



Summer News

Building Works and Upgrade

The building of two new classrooms and the development of the playground will begin in January 2017 for completion by September 2017. Funding for these developments has been secured from the Dept. of Education and Skills. There will be abnormal costs due to the site and to make the building fully accessible and the Board of Management is confident that the Dept. will meet such costs.

One of the abnormal costs was the replacement of the

Central Heating Boiler which was previously applied for in August 2015. As you are aware, this was done with the exceptional closure before Easter. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Meanwhile the Board are also happy to announce that they have secured funding for the upgrading of the Electrical System throughout the current school building which it is envisaged will be completed over the summer holidays 2016.

Book Rental 2016/17

The success of the School Book Rental scheme is in no small way due to the cooperation of parents and pupils. Please continue to take care of books received.

The charge remains at €55 for the coming year and we ask that it is paid by the first week in September.

School Uniform

It has come to our attention that some pupils are not wearing their proper uniform to school.

- Boys : Grey Trousers, blue shirt, navy v-neck jumper, red tie, navy/grey or white socks and black shoes.
- Girls : Grey Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore, blue shirt, navy v-neck jumper, red tie, navy/grey or white socks or tights and black shoes.
- P.E. & Swimming Days: School tracksuit or plain navy tracksuit to be worn with a red, blue or white polo shirt.

Our uniform is generic and can be bought at any outlet. School tracksuits are available at Maureen Moorhead's in Bunclody, www.maureenmoorhead.com and Matt Mernagh's in Enniscorthy.



Sixth Class 2016 picture at the End of Year Mass

Drama Awards

Congratulations to the children who attend Speech and Drama Classes with Elaine Jordan and received their certifi-

cates recently. Pupils from Junior Infants up to Fourth Class did extremely well and we continue to be proud of them

Voluntary Weekly Family Contribution

€2 Weekly

We thank you for your weekly family voluntary contribution last year. As we constantly update our school resources we look forward to your continued support this school year. Your €2 goes towards additional resources which are appreciated and enjoyed by all the pupils. The money raised is essential to the running of the school.

Choir

A very big "Thank You" is due to a number of members of the community who supported us by joining our choir this year for Religious events. They added a new dimension to our choir and the children definitely benefitted and learned by having them with us.

We hope to further develop this next year and extend it to include other adults and non religious activities.

After School Activity Programmes.

This year saw the further development of our ASAP's. As well as the continuation of Boy's and Girl's Football, Hurling, Camogie and Hurling 365 we introduced Traditional Music and French. We had hoped to add more activities but perhaps it was better to start small and grow from the strength of what we learned. It is always difficult to accommodate everyone with the commitments children have each evening but we will endeavour for the coming year.

School Self-Evaluation.

Industrial action by the INTO (Irish National Teacher's Organisation) due to the moratorium on appointments to ISM's (In-School Management Teams) has meant that School Self-Evaluation has been put on hold. We therefore did not promote the Parent's Survey in Irish and do not have results to share with you.

Confirmation

Confirmation was held this year on June 3rd in St. Colman's Parish Church Ballindaggin. It was a new departure for us to have confirmation on our own and not with the other schools in the parish but this was decided due to the large numbers we needed to accommodate. In the future it is envisaged that the school with the largest numbers for confirmation will be on their own with the smaller two schools joining up. Many people from extended families and the parish community commented that they were able to attend on this occasion for the first time in years and were pleased to be able to do so. We thank you for your cooperation and comments.



Sing Out Loud

We are planning for 3rd and 4th Class to take part in the Sing Out Loud project which will be held in the National Opera House in Wexford in November.

School Security and Grounds

There has been an upsurge of trespassing and vandalism at the school in recent weeks. The school is a great resource for the community of Ballindaggin and we appreciate the support given by all. We ask you to continue to be vigilant to ensure that the school and the grounds are a safe place for all especially after school hours, weekends and holidays and that the facility is respected and cared for. Please report any incidents you notice to the relevant authorities.

Split the Pot

Thank you for your support of Split the Pot which is run in conjunction with Ballindaggin Community Alert. The draw is held in the school each Tuesday and will continue during the holidays. Envelopes available in the Church and in Jordan's shop.

Annual Costs to Parents

Some parents have asked us to give an outline of general costs associated with school throughout the year.

Book Rental €55 per Child due September

Art & Craft €20 per Child due September

Swimming 1st to 6th Class €60 approx due before sessions begin

Insurance (Optional) €10 per Child due September

Family Contribution €2 per family per week

Class Tours Range from €20 –€50 per child depending on Class

We hope this helps your financial planning. Please talk to us if you have difficulty with any of this.

Summer Camps 2016

A number of Summer Camps have asked us to inform you of their plans for this Summer. As we agreed with parents, we will not send out all the fliers as it may put undue pressure on parents. However we do have fliers for the following Camps at school in the Parent's Information Area:

Sunny's Summer Camp: St Colman's N.S. Ballindaggin July 11th—15th 2016

Lámh agus Croí Montessori & Afterschool Week 1: Under 6's Week 2: Ages 3-10

Parks Tennis: Coaching for Boys & Girls July 4th-29th Bunclody, Ferns & Enniscorthy

Bunclody Swimming Pool: Swim Club July 6th—Aug 26th 3 days per week

Bunclody Swimming Pool: Subsidised Swimming Lessons Bunclody Lions Club

Lego Technic Summer Camps: Boys & Girls Age 4-12 July & August

GAA Cúl Camp: Coolree July 4-8th and Aug 15-19th

Starcamp Summer Camps: Boys & Girls Age 4-13 Enniscorthy Aug 15-19th

Hillbrook Lawn Tennis Club Enniscorthy

Bunclody Library: Summer Reading Challenge

Music with Ms. Brooks

Ms. Brooks will begin music lessons in late September for an hour straight after school at a cost of €7 per child for children from 1st - 6th class. If there is enough interest, there will be two separate classes on different days for: beginners tin whistle and children who already know the basics and a few tunes. Please pick up and fill in a registration leaflet at the main entrance up until mid September.

Best wishes ...



Best wishes to **Ms. Wickham** who is getting married during the summer holiday.

We also wish **Ms. Doran** well as she leaves us after just one year. She made an incredible impression on children and staff and we will miss her.

Mrs. Ryan returns to us in September after 3 years. We are looking forward to seeing and working with her.

Ann Morris who is our school cleaner retires on June 30th. May she have many years of relaxation and fun.

Field Evening 2016



We had a very successful Field Evening this year on Wednesday June 15th and we thank all who helped to make it happen. The Dog Show added a new dimension to the night and we look forward to new ideas and further involvement from the school community next year in what has become an important annual event not only in the school calendar but for the community at large. The Board of Management appreciate all the commitment and support. We raised €3,804.47 for the school building fund.

G.A.A.

We had a successful Rackard League campaign both in Camogie and Hurling recently.

In Roinn C Hurling the boys beat Marshalstown, Monageer and Oylegate to reach the District Final which was played before a big crowd in Belfield Enniscorthy. In the Final the boys played one of the best under age matches seen in years only to lose out narrowly to Bree.



The Camogie girls in Roinn A/B played and beat both Craanford and Rathnure only to be beaten by Kiltrush and Ferns in the preliminary rounds. They lost out to Blackwater in the Roinn B quarter finals.

Well done to all who played and trained with both teams and we say a big thank you to Mr. McDonald and Ms. Dunne for their commitment to the teams.

Thank you to Ms. Doran and Ms. Wickham for taking Hurling 365 this year. Numbers were smaller than usual but those taking part benefitted enormously from the training and development of their hurling skills. We also thank Bríd and Mark O’Gorman and Declan Doyle for their continued help and support. Parent volunteers are welcome to join in next year.

New Garda Vetting Procedures

New Garda vetting procedures are now in place. Any parents who wish to help in the school in any way over the coming year please contact the school office for an Application Form.

Green Flag for Water

In this year when Water has been very topical in our country we were coincidentally working on achieving our third Green Flag which has to do with water conservation. Through the various projects children in St. Colman’s became very aware of the value of water and the need to use it wisely. Cathal Kennedy in First Class came up with the slogan which we adopted

“Save Every Drop, Be a Water Cop!”

Well done to all concerned and especially to Ms. Brook and the Green School Committee.. Work begins in September on our 4th Flag which is for Travel and Transport.



First Holy Communion

First Communion took place in St. Colman’s Parish Church on Saturday June 18th. The church looked beautiful with the children’s art displayed and the beautiful floral arrangements by Marie Coleman. Thank you to Ms. Ring for all her work in preparing the children. We hope that everyone had a lovely family day and will have great memories of their special day into the future.



Breda Hanrahan presenting the new jerseys to 5th & 6th Class

New School Jerseys

Breda Hanrahan who is a former long serving member of the Board of Management entered the school in a competition with Persil and we were very fortunate to win. As we had received a set of jerseys already this year from the Parent’s Council it was decided that we would design a jersey to be used for Rackard League Competitions in which we are known as Ballindaggin but are represented by the three schools in the parish. The name Ballindaggin appears on the back of the jersey with Caim & Kiltyaly on the sleeves. Well done to Mr. McDonald for this design.



Ms. Kennedy, Danny Nolan, Tamara Kelly and Ms. Brooks accepting our 3rd Green Flag in Kilkenny recently.

Eco Unesco Award

SAVE EVERY DROP BE A WATER COP.

Why save every drop? Why is it important to save water? Well at times it is hard to realise it with the amount of rain we get here in Ireland but water is a scarce resource. 97% of the water in the world is salt water.

Of the remaining 3% most of that is to be found in glaciers and permanent ice fields or is underground.

Less than 1% of the water in the world is available for us to use.

We decided to make models of rain water harvesters to show how much more water we can save.

When others look at these models they will think about how much more water can be saved.

We want to encourage others to use rainwater so we came up with the idea of planting bulbs and keeping them alive with rainwater. These plants have been kept alive with rainwater and we are giving them to people to spread our message.

The green schools committee have put 1 litre bottles into our toilets so that every time the toilet is flushed we save a litre of water. We have worked out that we save 1000 litres of water every week .

We have also made up a song based on the tune of Ghostbusters, "who ya gonna call, watercops!" This song and our blog <http://saveeverydropbeawatercop.weebly.com/> are great ways of sharing our message with everyone.

Please visit our blog and leave us a comment.

St Colman's N.S. Eco Unesco Team.



Ben Kavanagh, Claire Doyle, Jack Cullen, Conor Sinnott, Josh Doyle Ciarán Doyle and Hannah Kavanagh pictured with Minister Paul Kehoe in the Mansion House Dublin

St Colman's N.S. Ballindaggin were delighted to win the People's Choice Award in the Eco Unesco Young Environmentalists awards. By winning this award we won against all 80 finalists, primary schools, secondary schools and community groups. The Eco Unesco Young Environmentalist Awards is Ireland's largest youth environmental action project. We were delighted to receive the award and to be recognized for our effort and innovation by the viewing , voting public.

School Calendar 2016/17

We apologise that we are currently unable to issue next year's calendar as we are awaiting the finalising of swimming dates in order to make it complete. We hope to have it with you before we close for the Summer Holiday but you will also be able to access it on our school website

www.ballindagginns.ie

Commemoration and Remembrance Day



Members of the Board of Management and Enniscorthy Municipal Council who attended our Commemoration and Remembrance Day Eleanor Farrell BoM, Barbara-Anne Murphy M.C.C., Johnny Mythen M.C.C., Willie Kavanagh M.C.C., John O'Rourke M.C.C., Kathleen Codd-Nolan M.C.C. and Fr. Jim Fegan Chairman of Board of Management.

Our Commemoration and Remembrance Day was held on April 27th 2016. Many children and staff came to school in costumes of the early 20th Century period and we remembered those who gave their lives for our future as well as those whose helped to make our country an Independent Republic.

A Roll Call of the children who were in attendance at school in St. Colman's Ballindaggin in April 1916 was called and many direct descendents of these people were present to represent them. We enjoyed music, song and dance from our Irish tradition and raised our National Flag with pride.

It was a wonderful day in the lives of the children here at school of which they will have treasured memories long into the future .

Retirement

Congratulations and best wishes to Jimmy Donnelly our loyal Bus Driver who retired from our School Run after more than 40 years serving the people of Ballindaggin.

He is pictured on the right with his wife Mary on the Day of his retirement when a presentation was made to them both by the Board of Management, Parents, Children and Past pupils.



Wexford County Library Service

The Mobile Library will visit Ballindaggin once during the holidays on Tuesday July 26 from 10am to 10.45 outside the school. The Summer Stars Reading Programme is running in Public Libraries throughout the country this summer. Summer Star is a free programme open to all children.

See www.librariesireland.ie or contact Bunclody Library