

# Creagh National School



Ballinasloe,  
Co. Galway.

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**Chairperson:** Mr Frank Gallagher  
**Principal (Acting):** Áine Ní Cholleráin (Bleahene)

## Board of Management

### End of Year Report 2022-2023

**The following is the End of Year Report for 2022/2023 agreed by the Board of Management at its meeting on June 2 26<sup>th</sup> 2023**

#### Members of the Board of Management

- Frank Gallagher: Chairperson
- Carmel Stack: Patron's Nominee
- Fr. John Garvey: Patron's Nominee
- Áine Ní Cholleráin Bleahene, Principal (Acting) and Secretary to the BOM
- Rita Moore, Parents' Nominee and Treasurer
- Aidan Curley, Parents' Nominee
- Caroline Gallagher, Teachers' Nominee
- Miriam Comerford, Community Nominee

**The BOM operates under the guidelines of the Catholic Primary Schools Management Association. The School Patron is Dr Michael Duignan, Bishop of Clonfert and Galway and Kilmacduagh.**

## Meetings

The BOM met on the following dates during the course of the academic year **2022-2023**

- October 10<sup>th</sup> 2022
- October 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 (Special Board Meeting)
- December 15<sup>th</sup> 2022
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 (Admissions)
- March 3<sup>rd</sup> (Admissions Meeting)
- May 15<sup>th</sup> 2023
- June 26<sup>th</sup> 2023

## Agreed Report

An Agreed Report is posted on the school website after each meeting, apart from Special Board Meetings.

## Agenda

An agenda is set seven days in advance of each BOM. At every meeting (Not including Special meetings) the Principal and the Treasurer present a detailed report to the Board.

## Principal's Child Protection Oversight Report to the BOM

Following the enactment of the Children First Act 2015, the Principal presents a Child Protection Oversight Report to the BOM at every meeting. This is in line with the oversight role of the Board of Management in relation to matters relating to Child Protection. The principal presents regular anti bullying reports to the Board.

## Classes and Teachers for 2022 - 2023

Junior Infants	Ms. K. Barrett, Ms O. Carty and Ms. E. Lohan
Senior Infants	Ms A Connaughton (Ms Donohue) /Ms Colohan/ Ms Cahalan
First Class	Ms Carey Ms Curtin
Second Class	Ms L. Gallagher & Ms J. Fox
Third Class	Mrs C. Gallagher / Ms R. Power
Fourth Class	Ms Blade/ Mr Ronoldson
Fifth Class	Mr. O' Donovan
Sixth Class	Ms Kenny/ Mr. Geraghty

## Special Education Team

Ms. M. O' Rourke
Ms Farrell
Ms K Dooley
Mr Commerford
Mrs Mc Cann
Ms Coen
Ms Moran
Ms Colohan
Mr Moloney (Ms Greene)
EAL: Mr K. Barrett

Mr. S Dolan
Shared Post: Mr A. Watson
Supply Panel: Ms. C. Mitchell Ms. C Duffy Ms. K Daly

### **Special Needs Assistants**

Ms H. Divilly Sweeney/Ms S. Loughnane
Ms S. Carty
Ms. P. Rooney
Ms F. Lyons
Ms. C. Concannon
Ms A. Mitchell (Mrs. C. O' Riordan)

**School Secretary:** Ms Ann Haynes

**School Caretaker:** Mr Eddie Brady

**Cleaners:** Tracy Rigney  
Sonya Kelly

### **Leadership and Management Team**

Following DES Circular 0044/2019, the following personnel are part of the Leadership and Management Team:

**Acting Principal: Ms Áine Ní Cholleráin (Bleahene)** was appointed Acting Principal on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2021.

(Ms Stephanie Keating, Principal is seconded to the Athlone Education Centre)

**Acting Deputy Principal: Majella O' Rourke** has Responsibility for Primary Language, RSE and The School Library:. Ms O Rourke was appointed to this position on 5/11/2021

#### **Assistant Principal 1:**

**Caroline Gallagher** has responsibility for Health and Safety, Visual Arts, Rental Books, Display, Maths Resources, The School Garden/Polytunnel and Pastoral Care.

#### **Acting Assistant Principal 1:**

**Regina Power** has responsibility for Information Technology/Computer hardware and software/School's Digital Strategy and Maths

*The Deputy Principal and the Assistant Principal 1's assist the Principal with the day to day running of the school, including the area of Supervision.*

**Assistant Principal 2:**

**Ann Farrell** has responsibility for **Assessment**.

**Mark Ronaldson** has responsibility for **SESE with a particular immediate focus on Geography**.

**Shane Dolan** has responsibility for **Inclusion and Diversity**

**Acting Principal 2**

**Laura Gallagher** has responsibility for **SPHE**

*All members of the team are part of the Critical Incident Management Team and they also assist the Principal in the areas of leadership and management within the school including the area of School Self Evaluation.*

**Career Breaks for 2022/2023**

Ms Elaine Whyte, a member of the teaching staff, was on a career break.

Ms. Nicole Conway, a member of the teaching staff was on a career break.

Ms Carmel O Riordian, a member of the SNA staff was on a career break.

Ms Stephanie Keating (Principal) was seconded to the Athlone Education Centre

Ms Danika Dolan was job sharing in another school for the year.

**Job Sharing for 2022/23**

Ms Helena Divilly Sweeney and Ms S. Loughnane job share together.

**School Inspector:**

The Roinn Cigire attached to the school is **Mr. Nicolas Cosgrove since 17/10/22**. **Mr Martin Whyte**, the school's previous inspector carried out an incidental inspection in the school in early October. All was considered satisfactory.

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**Enrolment September 2022/2023: Total: 440**

**Child Safeguarding**

**Designated Liaison Person:** Áine Ní Cholleraín Bleahene

**Deputy Designated Liaison Person:** Majella O' Rourke

The Board of Management met on November 11<sup>th</sup> 2021 to review the Risk Assessment and to ratify the Child Safeguarding Statement. The Child Safeguarding Statement operates alongside the DES Child Protection Guidelines for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017. All staff have completed the Tusla "Introduction to Children First" E Learning Programme. All staff and people working in the school are fully Garda vetted before beginning work in the school. Child Protection protocols were discussed at 2 staff meetings during the school year.

**Revised Stay Safe Programme:**

It is school policy that the Stay Safe Programme is taught on a two year rolling programme on an annual basis during the period January-March inclusive.

**School Attendance**

Individual pupil attendance reports are submitted annually to the National Education Welfare Board.

Concerns relating to attendance are reported to the Education Welfare Officer. Parents are notified in advance of this report being made.

**Main School Events and Achievements 2022-2023****Pupil Voice**

- Election of the Student Council (Pupils from 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Class)
- Involvement of Student Council as 'tour guides' in Meet and Greet events (Infant Classes.
- Intercultural Committee (facilitated by Mr S Dolan)
- Creative clusters Committee (Facilitated by Ms Gallagher)
- Wellbeing Survey (Digitally completed by all classes from 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>h</sup> class, Facilitated by class teachers)
- Creative Clusters survey (Digitally completed by all classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class, Facilitated by Mr O Donovan and Ms C Gallagher)
- Fortnightly Circle Time scheduled in all classes to gauge pupil voice on a range of issues.
- Green School Committee (facilitated by Mr Ronaldson)

**End of Year Pupil Awards****Boys Gaelic Football:**

Player of the Year- Oskar Zawado

Most Improved- Oscar McKeon

**Girls Gaelic Football:**

Player of the Year- Leah Kelly

Most Improved- Laura Costello

**Boys Hurling**

Player of the Year- Senan Kelly

Most Improved- Emmanuel Lawlor

**Girls Camogie:**

Player of the Year- Amy Brannelly

Most Improved- Zuzanna Krzos

**Artist of the Year:**

Gouri Vinod

### **Johnny Johnson Award Recipient**

Layla Moylan

### **Certificates of Recognition:**

Dominic Lionel

Mia Carty

Carly Furey

Ava Grenham

Sophia Ferreira Nascimento

### **Pupils of the Year**

Aisling Blaine

Danny Mulcahy

Victoria Zdziech

Tahmid Chowdhury Oishorjo

### **Curricular Weeks/Days**

- **Friendship Week:** Co-ordinated by Ms L Gallagher: **26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September**
- **Science Week:** Co-ordinated by Mr. Ronaldson 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> November
- **Engineers' Week:** Co-ordinated by Mr Ronaldson 6<sup>TH</sup> – 10<sup>TH</sup> March
- **Cyber Safety Week:** Co-ordinated by Ms Power 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October
- **Seachtain Na Gaeilge:** Co-ordinated by Majella O Rourke: 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> of March
- **Inter-Cultural Week:** Co-ordinated by Mr Shane Dolan: **2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> May**
- **Active week:** Co-ordinated by Mark Ronaldson, Shane Dolan and Kiara Barrett: 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June
- **World Book Day :** Co-ordinated by Majella O' Rourke: 2<sup>nd</sup> March
- **Catholic School's Week:** Facilitated by Fr. John Garvey
- **Anti-Bullying Week:** Facilitated by Ms Laura Gallagher
- **WALK on Wednesdays**
- Tree Day and Tree Week

### **Celebrations and Events**

- **Elf Work shop:** Facilitated by Ms Blade's 4<sup>th</sup> Class
- **Teddy Bear Emergency Room (Junior Infants):** Presented and facilitated by Mr Geraghty's 6<sup>th</sup> Class
- **Teddy Bear Hospital (Junior and Senior Infants) :** Facilitated and presented by Evelyn Goodman (Parent)
- **Junior and Senior Talent Show:** Co-ordinated by Ms Lohan
- **Visits from the Community Garda :** Various Classes: Cyber Safety Themes
- **Savings Awareness Workshop: 6<sup>th</sup> class:** Facilitated by Lena Shaw from the Credit Union

- **Visit from Heather Payne:** Member of Irish International Football Team and past pupil
- **Visit from Matthew Devine:** Connaught Rugby Player and past pupil.
- **First Class Trip to Athlone Sorting Office:** Facilitated by Andrew Naughton (Parent)
- **Visit of Coast Guard Helicopter:** Facilitated and organised by Pat Downey (Parent)
- **Presentation of Sporting Awards and Presentation of Pupil of the Year and Special Achievement Awards**
- **Awarding of Green Flag: Green Flag for Global Citizenship Litter and Waste at an Awards Ceremony in the Galway Bay Hotel on May 11<sup>th</sup> 2023.** Co-ordinated by Mr Ronaldson and the Green School's Committee
- **Visit by 5<sup>th</sup> class to a screening of their movie in Galway Theatre**
- **Joe Murphy Football Tournament**
- **Teacher V Pupil End of Year Soccer Match** ( Co-ordinated by Mark Ronaldson) Resulting in a 9-9 draw.
- **Tag Rugby Inter-school competition** (Co-ordinated by Alan O' Donovan)
- **Séan Meade Football Inter-school competition** (Co-ordinated by Mark Ronaldson)
- Roscommon **Cross Country** Competitions
- Galway Inter School GAA **Football Competitions**
- Roscommon Inter School **Hurling Competitions**

#### **External-linked Curricular Activities in 2022-2023 :**

- **Vex Robotics:** Ms Power's 3<sup>rd</sup> Class
- **Peace Proms:** 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class
- **Fís film project :** Mr O' Donovan's 5<sup>th</sup> Class
- **Music Generation (Trumpets):** 3<sup>rd</sup> Class
- **Tri Athlete Kids:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Class
- **Athletics with AIT:** 4<sup>TH</sup> Class
- **Swimming in Kingfisher:** 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> class (6 week programme)
- **Marathon Kids Running Programme:** Mr Geraghty's 6<sup>th</sup> class
- **Cycle Right cycling programme:** 6<sup>th</sup> class
- **Gaelic and Hurling Training with coaches from Pearses and Ballinasloe Clubs:** Junior and Senior Infant classes weekly for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> term. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class: 6 week coaching
- **Tennis Ireland** in Association with Ballinasloe Tennis Club: Taster day for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class.
- **Science Blast:** Ms Bleahene and Mr O' Donovan's 5<sup>th</sup> Class
- **Tag Rugby:** with Ballinasloe Rugby Club: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class 6 week sessions followed by blitz in school.
- **Picker Pals:** Litter picking programme; Mr Ronaldson's 4<sup>th</sup> class and Ms Power's 3<sup>rd</sup> Class

- **6<sup>th</sup> Class trip to Ericssons for Infuse Coding:** Attended by 6<sup>th</sup> class: Co-ordinated and organised by Rita Moore (BOM)
- **4<sup>th</sup> class trip to Atlantic Technological University (ATU):** Scratch Workshop
- **4<sup>th</sup> Class trip to Birr Castle for a Nature with Engineering workshop**
- **New Modern Language Pilot ; “Say Yes to Languages”:** Co-ordinated by Mr Shane Dolan, facilitated by Cliona Dervan, Attended by 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class. The school has been accepted to participate again in 2023-2024 in the expanded programme (Spanish)
- **My Big Friendly Guide to the European Union:** Mr Ronaldson’s 4<sup>th</sup> Class
- **Participation in Gardening/School Gardening competitions:** Facilitated by Caroline Gallagher (100 Euro won)
- **Healthy Eating Promotion: Food Dudes**
- **Autism Friendly Schools Programme:** Mr Dolan and Ms Gallagher
- **Super Value Let’s Grow Competition**
- **Schools’ Tidy Towns Award Entry**
- **DEEGEE: Fruit Tree Planting Promoting Trees for Bees**

**Wellbeing Initiatives:** (These are either in the pilot first year or second year)

- **Mo Scéal:** Pre School – Junior Infants transition programme: Co-ordinated by Kiara Barrett
- **Smart Moves:** 6<sup>th</sup> class – Secondary school: Co-ordinated by 6<sup>th</sup> class teachers and Ms Carol McCann
- **Growth Mindset lessons:** 6 weekly lessons piloted in all classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class. Facilitated by Ann Farrell
- **Daily Meditation in all classrooms from 12 – 12:05.** (Second year)
- **Fortnightly scheduled Zooms presented by various classes.**
- **Fortnightly scheduled Circle times in all classes** (Facilitated by Laura Gallagher)
- **Restorative Practice:** (Second year)
- **Pilot of Digital Standardised testing** (First year)

**Embedded Wellbeing Programmes:**

- **Fun Friends Programme** for pupils in First Class
- **Friends for Life Programme** for pupils in Fifth Class.
- **Weaving Well-being:** Various Classes

**Parental Involvement/Collaboration**

- **Parent Information Meeting for Junior Infants:** September 2022
- **Parent Meet and Greet evening: Senior Infants:** September 2022
- **Fun Friends Information Evening:** 1<sup>st</sup> class/5<sup>th</sup> class: October 2022
- **Restorative Practice Information Night** (Zoom and live blended meeting) : 25<sup>th</sup> October



- **Cyber Safety Talk:** With Barnardos facilitator
- **Parent Teacher Meetings** (Class teacher meetings: January/February. SET meetings: October and again as needed for review.)
- **Parents' Association AGM:** Brief address by Principal, planning meetings between principal and Committee
- **Wellbeing Survey** digitally circulated to all (85% return)
- **Uniform Digital Survey:** Circulated to all. (81% return)
- **New intake Junior Infant Open afternoon:** June 2023
- **Graduation Mass and Celebration:** 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023
- Regular communication via Aladdin Connect /Seesaw /Phonecalls / Morning greetings at gates/ through Parents' Association)

### **Community Involvement and Links**

- **Secondary Schools Principals' Visits** to 6<sup>th</sup> Class Pupils
- **SET team** consultation meetings between 6<sup>th</sup> class teachers/SET and Secondary schools: (Facilitated by Ms McCann)
- **Intercultural Celebrations:** Co-ordinated by the Intercultural Committee and Mr Dolan: 2<sup>nd</sup> /3<sup>rd</sup> May
- **Christmas plays, services and singalongs:** Presented in school hall in the weeks leading up to the Christmas Holidays
- **Turning on of Christmas lights in Ballinasloe:** Choir coordinated by Emily Lohan
- **St Brigid's Culture Night :** Facilitated by Ms Power and Ms Blade; 31/1/2023
- **Carol Singing in St Michael's Square:** Co-ordinated by 6<sup>th</sup> class and 6<sup>th</sup> class teachers. (Mr Geraghty/Ms Kenny)
- **Carol Singing in Ballinasloe Social Services:** Co-ordinated by Ms Power and Mrs Gallagher
- **Choirs for Communion and Confirmation:** Accompanied by Sinéad Cahalan: Co-ordinated by Majella O Rourke/ Cassandra Mitchell/Klara Donohue
- Participation in local community events and competitions eg Credit Union Competition, Local Art Competitions, Community Games)
- Twitter updates on all school activities organised by Mr Shane Dolan
- Articles in Ballinasloe Life/ Connaught Tribune

### **Fundraisers.**

- **St Brigid's Day Crosses:** All funds raised donated to Ballinasloe Social Services (Facilitated by Ms Power and Ms Blade) 6,180 euro
- **Toy Sale Fundraiser:** to raise funds for Sensory spaces (Facilitated by Ms Blade) 5,332 Euro Raised
- **Trocaire Christmas Appeal:** 450 Euro (Mr Ronaldson's Class)
- **Cancer Care Ireland:**
- **Christmas Jumper Appeal:** 450 Euro
- **Bumbleance Appeal:** 1,250 Euro
- **6<sup>th</sup> Class Fundraising for Sr Annette in Tanzania (Incorporating Carol singing, Cake Sale and Confirmation Donations):** 2,550 Euro
- **Readathon:** Miss Fox's Class
- **Lion's Club Christmas Food Appeal:** Co-ordinated by Ms Laura Gallagher.

- **Parent's Association: Family Fun Walk:** 1, 500 Euro
- **PA Fundraiser :** Cash for Clothes : 420 Euro

#### **Enhancements and Additions to School Grounds/Resources:**

- **Investment and upgrade in Sports Equipment; including table tennis tables/ Footballs/ Goalposts** (Co-ordinated by Mark Ronaldson)
- **School Garden: Planting of Fruit Trees at school Boundary:** Facilitated by Caretaker, Eddie Brady
- **Wild flower Garden:** Facilitated by Caretaker
- **Sensory area** created: (Facilitated by Mr Dolan, Assisted by Ms C Gallagher and constructed by caretaker Eddie Brady)
- **Quiet Space:** Facilitated by Mr Dolan, Assisted by Ms C Gallagher and constructed by caretaker Eddie Brady
- **Playground Painted Games** (Facilitated by Mrs Gallagher)
- **Outdoor Gaeilge signs**
- **New Crested School sign and Welcome/Fáilte sign** at main entrance area  
(Facilitated by Mrs Gallagher)

#### **Ethos:**

- **Mission Statement:** Staff Consultation
- **Vision:** Staff Consultation
- **Catholic Schools Week**, including a whole school mass celebrated by Fr Garvey with all pupils.
- **Ceremony of light** for 6<sup>th</sup> Class Pupils
- **Confirmation:** Sacrament led by Bishop Michael.
- **First Confession:** Facilitated by Fr Alman and Fr Garvey
- **First Holy Communion:** : Facilitated by Fr Garvey
- **First Communion and confirmation ice-cream Party** for Second Class/sixth class pupils hosted by the Parents' Association
- **Cinema event for Sacrament Choir.**
- **Visits from Fr. Garvey and Fr Charles** throughout the year.
- **Daily Meditation for all classes (12pm)**
- **Fortnightly Class led Zoom Assemblies**
- **Termly Masses:** : Facilitated by Fr Alman and Fr Garvey
- **Fortnightly Circle Times:** Facilitated by Ms Laura Gallagher
- **Facilitation of Pioneer Pledge Information Talk for 6<sup>th</sup> class.:** Delivered by Justin Harkin

#### **Staff Training:**

- New Primary Language Curriculum (Online: Attended by all Staff)
- New Curriculum Framework Training (On-line: Attended by all staff)
- Restorative Practice sustained support training from PDST (attended by all staff.)
- Health and Safety Training (Attended by Principal)

- Misneach training (Attended by Principal)
- Coaching Training (Attended by Principal)
- Reading Recovery Training/ Information Training: (Attended by Principal, Majella O Rourke, Carol McCann)
- Brain Calm Training: (Attended by Rachel Coen.)
- Meitheal Training: (Principal and Ms L Gallagher)
- Physical Literacy Seminars: Attended by Shane Dolan and Kiara Barrett.
- Training in Autism: Klara O' Donoghue, Ann Farrell, Emer Moran, Kiara Barrett, Rachel Coen
- PDA training ( Ms Fox)
- Handwriting without Tears Training (Ms Farrell/ Ms O Rourke/ Ms Dooley)
- Autism Schools Training (Ms L Gallagher/ Mr S Dolan)
- Creative Schools Training (Ms Gallagher/ Ms Bleahene)
- Green Schools Training (Mr. M Ronaldson)
- Vex Robotix Training (Ms Power)
- Lámh Training (Aoife Mitchell, Ms Lohan)
- Training with HSE Physio and OT services: SET and Infant Teachers
- NCSE: In School facilitation for Autism Support: Facilitated by Elizabeth from NCSE : Attended by various staff (Teachers and SNA)
- Fun Friends/Friends For Life Training (Ms Carey/ Ms Coen/ Ms Curtin/ Mr O Donovan)
- Science Blast Training (Ms Bleahene/ Mr O Donovan)
- Fís training (Videography for primary schools) (Mr O Donovan)
- RSE Training ( Mr O Donovan/ Ms Kenny)
- Comhar Training for Middle Management (Mr Ronaldson)
- Droichead Training (Ms. Caroline Gallagher)

*Staff members also engage in additional ongoing professional development throughout the year.*

#### **Awards:**

- **Green Flag for Green Flag for Global Citizenship Litter and Waste**
- **Certificate of Participation in Autism Friendly Schools**
- **Award of Excellence for Science Blast**
- **Award of Excellence for Fís**
- **Plaque of Excellence award for My Big Friendly Guide to the European Union**
- **Participation certificates for**
- **Super Value Let's Grow Gardening Competition (6<sup>th</sup> out of 1,600 school)**
- **Individual Pupil Winning Entries for:**
  - **Community Games Art : Provincial and National Level**
  - **Community Games Sports: Local and Provincial level**
  - **Community Games Handwriting Competition**
  - **Swimming: National Finals**
  - **Clonfert Art Competition**
  - **Local Lions Club Art Competition**
  - **Super-Macs Art Competition (Class Award)**
  - **Credit Union Art Competition**

### **School Self Evaluation**

The school has identified Wellbeing as the area of focus for SSE.

Sustained support was received in the area of Restorative Practice in 2022-2023.

The school has requested support for SSE and Leadership in 2023-2024.

### **Droichead**

There are currently 4 members of staff trained in Droichead. One additional member of staff was guided successfully through the Droichead Process during 2022-2023. This project was also supported extremely well by all staff who facilitated classroom observations and acted in a mentoring capacity.

### **The BOM funded the following training:**

- Brain Calm training
- Mata sa Rang Training
- PDA Training
- Training for new Autism classes
- Lámh Training
- Training in Addressing the needs of pupils with Downs Syndrome.

### **Policy Review**

- Anti Bullying Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Healthy Eating Policy
- Uniform Statement
- SESE School Plan (Geography)

### **Plans and policies currently being reviewed/formulated by the staff**

- Primary Language Plan
- Assessment Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Homework Policy
- Uniform Policy
- PE/ Physical literacy

All active school policies are available on the school website [www.creaghsonline.com](http://www.creaghsonline.com). The review and drafting of policies is a collaborative process and draft policies are uploaded to the Aladdin for staff and parental input.

### **Literacy and Numeracy Scores for 2022/2023**

End of year scores attained by pupils both in Literacy and Numeracy are reviewed by the BOM. Scores are submitted to the DES for 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes at the end of each school year.

## **Some In-School Practices**

### **Pupil Wellbeing**

- **Restorative Approach to Relationships: All classes**
- Social, Personal and Health Education Curriculum (mandatory for all classes)
- Stay Safe Programme (Mandatory for all classes)
- Friends for Life (Fifth class)
- Fun Friends (First Class)
- FUSE (Anti Bullying):5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class
- Sensory and Active Breaks: All classes
- Wellbeing spaces and Friendship pods: Available to all pupils.
- Ms Ann Farrell has facilitating a school wide initiative in the area of Growth Mindset in the first term of 2022.
- Buddy Benches in playgrounds to promote friendship.
- Adapted seating has been sourced and is being utilised in response to specific pupil needs. This is being constantly reviewed. .
- The Principal and Deputy Principal have attended training in the 'Flourish' RSE Programme. The Deputy has put herself forward to lead the introduction of Flourish in the school. Work will begin on revising the school's RSE policy in September 2023.

### **Literacy and Numeracy**

- Reading Recovery for 10 pupils
- Literacy Lift Off (Senior Infants/First Class)
- Junior Infant Literacy Support
- New Primary Language Curriculum (Oral Language/Reading and Writing: Infants-2<sup>nd</sup> Classes) This applies to English and Irish languages.
- Ready Set Go Maths Programme (Junior and Senior Infants)
- Mata sa Rang (First and Second Classes: to be rolled out to third class)
- Building Bridges Programme (All Classes)
- Writing Genre: PM Writing Programme (First to Sixth Classes)
- Integrated Approach to Reading (All Classes)
- Aistear Programme (Infant Classes: piloted in first class from September 2022)
- NESSY: Online learning tool to support specific learning difficulties: All second class as well as additional children with needs.
- Lego Therapy: As a tool to support language needs.
- Words Their Way: Adapted as a school wide spelling programme as recommended by NEPs
- Use of the WIAT test to support literacy throughout the school.
- Ms O' Rourke trained as an additional Reading Recovery Teacher in 2022-2023.

- An additional teacher (Ms McCann) will be training in the area of Reading Recovery in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Digital Standardised piloted from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class in May 2023. (DOTs) Facilitated by A Farrell.
- Following on from staff training in Dyslexia, the school has brought in a series of measures to become a more dyslexia friendly school by adopting some practices for all pupils that will particularly benefit those with the greatest needs (eg. Visual timetables, changes in reading aloud in whole class settings...)
- **Handwriting Without Tears: to be piloted from September 2023**
- **Smart Moves: OT programme: To be piloted from September 2023**

### **Additional Accommodation**

The building project for an additional 17<sup>th</sup> classroom took place during the Summer break in 2022.

This class room was completed for September 2023 and was in use for Senior Infants at the start of the new term. Work was also completed to upgrade the staffroom.

This summer, there will be additional accommodation for a new Autism class and an 18<sup>th</sup> mainstream class room. The mainstream classroom is necessitated due to the recent drop in pupil teacher ratio. This additional accommodation is expected to be in place for September 2023. It will take the form of Modular accommodation.

The Board of Management acknowledges with thanks the funding provided by the Department of Education and Skills.

### **Extra Curricular Activities in Creagh NS**

**Boys' Hurling:** Mr K Moloney, Mr Kevin Barrett, Mr M Commerford

**Boys' Football (Gaelic Training):** Mr Mark Ronaldson , Mr Matthew Commerford

**Rugby/Tag Rugby:** Mr Commerford/ Mr O Donovan

**Girls' Football:** Ms Coen

**Camogie Training:** Ms Klara Donoghue,

*The Board of Management is very grateful to all of the teachers and coaches who continue to give willingly and generously of their time to share their skill and expertise with the pupils.*

### **Meditation with Children**

We will be continuing daily Meditation with Children at 12pm in the 2023-2024 school year. This will be followed by engagement with Religious Education (depending on the age profile of the class).

### **Minor Works and Improvements 2022-2023**

- Fire Safety Certificate issued following Fire Safety Inspection
- Improvement to storage areas and shelving systems in Hall.
- Annual check of Fire Alarm and Intruder Alarm.
- All gates locked every evening (New locks)
- Painting and refurbishment in entrance area.
- New Shelving in Sensory area and classrooms
- Re-purposed storage areas in corridors
- External painting to front of school
- New Wildflower area.
- Sensory space/Quiet Space
- Playground Painting

### **IT Equipment**

The DE IT Grants have enabled the school to upgrade of its IT equipment. Details of expenditure on IT equipment forms part of the school accounts.

Additional Chrome books have been purchased for use with older classes. Additional iPads have been sourced and devices to support literacy, such as scanning pens, are being sourced.

### **School Summer Programme**

The school is partaking in the 2023 School based Summer Programme for the third time in July 2023. The programme will run over the first four weeks in July and will cater for in excess of 70 children in total, over 6 groups. 12 members of staff are involved in delivering the programme in 2022. The principal is the administrator. Ms Laura Gallagher is the Organiser

### **Library Grant:**

The school has sent out to tender and the new books from the library grant will be in place in September 2023. Many thanks to Ms O Rourke for facilitating this.

### **Free School Books Scheme**

The school has sent out to tender and books will be available for all children in September under this scheme. Parents/ Guardians will still be expected to provide bags, pencil-cases, lunch boxes and some requisites not covered by the grant. Parents will be informed of details over the Summer Break. Many thanks to Ms O Rourke, Ms Power and Ann Haynes for facilitating this

### **Finance**

**The End of Year Accounts for 2022-2023** were compiled and reviewed by an independent accountant. Copies of same are available to view from the Principal's Office. A copy of the school accounts will be sent to the school Patron, Bishop **Michael Duignan**.

**Online Banking** The school is now using online banking for the payment of many bills. This is proving to be an efficient and economical way of making payments. The BOM wishes to thank the school secretary, Ann Haynes for her trojan work with this system.

### **School's Voluntary Contribution Scheme**

The BOM will be re-instating the school's voluntary contribution scheme for 2023-2024. We are grateful to parents for their ongoing support through the school's Voluntary Contribution Scheme.

### **Aladdin Connect**

The school has used Aladdin connect more comprehensively this year, End of year reports for 2022/2023 were released digitally via Aladdin Connect in June 2023. This is in line with our Green Schools agenda. The school successfully expand the use of Aladdin Connect to e-payments for parents for 2023-2024.

### **Budget for the School Year**

The Board of Management agrees on a budget in advance of the beginning of the school year.

The BOM expresses its sincere thanks to the Treasurer, Rita Moore for maintaining the school accounts.

### **Funding and Sponsorship:**

The Board would like to extend it's most sincere thanks to all those who have sponsored and supported the school throughout the year.

In particular, the Board would like to express thanks to the Creagh Community Council who have donated 5,000 euro to help enhance the outdoor play facilities.

### **Creagh NS Parents' Association**

The Board of Management acknowledges with thanks the ongoing support and great work of the school's Parents' Association.

### **Sympathy**

The Board of Management extends its sympathy to all families and staff members who have been bereaved during the school year.

### **Message from Creagh Parents' Association**

*As the school year draws to an end, we the Parents Association, would like to wish you and the children of Creagh NS a wonderful summer.*

*Thank you for your help and support in all our events this year and we look forward to working together with you in 2023/2024. Thanks to everyone who supported our fundraisers this year.*

*Our recent 'Sponsored Fun Walk' raised over €2,300. Our clothes collection raised €420. We also ran two successful Non-uniform days. All of this money goes back to the school to enrich your child's learning experience. In May, we sponsored an ice-cream van for our Communion*



and Confirmation classes which was a big hit. We hope to buy sports equipment for the school with the money raised from the Sponsored Walk.

Everything we do in the Parents Association is to benefit your child's time in school. We would encourage all parents/guardians to become involved in any way they can. We will be looking for class reps for the next school year, so if you are interested please let us know by email [creaghparentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:creaghparentsassociation@gmail.com).

We hope to have one rep per class.

We have meetings throughout the year. This provides an opportunity for all parents to get an insight into what is going on in the school and upcoming events. The school also regularly asks us for our input and feedback.

Thanks to Ms Bleahene and all the staff for their hard work all year. Also thanks to Eddie, our school caretaker, for all the help he has given us this year.

Once again, we wish you all a happy and restful summer.

Creagh NS Parents Association.

### **Conclusion**

The BOM expresses its thanks to the Principal, Staff, Parents/Guardians, Parents' Association, DES, Primary Inspectorate, School Community and all of those who support the work of the school.

***This End of Year Report for 2022/2023 was proposed by Board Members:***

*Míruam Comerford*

*Carmel Stack*

**Frank Gallagher, Chairperson**

**Áine Ní Cholleráin , Principal (Acting)**

**Date: June 26rd 2023.**