

Cumann na dTuismitheoirí / Parents' Association Coláiste an Phiarsaigh

Miontuairisc:

Tues 12th Mar 2024 8.30pm

Lucht Freastail:	Micheál Ó Tuama Nicola Uí Mhaoileoin Collette Ní Fhinnegáin	Julie Dennehy-O'Callaghan Jerry Reen	
Lucht ar Líne	Paula Roche Peter Kidney Josephine Sugrue	Winnie Lynch Fiona McCormack	
Leithscéalta	Clíona Fergy Shelagh McCarthy	Elaine Ní Cnoic Des Connolly	Mark Chu

Minutes Issued by: Nicola Uí Mhaoileoin

AGENDA:	Fáilte (Julie) Apologies (Julie) Minutes from previous meeting (Nicola) Imeachtaí Scoile ón Príomhoide (Micheál) Actions List (Nicola) Roll Call (Nicola) AOB Date for next meeting	16th April 2024 8.30pm
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WELCOME

Julie Dennehy-O'Callaghan welcomed everyone to the meeting

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Shelagh, Elaine & Mark. Clíona had hoped to make it online but unfortunately was unable to. Des has issues connecting online.

MINUTES

Last month's minutes were proposed by Mícheál and seconded by Jerry.

Imeachtaí Scoile:

1. 22-02-2024 5th Year Parent/Teacher Meeting. This ran quite smoothly with the changes recommended by the Cumann and Staff
2. 27-02-2024 Staff Meeting
3. 28-02-2024 Dept of Chinese studies from UCC spent day onsite, mostly with Transition Year. They demonstrated Calligraphy, Tai Chi, Art, Dance – we have a great connection with that department
4. 01-03-2024 50th Year Celebration night – fantastic to see everyone gathered in the Rochestown Park Hotel. A great night was had by all, the hotel was fabulous, well done to everybody involved, thank you to the Cumann for their donation towards the band's fee. Nicola agreed it was a great night and there was a real sense of community on the night. It is very obvious the vital roles Mícheál, all the staff, students, Cumman and the community play in contributing to the spirit of the school It is clear that the first principal, Eibhlín Ní Drisceoil was a force of nature and that Micheál is doing a great job. There were lots of peers from Julie's year present on the night and it was lovely to reconnect with them. The very first class in the school, who started as 1st years in 1973, were there on the night and there was even a roll call for them. Julie said it was a great event to bring people together and maybe we should consider something similar in the future as a fundraiser.
5. 04-03-2024 Transition year spent the week in Cill Fionnáin. Half of TY went for the first few days and then switched. Lots of manpower involved, huge responsibility, went off well, great place – students were treated very well
6. 06-03-2024 Agricultural Science group went on a trip to the Macroom Buffalo Farm – they offer tours as Gaeilge
7. 08-03-2024 Open evening for incoming 1st years – registration 2pm, entrance exam, Meitheal tour, thanks to Cumann for refreshments for students, presentation by Mícheál for 35mins. Changed the format this year from Saturday morning and it worked well
8. 12-03-202 Scala were onsite picking Meitheal team members for next year

TRANSITION YEAR EVENTS

February: Webinar with MTU showcasing their business courses, Prep for Med course, Dental outreach program, Chinese Department visit from UCC

March: Film workshop, Climate Literacy Workshop, Cill Fionnáin, Sound Out Rhythm drumming workshop

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oral exams will take place first week of the Easter holidays

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Upcoming practicals in Art and Music

CROKE PARK MEETING FOR PRINCIPALS

Staff in Croke park were welcoming and lovely.

The newly re-designed LC course was discussed. From September 2024 there will be two new subjects - Climate Action & Sustainable Development and Drama, Film & Theatre studies. Currently these will not be available in Coláiste but hopefully when we have more facilities in place. Julie said Drama would be of huge value to the students and school.

There will be a new program developed for TY but there are no specifics as of yet. It is likely to include work experience, digital portfolio, community experiences, perhaps credits that may carry forward to LC. Some of these are already in place in Coláiste.

A new SPHE program to be developed as part of 5th & 6th years.

Review of RACE as it is currently limiting. Needs to encompass what students are experiencing in reality.

Review of LC Portal.

Within core subjects there will be an additional assessment component which will be worth 40%. This will be corrected by State Exam Commission. Along with this new assessment as well as the oral & aural exams, a large percentage of the Leaving Cert exams will be completed ahead of the written tests the students will sit. Mícheál believes the project may bring its own stress and pressure.

The decision to sit Paper 1 in Irish and English at the end of 5th year has now been abandoned.

It has also been decided that an L1 paper for Irish will not be implemented.

To prepare for these changes there will be Staff training day modules online. These will take a 4-year cycle to complete.

There will be no impact to students commencing 5th year 2024.

Students commencing 5th year 2025 will see the new curriculum and assessment affecting Business, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Arabic, Latin and Ancient Greek.

Students starting 5th year in 2026 will see the changes affecting Accounting, Construction Studies, Engineering, English and Geography

From 5th year students 2027 all subjects will follow this new model.

The assessment component may be a field study, experiment, essay etc. There will need to be increased guidance at Leaving Cert level. There was a discussion around AI in the room and Jerry highlighted the fact that it is now being utilized in UCC. Mícheál told us that the Student's Council of Ireland are embracing these new Leaving Certificate changes.

ACTION LIST UPDATE

Mícheál gave an update on Croke Park meeting for Principals

Nicola and the committee will discuss offline who to put as a contact for National Parent's Council

FINANCIAL REPORT

Des sent the account balance information: EUR3,017.56. This has yet to take into account the monies spent on the goody bags for the incoming 1st years.

AOB

Josephine asked if there were any points inflation/compensation for 2024 Leaving cert students and Mícheál explained that there won't be anything available this year

Paula wished to thank the school for the very enjoyable trip to Cill Fionnáin

ACTIONS

CLOSE

In closing, Julie thanked everyone for attending.

Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 8.30pm