and Drug addiction is planned for Term 2.
- Healthy Break initiative continues to run successfully in the school.
- Anti- Bullying competition carried out during Anti- Bullying week in November 2016.
- Year Seven and Teaching Assistant Emergency Life Support Lessons planned for Transition Week.
- First Aid sessions for Transition Week successfully carried out.
- Road Safety- Conor O’Neill Walk- 19th June 2017 (am)
- Summer Road Safety poster competition – June 17.
- Checked and ordered supplies to replenish the First Aid boxes.
- New First Aid Policy devised in accordance with EA guidance.

The Arts

Music

- Organised music and prepared pupils for Feast of the Holy Cross Mass 14/9/16
- Liaised with peripatetic music teachers, (cello/violin/flute/trumpet/ djembe) organised auditions and drew up timetables for the year.
- Organised trip for P.4 classes to the Theatre at the Mill to watch ‘15 Chairs’- 18/10/16
- Met with Miss Mc Laughlin (Religion co-ordinator) and Fr. Eugene to discuss sacraments and ceremonies for the year.
- Prepared P4-P7 for Advent Penitential Service- 19/12/16
- Prepared hymns and carols with parish schools for annual Mass for the Starving -06/12/16
- Liaised with Edenbrooke P.S to prepare a cross-community choir to take part in the FISCA competition.
- Selected music and rehearsed with K.S. 1 for their Christmas show “*Midwife Crisis*”. Four planned performances.
- Prepared P.7 pupils for attendance at Carol Party in Waterfront Hall (Dec 2016).

Drama

- Christmas show is organised and staff meeting has been held. P1 concert has been organised.
- Co-ordinated P1 nativity ‘*A Midwife Crisis*’ and helped direct KS1 production with K McShane.
- Co-ordinator overseen Green Screen project for Zambia.
- P7 show co-ordinated by S. Martin and G. O’Reilly. Performances week beginning 12th June.

ART

- The art coordinator reviewed 6 weekly notes of all primaries.
- All teachers are continuing to use the ‘Great Masters’ scheme & are adding resources to it.
- The skills grids for Foundation, KS1 & KS2 are still being incorporated into planning and a wide range of media continues to be used for this subject.
- The pupils entered various Art competitions throughout the year.
- Art Therapy- A group of 4 pupils continue to attend a weekly art session with Sharon Kane.
- 2 excellent Art lessons (scheme) have been implemented, which teachers use as a minimum.
- Art resources are currently stored in the Co-ordinator’s room- teachers send for them as needed.

Languages

- Languages, including French, Spanish and Irish, continue to be taught weekly throughout the school, with all classes continuing to receive at least one Irish lesson per week.

Assessment

- Produced Assessment Action Plan, setting out new objectives for 2016/17
- Produced PIPS Baseline analysis for whole P1 school cohort in the assessment programme and chaired RTM.
- NILAs/ NINAs: Produced timetable for completion of P4-P7 assessments; facilitated Round Table Meetings (RTM) for P4-P7 teachers and collated Remedial Action Plans (RAPs). Produced class, year group and whole school analysis.
- Organised, marked and analysed Primary 7 NfER assessments, chairing roundtable meeting with relevant teachers and senior management, informing remedial action planning.
- Year Group Meetings (P2-7) organised to inform class teachers of NFER target setting programme for 2016/17 and to make teachers aware of Low Attainers/Underachievers. Feedback frameworks and RAP collated.
- Meetings organised for Parents of Underachieving pupils (P4-7) with Mr Donnelly.
- Organised test timetable for Christmas Tests (P4-6) assessments and collated follow up RAPS.
- Recorded all relevant data in Assessment File.
- Organised timetable for January 2017 Assessments (P1, 2 and 3), chairing roundtable meetings with relevant teachers and senior management informing remedial action planning. RAPs completed and collected.
- Organised Primary 2 MIST testing, running in tandem with Christmas assessments in Maths and English.
- Dates scheduled and teachers informed of Standardised (NfER) Tests for Primary 2 to 7, RT meetings and remedial action planning.
- Standardised (NfER) Tests for P4 have been completed.
- Teachers will use new Feedback frameworks at RTM for class and pupil analysis.
- GL Assessment scores (Feb 2017): (Grades A-D) 21-A, 6-B1, 2- B2, 3-C1, 1-C2 and 1-D.
- Requisition updated and all relevant data recorded in Assessment File.
- Produced PIPS Baseline - June 2017. analysis for whole P1 school cohort in the assessment programme.
- Organised, marked and analysed Primary 2 to Primary 6 NfER/NRIT assessments, chairing roundtable meetings with relevant teachers and senior management informing remedial action planning (RAPs).
- Organised, marked and analysed retest schedule organised for P3/4 (Specific Groups) (Mr Donnelly)
- Produced analysis of NfER Class targets for senior management.
- Highlighted Underachievers and Low Attainers, liaising with teachers to identify children meeting these criteria.
- Produced Assessment Profile 2016/17 Booklet, collating school data pertaining to assessment statistics and policies.

SEN

- Liaised closely with staff and outside agencies to select children requiring additional support, drew up timetables, allocated rooms and guided support staff in drawing up targets and EPs for term 1.
- Liaise closely with SEN classroom assistants providing background information to their children and supporting them with additional strategies when required – They approach me

informally when they have any queries or just want reassurance in relation to targets/strategies or to share the positive stories on their child's progress.

- Updated the SEN Register on Sims for annual census.
- Liaised closely with medical staff in Carlisle Centre sending regular updates from class teachers
- Liaised closely with parents and GPs in relation to medical appointments and onward referrals for our most vulnerable children. Completed several ASD referrals in conjunction with the school nurse.
- Liaised closely with the new Educational Psychologist, arranged observations/ testing and parent meetings.
- Completed both statements and liaised closely with EA Belfast in relation to the transfer of two of our SEN children – one leaving to attend Clarawood and the other to Holy Trinity.
- Sent out letters of invitation and carried out annual reviews 4 x P7 pupils and an urgent review for a P6 pupil.
- Liaised closely with members of staff in relation to their SEN children and guided them on how best to meet their additional needs.
- Enrolled teachers and classroom assistants for SEN training courses and guided them in the completion of assignments
- Take five literacy support sessions for Primary 2 children 30mins daily except Friday.
- Chaired discharge meetings for CIDS Team.
- Liaised closely with CIDs Team and Education Psychology and have made new referrals.
- Liaised closely with Mr Donnelly in relation to Child Protection issues and have made several referrals to the new HUB service.
- Liaised closely with social workers and have provided updated reports from class teachers.
- Liaised with St. Gerard's, the EA and parents of an SEN pupil who transitioned from St. Gerard's back to P7.
- Provided each class teacher with an SEN profile for their class including all stages on the Code of Practice/ SEN Description and all current and previous intervention.

PE/ Sport

KS1 Sports Day - 24th May 2017

KS2 Sports Day - 25th May 2017

- Timetables compiled for classes in Hall and Pitch.
- Teachers received copies of Six weekly 1 and 2 planning for dance and gymnastics.
- Resource organised for Dance - <http://www.cyber-coach.co.uk/smart/>
- Timetable and facilities (Translink and Falls Leisure Centre) organised for swimming for P6 completed.
- P7 swimming organised/ timetabled to start in January 2017.
- Ulster Council coach sorted and timetabled for P4 Mondays @ AYC.
- Copies of Six weekly 3 & 4 planning for areas: games and athletics were distributed to teachers.
- Swimming organised for P7 in term 2 – pool and buses booked with Falls Leisure Centre and Translink.
- P5 teachers given notes and timetable/dates for Term 3 dates- 31st March 2017.
- Coordinating coaches – Co Antrim coach for Hurling Student coaches on Thursday's in School pitch and AYC (10weeks).
- Swimming organised for P5 in term 3 – pool and buses booked with Falls Leisure Centre and Translink.
- Next year's timetable for swimming sorted with Translink and Falls LC.
- Sports Day for both KS1 (24th June 2017) and KS2 (25th June 2017) were another great success.

GAA

- School training continued with Mr Hawkins and Cormac Mullan.
- Gaelic has also been included in the Extended Schools programme and is facilitated by Cormac Mullan.
- Gaelic training every Wednesday with provision set aside for bad weather in the community centre.
- Training numbers have been good boys are very enthusiastic.
- School training continues. We have also Cormac Mullan coming in from Ardoyne Kickhams.
- Gaelic training every Wednesday with provision set aside for bad weather in the community centre.
- Training numbers have been excellent boys are very enthusiastic.
- Raffo Cup groups were played 9th March. Unfortunately, we did not qualify through the stages.
- Training will continue into 3rd Term with emphasis being placed on P6 and P5 pupils for next year.
- Primary 5 Hurling Blitz- January 17.
- Extended schools Gaelic provision was a success. Many thanks to Mr Curran and Cormac Mullan.
- We had hoped to work with P5/6 this term but due to other commitments this has not happened.
- Hurling coaching from County Antrim Board was very successful for P4-6. We hope to continue this again next year also.

Soccer

- School training continues with myself and Mr Mc Gibbon.
- Groups from P1, P2 and P5 receiving soccer training through Extended Schools' Programme with Tony Kane.
- Progress made in Schools' Cups in matches played.
- Holy Cross Boys' were knocked out in the early rounds of the Cyril Murray Cup.
- U11 team are through to the semi- finals of the Belfast Cup.
- U10 team have made it to the quarter- final of the Belfast Cup.
- Won Belfast 5 aside competition in February and have now qualified for the N.I finals- Date TBC.
- Belfast (U11) Cup Winners.
- Belfast (U10) Cup Winners.
- Several pupils attended the Belfast Primary Schools Team Trials but unfortunately were not selected for the final squad.
- Mr Kane- Coaching P2 & P3 pupils- using newly constructed 3G pitch on the Millennium Park on the Marrowbone.
- Belfast U11 5-a side winners.
- Reached final of N. Ireland 5- a side.

Athletics

- Selected further P.7 children for Athletics club and obtained parental permission for participation.
- E-mail has been sent outlining possibility of Higgins and Deazley funding a new team athletics kit.

- Due to transport complications and commitments to the KS1 Christmas show, the team were unable to participate in any events this term. Some been rescheduled for January.
- The team did not participate in Flahavan's Primary School Cross Country League this year due to P3 Sacrament commitments and the Christmas production.
- Contact made and school's interest registered with Belfast City Council Taster events.
- Children have commenced work on throwing/ jumping /sprinting skills in preparation for May Primary School Track and Field participation at Mary Peter's track.
- Children are continuing with strength and conditioning work to complement their running.

Extended Schools

- New areas for Action Plan 2015/16 completed.
- Extended Schools Folder organised/Updated
- Revising Action Plans for year ahead – new areas added and some taken out.
- Drama removed and Baseball, Breakfast Club and Gaelic added to ES Programme.
- Weekly Updating website information online.
- Reply slips/ letters sent/returned/ collated.
- Timetable of activities/ facilities organised.
- Name/ Activities all collated etc. for Group 1 and 2.
- Engagement forms filled and returned to Education Authority.
- Tutors contacted and times, dates, locations arranged.
- Peer mentoring programme started: 4 pupils selected and started.
- Wages sorted and given to secretary on weekly basis.
- Attendance form handed out to relevant teachers/ staff/tutors/.
- Invoice sorted/copied and given to secretary
- Planning of dates, courses, tutors and facilities for January 2016 Term 2 sorted.
- Cluster Action Plans: Philosophy and GCSA English/Maths classes confirmed.
- Extended Schools Folder Updated
- Evaluated all activities online from January 2017 on NIESIS.
- Block 2 & 3 - Reply slips/ letters sent/returned/ collated.
- Maintaining/updating of Timetables of activities/ facilities
- Currently 16 activities for P1-P7 pupils and Parent Classes organised.
- Extended Schools Folder Updated
- Evaluated all activities online from January to April 2017 on NIESIS.
- End of Year Report 2016/17 sent online through NIESIS website.
- Continual updating of timetables, activities, facilities and coaches.
- Final wages and invoices sorted and updated on NIESIS website.
- 4 Action Plans and Budget completed for 2017/18 (New Budget is £26,000.
- New Cluster Action Plan; Parent Education updated.

Pastoral

- Ardoyne Shankill Health for P5-P7 visits on Tobacco Alcohol and Drugs have taken place.
- Blue Day (Friday 25th November) took place as a part of anti-bullying week and the pro-active Anti Bullying approach, including incident log and parent contacts, continues to be in operation.
- Save our Smile, Healthy lunches/ break continued.
- On-going monitoring of Attendance/ Punctuality on a daily basis. Our average attendance has matched or exceeded 96% in each of the past 3 years. The intensive daily monitoring of poor attenders/ frequent latecomers continues to pay dividends in terms of improving some parents' attitudes to these crucial issues.

- Punctuality- In the first week in November a daily list of pupils arriving after the bell was recorded and many parents contacted to address this.
- P1 Pastoral Meetings initiated with parents of pupils giving reason for concern.
- Class rewards are being used on a monthly basis to improve attendance as P4 – P7 classes compete with each other and the attendance results are issued in the monthly newsletter and on the front door of the school.
- Attendance up to Friday 2nd December 2016 was 96.41%.
- The CIDS team are supporting 3 pupils presently and 2 children have been referred. Primary 1's will be looked at after Christmas.
- There are a number of pupils on the child protection register presently and 1 LAC.
- House System is continuing to work well. Miss Daswon ensured that all KS2 classes had the House System boards in place and organised the photographs for 2016/17.
- Monthly Pastoral Meetings continue to take place with Kevin and Chris. The focus of these continues to be expanded.
- Monitoring of pupils with poor punctuality has continued in 2017 and has continues to be addressed with many successes, in addition to the pre-existing Attendance Monitor.
- There have been 19 detentions to date from September, including 5 from January.
- 8 suspensions from September but none from January.
- **3 children have been referred this term to the Early Intervention Support Services ('The Hub') which has been established in the area over the past year.**
- 4 children have been referred or are presently working with the CIDS Team.
- 2 families have been referred to SOLAS for home Autism support.
- Currently, there are 4 LAC/Looked After Children in the school.
- Attendance percentage up to end of February was slightly above the 96% target figure for the academic year.
- All teaching staff & supervisory staff received Child Protection training from Mr Donnelly since Jan 2017.
- A Punctuality Monitor continues to operate, targeting parents of pupils who were late to school/ late being collected. Letters to parents and meetings continue to take place to address this issue.
- 11 occasions of pupils being suspended, 36 detentions & 11 exits up to this date.
- Promotion/ Relegation monthly figures indicate healthy level of learning group mobility consistent with a teaching staff who know their classes very well.
- Monthly Pastoral Meetings with Vice Principal- Focus on a range of issues including attendance and punctuality, as well as behaviour (including the Potential Bullying Incidents Log as well as list of suspensions, detentions and exits) and Merit System winners, who are tracked by senior leadership so that pupils can be stopped throughout the school day to be congratulated.
- Termly SLG meeting involving school nurse, educational psychologist, SENCO and school vice principal took place in May, with follow up actions agreed and actioned upon.
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Initiatives

- Continuation of chess mentoring programme. Beginners taught every Friday from 8.30am and time spent helping to develop the play of those who are familiar with the game also.
- Philosophy- World Philosophy Day took place on Thursday 17th November 2016.
- Parent/ Community fitness classes take place in the gym on a daily basis. These classes are facilitated by Tony Kane the objective is to promote health & wellbeing through exercise.
- **GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP** - After consultation with Mr McArevey the initiatives focus has been redirected to incorporating a global dimension to school practice.
- To complement current developments within the school I have researched 'Global Citizenship using Philosophy for Children', which enables them to engage in global issues.
- **RRS** – Action plan ratified by Headquarters and received for Recognition of Achievement.
- **CHESS CLUB**- Due to commence in Term 3.
- Co-ordinator received Global Dimensions training- participated in twilight sessions with other schools.

- The school was awarded a Global Dimension award.
- Resources have been collated for all year groups and contacts established for curriculum development.
- The chess club was not progressed this year due to a difficulty in commitment, on my part, to breakfast club times.
- Junior Enterprise Programme was pioneered, delivered and successfully completed. HM Revenue came in to talk with the P6/7 classes about taxes. The ambitious programme involved many steps, including parental feedback, liaising with external businesses and a sizeable folder that was submitted for examination.

Philosophy

- Every teacher from P1-P7 continues to embrace Philosophy with open hands and have been observed by the Board of Governors and Principal taking Philosophical enquiries and making use of their philosophy trackers.
- P7 boys made a documentary about Philosophy as a part of the Holy Cross Boys' curriculum, in conjunction with The Belfast Film Festival. We attended a premiere screening in The Black Box on April 5th 2017.
- Parent Philosophy Group has been very successful. Weekly sessions, on a Tuesday 6-7pm are led by Mr McArevey and Gianfranco Campalani (retired philosophy lecturer from Stranmillis College).

Parents/ Community Links

- Philosophy class for parents is facilitated by Kevin McArevey on a Tuesday evening (Unfortunately Gianfranco Campalani was not able to attend due to a medical condition). Gianfranco is back and will facilitate the class up to June 2017.
- The fitness class continues for parents every day from 9.30-10.30am in the school gym. This is facilitated by Tony Kane in an effort to promote fitness and healthy eating from a programme bought in by the school.
- The Transition Programme (6th March-10th March) was highly successful this year. It builds upon the previous year's programme through incorporating a parent/pupil evaluation questionnaire. This will inform future planning of the programme.
- As well as the practical benefits of the transition week an emphasis was placed on the psychological implications of moving schools. Pupils therefore completed the '99 and a half steps programme'.
- Placement of work experience for post primary pupils (St Patrick's College, St Malachy's College, Mercy College and Dominican Fortwilliam) and university students continues.
- EPD2 stage teachers have been set a deadline for the completion of their folder and a date has been arranged for after Easter to explore any areas that need further developed.
- New 3G pitch.
- Newsletter continued and distributed throughout the school each month.
- Parent classes inclusive of Ipad, Philosophy & Irish.
- Parents still continuing to make use of the gym facilities – 10-week course (T. Kane)

Nature Studies/ Garden

- Contact made with Charlie Duffy with regards to progress with Phase 2.
- Applied for the Innocent Smoothie *Seed Growing Pack*- Mrs Cairns is now using the seeds and the lesson plans for the Nature Studies group.

- To complement the recently painted wall of daffodils, Mr Diamond has planted a daffodil bed in the garden.
- Due to the success of last year, plans are being made for different year groups and Mr Diamond to begin planting and growing vegetables again.
- Begin plans for Phase 2 by sending quotes to Education Authority.
- Planting vegetables and carry out weeding and duties with gardening team in order for successful growth.
- Continuing to work with Men's Shed.
- Mr Diamond, Lorraine Gilbey and a number of pupils began working on a gardening allotment project at the St. Gemma's site.

Cross Community

- Oversaw Peace Players sessions with Glengormley Integrated.
- Liaised with PDMU co-ordinator to ensure CRED was included in PDMU six weekly schemes.
 - Peace Player sessions continue to take place alongside Glengormley Int.

Student Council

- Student councillors continuing the reward system for boys who have full attendance.
- Council now working in conjunction with Eco-Schools. Discussing environmental issues to investigate.
 - Have been looking at food miles/ travelling food and its carbon footprint. Have also been looking at food sources from other countries and locally produced food.
- Student councillors continuing the reward system for boys who have full attendance.
- Working in collaboration with Eco-Schools on the fruit recycling initiative. Student council members have taken over the responsibility of the recycling campaign in the school. This has been linked with the council's Food *Miles* investigation.
- Research for a display board highlighting the council's investigative work is underway and will be ready for display as of September 17.

SCIENCE

- Resources purchased. Science lessons can now be fully taught with a variety of resources at hand.

ECO – SCHOOLS

- Mr Connolly is looking to get us the next level in Silver Award.