

Cumann na dTuismitheoirí / Parents' Association Coláiste an Phiarsaigh

Miontuairisc:

Tues 14th Nov 2023 8.30pm

Lucht Freastail:	Micheál Ó Tuama Nicola Uí Mhaoileoin Josephine Sugrue	Julie Dennehy-O'Callaghan Ciarraí Ní Argáin Peter Kidney
Lucht ar Líne	Paula Roche Fiona McCormack Barry Murphy Aisling O'Gorman	Winnie Lynch Elaine C Catriona Hogan Twomey Cliona Fergy Patricia Kelleher Califf Delaney Elaine Uí Cnoic
Leithscéalta	Mark Chu Des Connolly Collette Ní Fhinnegáin	Shelagh McCarthy

Minutes Issued by: Nicola Uí Mhaoileoin

AGENDA:

- Fáilte (Julie)**
- Apologies (Julie)**
- Minutes from previous meeting (Nicola)**
- Anti Bullying presentation (Iníon Ní Argáin)**
- Imeachtaí Scoile ón Príomhoide (Micheál)**
- Actions List (Nicola)**
- Roll Call (Nicola)**
- AOB**
- Date for next meeting**

ANTI-BULLYING PRESENTATION

Ciarraí Ní Argáin (Coláiste An Phiarsaigh's Anti-bullying coordinator) kindly gave a presentation on the school's Anti-bullying policy and procedures. All bullying behaviours are dealt with in a quiet and fair manner. The school follows the Sean Fallon method. You'll find more information on Antibullyingcampaign.ie

The Year Head, Principal, Vice-principal and Iníon Ní Argáin recently met with all 1st Years to discuss the anti-bullying campaign. They wanted the students to understand it and to feel safe. The school offers regular on-line surveys, which are entirely confidential as they are completed online, at home.

The results of these surveys come directly to the Anti-bullying coordinator. They may then investigate quietly and decide how best to deal with the issue.

Children understand they can deal with bullying issues privately. The student involved in bullying is given one chance. The child being bullied knows the behaviour will come to an end.

Children can support each other through the survey by highlighting issues their peers may be experiencing. The role of class teacher is very important. They deal with bullying through the weekly Múinteoir Ranga classes. There is a series of lessons to follow throughout the year in relation to the antibullying campaign – pod casts, cartoons, worksheets etc. Some issues arise from this and class teachers may go to the Anti Bullying Coordinator if an investigation is warranted.

How does it work if there's an issue in a group?

a) online survey – Iníon Ní Argáin and the Year Head can gather information

b) Year Head and Ciarraí will talk to the student involved in bullying behaviour very discreetly. The student then signs a promise note to say the behaviour will come to an end immediately. If they keep their promise there are 3 incentives for the bully – they won't be punished, their name will not be given to the Principal or Vice Principal and their parents will not be informed. This gives the student a chance to feel safe. Sometimes the bullying doesn't come to an end – situation is monitored in the background. In the majority of situations, the bullying stops.

c) If the promise is not kept, then we move on to Stage 2. The Principal, Vice Principal & parents are notified. This only happens on the rare occasion. Everything is documented and monitored on an ongoing basis.

At Stage 2, cases are reported to Board of Management. Mícheál is answerable to the Board of Management - they'll want to know what has happened and how the procedures are being followed (as per the Education Act). The school will continue to report it at follow up meetings as it is fully minuted. The school is open to inspectorship at any time and the Inspector may wish to look at files on incidents which have taken place, inspect the Board of Management minutes etc. Ciarraí has a file documented on each situation.

Iníon Ní Argáin is hoping to explain the anti-bullying policy to all parents– maybe via a PowerPoint presentation shared out through the school APP – this may help parents understand the policy and how it works.

Mícheál also explained how the obvious anti-bullying posters in each classroom are having an impact. Students are very involved in the policy through their art and suggestions which has helped improve the situation. The school is building on the policy all the time.

Both Mícheál and Julie thanked Iníon Ní Argáin for her time and excellent presentation. The school's approach to Anti-bullying would not be the same without her leadership and guidance.

Peter asked if it is legal to share the information with the Department of Education. Mícheál explained that the student's name is not given due to Child Protection but the information may be passed on.

If Stages 3 and 4 are reached, this would lead to Suspension or Expulsion.

Josephine queried in which classes was it most prevalent. Ciarraí explained it is mostly in junior classes. Rarely in senior classes.

5th years have recently completed a survey.

4th year seems to see the behavioural changes – Students mature a lot that year. It also helps that the structure and plans in place allow for this to happen.

WELCOME

Julie Dennehy-O’Callaghan warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Iníon Ní Argáin for joining us.

Imeachtaí Scoile:

1. 25-10-2023 School Fire Drill
2. 25-10-2023 Board of Management meeting
3. 26-10-2023 B14 Drama Workshop
4. 27-10-2023 50 Year Celebrations - past teachers gave presentations, non-stop Ceilí in the Halla, Reeling in the Years show, sweets for all students, lots of people dressed up, the day was recorded and will be available to view in the future – a great day
5. 06-11-2023 Pride Week – Pride footpath, flag flying, lots of activities, celebration of colour day– students wore their own clothes reflecting the colours of the Pride Flag
6. 07-11-2023 B11 Science Trip to Blackrock Castle
7. 13-11-2023 Science Week - lots of activities in the school - physics and chemistry, quizzes, in class activities, RTE science programs recorded and will be shown.
8. 13-11-2023 B14 on Social Work Experience

NOTES

Lots of football, hurling, camogie, women’s football, basketball and soccer games being played at the moment.

Some teams have visited the school with their trophies. Sars with the Cork County Senior Cup – the team was made of some past pupils

Senior Sars Ladies Camogie team also visited, again with lots of past pupils on the team

Erin’s Own Junior and Women’s County teams also visited the school.

It shows the value of sport held here and in past pupils.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Des, Collette, Mark and Shelagh.

MINUTES

The minutes from October 2023 were proposed by Mícheál and seconded by Josephine

ACTION LIST UPDATE

Ciarraí Ní Arragáin gave the presentation on Anti-bullying

There will be the presentation on the new school building next month

AOB

DELAY WITH FLEECES

Peter asked about the delay with receiving fleeces ordered at the start of September. There are still 70 on backorder. Mícheál and Julie will ring Keen House in relation to this issue.

FACILITIES TO HEAT UP FOOD

Winnie asked if perhaps there is a facility available to heat food in microwave, boil water. Mícheál said this is an option from 3.30pm onwards when the Home Economics room is no longer in use. Due to health and safety, hot liquids moving around the classroom is not allowed. Any food heated after school needs to be consumed in the Home Economics room.

ACTIONS

1. School building PowerPoint presentation next month. This will take place in-person only. There will also be teas and coffees available as a mini-Christmas party. Mícheál will be asking for feedback from the Cumann in relation to the new building works. It will take place at the earlier time of 7.30pm on 12th December.
2. We will plan for the dates for next year and Mícheál will have them posted on the school website.
3. Once these dates are determined, they will be sent to the Cumann WhatsApp group too.
4. The meeting in January 2024 will take place on January 16th 2024 at the earlier time of 8pm. We will trial this time and see if it will work going forward.
5. Julie and Mícheál to contact Keen House in relation to the unacceptable delay with the fleeces
6. Julie will add Peter Kidney's name to the Cumann WhatsApp group.

CLOSE

In closing, Julie thanked everyone for attending. She mentioned she is delighted with Nicola and Des' work on the committee.

Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 7.30pm