

Cumann na dTuismitheoirí / Parents' Association Coláiste an Phiarsaigh

Miontuairisc:

Tuesday 14th January 2025 8.30pm

Lucht Freastail:

**Micheál Ó Tuama
Jerry Reen
Cliona Fergey
Caoimhín O Buachalla
Nicola Uí Mhaoileoin
Des Connolly**

**Julie Dennehy-O'Callaghan
Mary Haslam
Colette Uí Fhionnagáin**

Lucht ar Líne

**Josephine Sugrue
Patricia Kelleher**

**Winnie Lynch
Peter Kidney**

Leithscéalta

**Sheila McCarthy
Paula Kennedy**

Leila Cotter

Minutes Issued by: Mary Haslam (Recording Secretary)

AGENDA:

**Fáilte
Apologies
Minutes from previous meeting
Imeachtaí Scoile ón Príomhoide
Actions List
AOB
Date for next meeting**

WELCOME

Julie Dennehy-O'Callaghan welcomed everybody and wished Athbhliain faoi shéan is faoi mhaise for 2025 to all.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Sheila McCarthy, Leila Cotter, Paula Kennedy

MINUTES

Last month's minutes were proposed by Micheál and seconded by Clíona

IMEACHTAÍ SCOILE

Julie welcomed CAP Science Teacher Caoimhín O Buachalla (COB), on behalf of the Cumann who generously agreed to speak about the BT Young Scientist's exhibition.

COB spoke of the competitive nature of the selection process - 35 projects applied and 3 were selected for the National Finals.

COB outlined the projects: One on Ozempic, another on the Mandela effect, and a 3rd on a comparison between analogue and digital camera, from the 1970's onwards. The camera project was awarded Best Project in Irish, and came 3rd Nationally in the Junior Technology group which is a fabulous achievement.

Máistir OB highlighted how the Teacher and Judge feedback was very positive, that there little to improve on despite such a high standard. Some the students had been working at their projects all summer.

COB was awarded Educator of Year 2nd Year in a row, and he was congratulated and thanked by all for his time – 3 lunchtimes a week since September. He acknowledged the help of Iníon Ní Choitir. Each application requires 7-8 pages feedback.

MOT explained plans to bring 1st yr to Dublin had to be postponed due to the weather, but 1st and 2nd will attend next year.

Scifest will also take place in the school later in the year to give all students a chance to participate. It's an in-house exhibition - parents, grandparents and siblings can attend, and allows students to explain the work to all.

The YS project proposals are linked into JC CBA and help develop confidence. The role of Project Work – 40% for new Senior Cycle Reform was also highlighted.

Jerry Reen spoke of the importance of developing critical thinking, how this groundwork at Second Level is fundamental, and sets you apart for Fellowship applications in Third Level.

MOT spoke of gratitude from staff and parents for all the logistics involved before and during RDS, and Julie spoke of importance of Teamwork.

COB thanked the school for sponsorship and financial support from Cumann.

Calendar of events

11-12-24	TY Panto in Everyman
12-12-24	Staff training day on Senior Cycle Reform
16-12-24	1 st Yr trip to Panto in Cork as Gaeilge
16-12-24	Seachtain na Gaeilge

19-12-24 'Ceolchoirm na Nollag' - over 1000 euro raised for Cork Penny Dinners and food collected at Christmas Tree. Julie thanked the Teachers for all their hard work in preparing the concert and allowing students a platform to gain confidence on stage.

06-01-25 3 Student Teachers on Placement
07-01-25 Scala working with TY on Leadership
08-01-25 BTYS – 35 Projects with 3 in final
14-01-25 2nd Yr Parent Teacher meeting

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

MOT spoke of difficulties regarding Private Bus Company cancellations over the cold weather snap. Bus Éireann stipulates cancellations for Red warnings only, which did not occur. There was a disappointing lack of clarity in communication from Bus Companies, and several students were stranded during the week.

ACTION LIST

Table Quiz Update: Sars GAA Club contacted the school to say they had double booked 30/1 so another date needed. Thursday 27th February was agreed by all as best alternative.

Parents are to be reminded in relation to donating unwanted Christmas gifts to the raffle.

Des Connolly reminded everyone that Officers Messes at Collins Barracks are available to the school for future events, which set everyone thinking.

AOB

Julie spoke of her concern in relation to LC student anxiety, and difficulty balancing homework and revision. Keeping communication open with teachers was emphasized as well as the possibility of Parents highlighting issues via the Múinteoir Ranga whose primary role is Wellbeing of the student.

A message will be sent to 6th Yr parents in relation to support channels available.

Josephine had a query in relation to the the App and updates not carrying information which will be checked.

Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday 11th Feb 2025 8.30pm