

BELLAGHY PRIMARY SCHOOL



GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

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BELLAGHY PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2016-17

Chairperson: Mr R Overend

Secretary (non voting): Mrs ML Richmond

NEELB Representatives: Mr J Graham, Mr M Clarke

Parent Representatives: Mr T Dowie, Mr T Steele

Transfer Representatives: Mr R Overend (Chairperson), Mrs P Donnelly
Mrs W Bruce, Rev G Jordan (from March)

Teacher Representative: Mrs J Torrens

Responsibilities of Governors:

Our Board of Governors is responsible for the management of our school. The members are required to meet three times each year but in practice, they meet much more frequently.

Some of their duties include:

- The overall management of the school, including the curriculum and discipline
- Control of the budget
- Provision of information to parents
- Selection of staff
- Admissions Policy
- Maintenance of premises (shared responsibility with Education Authority)
- Fostering links with community
- Responding to Dept of Education and Education Authority initiatives on matters which affect the school
- Reporting to parents

The day to day administration, management of the budget and organisation of the curriculum have been delegated to the Principal.

During the previous school year, following an evaluation led by governors, it was decided that governors should take a more active role in the day to day running of the school. To this end, each governor has been assigned a role eg responsibility for a curricular area, shared education, after school activities etc. Meetings were held with these assigned governors and the relevant member of teaching staff. At these meetings, governors looked at action plans and other relevant documentation related to their assigned area. Governors also participated in classroom observations

(one per term). The purpose of these observations is to increase governors' knowledge and understanding of the excellent teaching and learning which takes place in the school. These visits also ensure the children have an understanding of the management team leading our school.

It was with great sadness that we lost our Chair of Governors Mr Robert Overend in June 2017. Mr Overend had been a stalwart of Bellaghy Primary School for over 40 years and his wise counsel was consistently invaluable to the governors of this school. Just a few days before his passing, to mark his commitment, enthusiasm and dedication to the school, a plaque was unveiled on 22nd June 2017. At this event, we welcomed many members of the extended Overend family. Robert's son, Mr Robert Overend (Junior) spoke eloquently about his father's interest and support of the school. He explained that Bellaghy Primary School had played a valuable role in his father's life and the best wishes of the entire Overend family were extended to the staff and children for the future.

STAFFING 2016 – 17

TEACHING STAFF

Full Time Teacher P1 – P2 Mrs ML Richmond (Principal)

Full Time Teacher P3 – P4– Mrs S Workman (Maternity Leave)

Full Time Teacher P3 – P4 – Miss A Ogilby (Maternity Cover)

Full Time Teacher P5 – P7 - Mrs J Torrens

NON-TEACHING STAFF (Part-Time)

Classroom Assistant: Mrs Y Davidson

Classroom Assistant: Mrs C Mulholland

Classroom Assistant: Mrs I Deans

Secretary: Mrs R Hamilton

Caretaker: Mrs M Johnston

Lunchtime Supervisors: Mrs C Mulholland, Mrs I Deans

Lunchtime Server: Mrs M Clarke

ATTENDANCE

Overall attendance for the school year 16-17 was 97.4%. This shows consistency from the previous year.

ENROLMENT

Pupil enrolment this year was 56. We were delighted to welcome three children to P.1 in September 16.

TRANSFER

Six children transferred in September 2016 – two to Sperrin Integrated College, one to Magherafelt High School and three to Rainey Endowed School.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2016-17

September

- Beginning of Assemblies led by Mr William Ussher
- Weekly Violin, Flute, Clarinet lessons
- Weekly Singing lessons
- Weekly Swimming lessons at Greenvale Leisure Centre
- Hockey Club
- Football Club
- Assembly led by Paddy and Jill from CEF

October

- P1 Parents' Meeting
- School Choir singing in Ballyscullion Parish Church
- School trip to Magherafelt High School to see 'Charlie & The Chocolate Factory'
- National Hand Hygiene Day – Talk given by Mrs Ogilby
- Parent Teacher Association – Movie Night
- Harvest Service
- Welly Walk in aid of Northern Ireland Children's Hospice – Portglenone Forest

November

- Transfer Tests
- Presentation of cheque to Northern Ireland Children's Hospice (£925.05)
- Poppy Appeal
- Remembrance Ceremony in Castledawson
- P7 children – visit to Magherafelt High
- Craft Club
- School Choir taking part in LOL 400 concert in Magherafelt High School
- Talk given to children by Mr Charlie Graham (Battle of the Somme)
- KS1 children trip to Dungannon for display of Old Time Toys

December

- Parent Teacher Association – Breakfast with Santa
- Parent Teacher Association - Christmas Draw for Hamper
- School trip to Maghera Cinema
- Mum's Shopping Day
- Open Day
- School Christmas concert
- Assembly led by Paddy and Jill from CEF
- School Choir – Carol Service at Seamus Heaney Homeplace
- School Trip to St John Bosco to see their Christmas Concert

January

- Good News Club
- Woodhall Residential Trip
- School Trip to W5
- School Trip to RADAR Centre
- Shared Education Trip to Woodhall

February

- Transfer Results and Transfer Interviews
- Visit from NI Fire Service
- PTA Valentine's Disco
- Hockey Club
- Ambassadors' Football Club
- Assembly led by Paddy & Jill - CEF
- Ballymena Festival
- Pancake Tuesday

March

- Assembly with Rev Glen Jordan
- World Book Day
- Shared Classes with St John Bosco PS
- Parent Interviews
- World Book Day

April

- Assembly led by Paddy & Jill - CEF
- Parent Teacher Association Easter Egg Hunt
- Crazy Hair Day in aid of Marie Curie
- Council Planting

May

- After School Sports Club
- ETI Inspection
- Royal Visitors to HomePlace
- Talk from Anna Carville - Farm Safety
- Ray Graham received a cheque for £143 for Marie Curie
- Assembly led by Paddy and Jill – CEF
- School Photos

June

- Bellaghys Got Talent
- Literacy and Numeracy Day for P7 at Magherafelt High School
- Fun Day hosted by Paul Diamond
- Bellaghy Primary School – Got Talent
- Violin Exams
- School exams and standardised tests
- Assembly led by David Cameron
- Summer Sports School
- Intake day for new P1 pupils
- Sports Night
- Football / Hockey Tournament at Meadowbank Arena
- Annual School Trip – East Strand, Portrush
- Fun Day and picnic
- Celebration Assembly

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The mission of Bellaghy Primary School is to provide, in partnership with parents, a **broad, quality education so that all pupils can reach their full potential** within a caring, secure environment which promotes self-discipline, motivation and individuality.

We believe that:

- A working partnership between home, school and community is essential to provide the optimal learning experiences for everyone.
- Everyone learns best in a caring environment where individuals are acknowledged, accepted, and respected for their uniqueness.
- Every individual needs success to grow.
- Children should have an active role in the learning process where risk taking is encouraged and failure is respected as a necessary ingredient of growth.

The main focus of school development this year was the development of daily mental Math skills as well as ensuring there is a strong emphasis on learning in Maths through Play in Foundation Stage. In Literacy, the children developed their skills in two genre of writing – Descriptive and Persuasive. Accelerated Reading was introduced to P3 children. In ICT, the children developed their skills in Music and Sound and Working with Images.

Instrumental tuition continues with support from tutors from the Education Authority (North Eastern Region) and we have a number of children from P3 – P7 learning to play the violin, the clarinet and the flute. Several children sat Music exams over the year.

We had sixteen children taking singing lessons with Miss Sophie Shiels. Several singers sat singing exams in May 17.

A sample of each pupil's work in Literacy and Numeracy is retained and these individual achievement files follow the children through the school.

The curriculum of our school is not solely concerned with formal lessons, but includes all opportunities for learning through sport, music, art, drama, culture, educational visits and many other activities.

CHILD PROTECTION

The safety and well-being of the children at Bellaghy Primary School are of paramount importance. Our Safe Guarding Policies including Child Protection Policy are updated annually and in many cases more frequently. Within the Board of Governors, we have a Safe Guarding Sub Committee comprising the Chair, two additional members, the Principal and the Designated Teacher Mrs Torrens. Children are frequently informed of who to speak to if they have a concern or worry. We have displayed fliers around the school building to advise children of the designated and deputy designated teachers.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Staff at our school are continually updating their practice, therefore striving to provide the best possible teaching and learning experiences for our children. To this end, during this school year, staff attended numerous training events and courses.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN)

Bellaghy Primary School staff are committed to providing equal access for all our pupils to the Northern Ireland Curriculum. We recognise that some pupils during their school career may have special educational needs and/or a disability. In the interests of these children, we will endeavour to make every reasonable arrangement to provide for their individual needs.

In our school, when a child is identified as having a SEN, the SENCo (IMrs Richmond) will meet with the parents of the child experiencing difficulty and she will complete a Registration Form. This is frequently updated by the SENCo.
We then follow the five stage approach as set out in The Code of Practice (1998).

This approach recognises that there is a continuum of SEN and that the requirements of the majority of pupils with SEN lie at Stages 1, 2 or 3. This means that their needs are met by the school with the help of outside agencies and/or specialists as required. During the school year 15-16, 20% of our pupils were on the SEN Register.

SPORT

Through our P.E. Curriculum, we aim to:

- Encourage a positive attitude to sport
- Provide participation for every child
- Improve physical skills
- Provide new experiences and new challenges

Bellaghy Primary School offers a wide range of sporting activities both during and after school.

As part of the P.E. Curriculum, all pupils participate in the four strands of P.E. – Dance, Gymnastics, Games and Athletics.
P5 – P7 children attend Greenvale Leisure Centre, Magherafelt for weekly swimming lessons. All children are progressing well with their skills.

After school Sports clubs this year focused on hockey and football.

Our Football and Hockey teams both achieved great success in the Cluster cup winning both sections for the first time.

MUSIC

At Bellaghy Primary School, we are very proud of the high standards we achieve in Music and Drama. The school is known right across Mid-Ulster for its performances and the choir is asked to perform at many events throughout the year. In February 2017, the choir won the Dinsmore cup at Ballymena Festival where the adjudicator described the children's singing as polished and entertaining.

CHARITY SUPPORT

Over the year the following charities were supported:

Poppy Appeal - £103.60

NI Children's Hospice - £925.05

A donation of £100 was also made to CEF as members of this organization led our Assembly on a regular basis.

We thank all parents for their generous donation to the above charities.

CROSS COMMUNITY LINKS

We continue to develop our links with St John Bosco Primary School, Ballynease and together we participated in a variety of activities over the year. Every child in the school was involved in shared activities over the course of the school year. In March we had a visit from the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI). The inspector was very impressed with the quality of the learning and the excellent relationships which were being established between children from both schools. This shared education link is a strength of our school and we look forward to continued learning and social opportunities with our friends from St John Bosco Primary School.

This year in May, we were delighted to be part of a three school cross community choir. This choir was trained by Miss Ogilby and performed at a special event at 'Homeplace' at which HRH The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall were in attendance. The children excelled themselves and many had the privilege of speaking to Prince Charles.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

We value the importance of the home school link and we aim to keep our parents informed of their child's progress at every opportunity. During the year, parents met with the class teacher on two occasions. There was 100% attendance at these parent teacher consultations. This in conjunction with bi-annual written reports, daily homework and other incidental communication between parent and teacher combines to give parents as much information as possible concerning their child. Parents are reminded frequently of the importance of strong lines of communication and positive relationships between home and school.

In school, we have a Parents' Information Board which displays documents and policies of interest to our parents. Parents are free to peruse this information at their leisure. Relevant school policies are available on the school website and parents are offered a paper copy if they wish. An Annual Report was written for all pupils P1-P7 and distributed to parents at the end of June 17.

ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES for 2016 - 17

Progress in English and Maths are formerly assessed at the end of Key Stage One (P.4) and Key Stage Two (P.7). Level 2 is considered average ability for a child at the end of Key Stage One (P.4) and Level 4 for end of Key Stage Two (P.7). In the table at the close of this report, Bellaghy Primary results are shown in Communication and Using Mathematics at Key Stage One and Two.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After school activities over the year included:

- Cookery Club
- Good News Club
- Drama Club
- Craft Club
- Football Club
- Hockey Club
- Movie Club

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

We are delighted that the Parent Teacher Association continues to play a vital role in our school. Bellaghy Primary School PTA has been referred to as an 'excellent example of a successful PTA' by members of PTAUK.

The activities organized this year were:

- Movie Night
- Breakfast with Santa
- Christmas Draw
- Valentine's Disco
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Sports' Night

Funds raised have enabled the purchase of Education City (an ICT programme) and the licence for Accelerated Reading. The PTA also purchased four additional ipads for our school.

NEW INTAKE

Pupils starting school in September 16 were invited into school to meet with Mrs Richmond in June 17. Parents were given a copy of the school Information Booklet and they accepted the opportunity to discuss various aspects of school routine with the Principal. Three pupils were welcomed to the school in September 2017, taking the total enrolment for the 17-18 year to 53.

ROAD SAFETY

The Governors and staff of our school believe that we have an important role to play in helping to reduce the number of children killed or injured on our roads. We believe this is a tragic and unnecessary waste of human life and one of the greatest social problems of our society today. We believe in educating for life in a very real sense and see Road Safety as a basic skill for survival. We intend to promote this ideal, through the cross curricularity of Road Safety in our school. A policy for Road

Safety is available on our school website. Children in P6 and P7 are encouraged to participate in the Road Safety Public Speaking competition.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

The school website www.bellaghyps.co.uk was given a new look this year under the expertise of parent governor Mr Trevor Steele. The website continues to attract plenty of interest and the governors are indebted to Mr Steele for overseeing the website.

FINANCE

This school operates a fully delegated budget which is delegated by the NEELB, using a formula which is applied to all schools in N. Ireland. The main element of the formula is the age and number of pupils attending the school. Other factors taken into account include deprivation (based on number of pupils receiving school meals), the number with educational needs statements and factors relating to the size and design of the school building which affect running costs.

VISIT FROM EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSPECTORATE

We welcomed three Inspectors into school for two days in May. During their visit, they observed two lessons in each class and conducted various interviews with the Principal, staff members and governors. As part of this process, parents were asked to complete a questionnaire. 85% of parents completed this survey and the responses were very positive. The written comments indicated high levels of satisfaction with the educational opportunities and the support provided for their children. The purpose of the Inspection was to evaluate the:

- Outcomes for children with a particular focus Literacy, including how the school is addressing low achievement and underachievement
- Quality of provision and
- Quality of leadership and management
-

The Inspection Team awarded the school '**outstanding**' in all three areas. This is quite an achievement and reflects the outstanding teaching and learning which takes place in the school.

The full report can be viewed at www.eti.gov.uk

BELLAGHY PRIMARY SCHOOL STATEMENT 2016/17

(A) SCHOOL BUDGET	£
Initial Formula Allocation	219,770
2015/16 Carry Over	<u>14,129</u>
Total Resources Available	<u>233,899</u>
(B) EXPENDITURE	
Teaching Staff	169,995
Non-Teaching Staff	40,397
Non-Staff Costs	<u>12,089</u>
Gross Expenditure	<u>222,481</u>
Less Income	<u>727</u>
Net Expenditure	<u>221,754</u>
(C) 2016/17 Carry Over (A - B)	<u>12,145</u>

SUMMARY STATEMENT FOR BELLAGHY P.S. – Current Account 2016-17

Opening Balance 01/09/16	£ 6610.01
Income	£ 14230.21
Expenditure	£ 12060.52
Less Bank Charges	£247.50
Closing Balance 31/08/17	£8532.20

END OF KEY STAGE ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

<u>P4 PUPILS (9 pupils)</u> Communication Level 1 – 11% Level 2 – 66% Level 3 – 22%	Using Mathematics Level 1 – 22% Level 2 – 78%	Using ICT Level 1 – 11% Level 2 – 77% Level 3 – 11%
<u>P7 PUPILS (3 pupils)</u> Communication Level 3 – 33% Level 4 – 66%	Using Mathematics Level 4 – 33% Level 5 – 66%	Using ICT Level 4 – 100%

MLR – December 2017