

Board of Management Meeting - Agreed Report - 13th December 2024

Admission for the school year 25-26

Opened October 7th. We currently have 8 on roll for Junior Infants 2025.

Child Protection

Child Protection Oversight Report presented.

Anti- Bullying

Anti-bullying report presented.

School Closures

We closed for the mid-term break on Friday 25th October and returned to school on Monday 4th November. The school was closed on Monday November 4th to facilitate in-service training for the staff on the new Maths Curriculum.

We were closed for Polling Day on November 29th. We closed at 1.50 for all students on Friday, December 13th to facilitate a staff meeting.

The school will close for our Christmas holidays on Friday December 20th and reopen on Monday, January 6th.

Policies

The following policies were ratified:

- Anti – Bullying Policy
- Special Education Needs Policy
- Student Voice Policy
- Dignity at Work Policy
- Disciplinary & Grievance Procedure Policy

Draft Policies section on website

In an effort to include parents in the process of reviewing policies, from February 2025 there will be a folder in the Policies section of our website containing policies under review. Parents will be invited to read through these policies and provide us with feedback if they so wish.

Policies currently under review are our

- Communication Policy
- Administration of Medicine Policy
- Accident and Injury Policy

Work Experience

Two students from LCC completed their Transition Year work experience with us from October 14th – 25th. A student from CBS Roscommon is currently with us every Wednesday until February 19th.

STAFFING

OIDE Support

The staff are availing of support from Department advisers in the areas of IT, the PLC & DEIS planning this year.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Our PT Meeting were held on November 21st.

LIVING OUR ETHOS

School Mass

Fr Daniel said mass for the children on Friday, September 20th to mark the beginning of a new school year.

SNA Appreciation Day

We acknowledged the wonderful contribution Martina & Sharon make to our school on September 26th, SNA Appreciation Day

GOAL Jersey Day

GOAL Jersey Day raised €242

Anti Bullying Week

We marked anti-bullying week between 11th-15th November. Teachers completed a variety of lessons on kindness, diversity and inclusion.

Shoe Box Appeal

Once again, there was a wonderful response to the shoe box appeal with 52 boxes collected.

Communion and Confirmation Dates 2025

Communion will take place on the 10th May in Ballagh Church

Confirmation will be held in Ballyleague Church on Wednesday March 26th

Preparatory masses are currently being held on the second Saturday of the month in Ballyleague Church.

Road Safety

As you all know, the issue of road safety is ongoing. The school have been in touch with Mick Walsh, Sergeant in Roscommon Garda Station requesting an increased Garda presence at the school, especially during pick up & drop off times. Two members of an Garda Siochana came to the school on November 25th and saw first-hand the dangers faced by members of the school community on a daily basis with the speed of the passing cars. The Principal met with Leo Finnegan from Roscommon County Council and discussed the possibility of installing a raised pedestrian crossing outside of the school. We also contacted John Freeman, Senior Executive Engineer who informed us that a pedestrian crossing would not be suitable and the Roads Department will look at other traffic calming measures in the New Year if funding allows. A member of the Board spoke with Cllr Waldron on the issue and we followed up with an email to him on November 14th.

CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Maths Inspection

Departmental Inspectors, Maire Ni Mháirtín and Niall Larkin conducted a Maths Curriculum evaluation in the school on Tuesday and Wednesday October 1st & 2nd. We have received our report which we are very happy with. I was very pleased to see that the teachers hard work and dedication was acknowledged with the inspector noting that teaching in Maths was highly commendable in our school.

SSE in Wellbeing

We have commenced our school self-evaluation in wellbeing as requested by the Department of Education. A questionnaire has been circulated to the parents, students and staff and the results are currently being analysed.

Christmas Plays

We will be performing our Christmas plays on December 17th at 7pm in Ballyleague Hall.

Say Yes to Languages

The children from 1st-6th will be learning French after Christmas as part of the Say Yes to Languages Program. A French tutor, Lesa Rice, will spend 2 hrs a week for 10 weeks with us.

Food Dudes

The Food Dudes programme started on November 6th. The children from Jr Infants – 3rd Class received fruit and vegetables daily for 16 days and the children in the Senior Room, for 5 days. Lots of rewards and incentives were provided by the Food Dudes for the children to try a wide variety of fruit and veg.

The Dig

We were lucky enough to be chosen by the Arts Centre who partnered with Performer and Writer, Paul Curley, to deliver a performance of his show, *The Dig*, in our school on November 19th. The children from Jr Infants to 3rd Class attended and thoroughly enjoyed the show.

Science Week & Maths Week

Science week and Maths Week were celebrated in our school. During Science Week, the children from 4th – 6th Class were invited to a Science Fair in Mercy College in Roscommon.

Sports

The Senior room attended a tag rugby blitz in Creggs Rugby Club on September 27th, and a football blitz in St Faithleach's on November 11th. Our soccer team won the B Final in the annual 5 a Side Tournament organised by Ballyboro FC in conjunction with LCC last Monday, for the second year in a row! Congratulations to Mrs Collins.

The senior room also attended the LCC Christmas Show on Thursday, December 5th.

Music Generation

Music Generation lessons are ongoing

Creative Schools

Alice Dixon as our Creative Associate for the Creative Schools Initiative called to the school to meet us on Oct 18th. She will return to do a workshop with the children in the new year.

Hot Food Audit

Barry Murphy from the Department of Social Protection completed an audit of accounts for our hot meal provision on November 12th.

Cycle Right

The Roscommon Sports Partnership have offered to bring the Cycle Right programme to our school. This programme focuses on teaching pupils essential cycling skills, including bike handling, correct use of helmets, bike safety checks and how to navigate in various road environments. The children from 3rd-6th will complete this program over 4 dates in Feb & Mar.

FUNDRAISING

Used Clothing Collection

Used clothing collections were held on September 18th and November 6th raising €690

P.A.

The P.A. organised a Last Man Standing fundraiser which was a huge success. A total profit of €3840 was raised. Out of these funds, the P.A. have purchased STEM equipment for the school and paid for the buses to the hall in Ballyleague for rehearsals for the Christmas show. We would like to acknowledge the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the P.A. and thank them for their continued support.

Hamper Draw

We would like to extend thanks to Sonia Butler who organised a Hamper Draw and raised €500 for the school.

FINANCE

Solar Panels

Our application for funding to install solar panels has been approved by the Department. JFW Renewables in Galway have been awarded the contract and will have completed the works by the end of February.