

Cumann na dTuismitheoirí / Parents' Association Coláiste an Phiarsaigh

Miontuairisc:

Tues 23rd May 2023 8.30pm

Lucht Freastail:	Micheál Ó Tuama Nicola Uí Mhaoileoin Mary Harlan Josephine Sugrue	Julie Dennehy-O'Callaghan Collette Finnegan Peter Kidney	Jerry Reen Helen Mannion
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Lucht ar Líne	Catriona Hogan Twomey	Paula Roche
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Leithscéalta	Des Connolly Tricia Ryan	Mark Chu Shelagh McCarthy	Elaine Hill Cliona Fergy
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Minutes Issued by: Nicola Uí Mhaoileoin

AGENDA:

- Fáilte (Julie)**
- Apologies (Julie)**
- Minutes from previous meeting (Nicola)**
- Imeachtaí Scoile ón Príomhoide (Micheál)**
- Actions' List Update (Nicola)**
- Roll Call (Nicola)**
- AOB**
- Date for next meeting**

Imeachtaí Scoile:

1. 20-04-2023 B15 trip to Ballyhass
2. 24-04-2022 B1 4, 5, 6 Trip to Cork Film Festival
3. 26-04-2023 Staff meeting 3:30pm – 5pm
4. 27-04-2023 B13 went to Rinn where they met with another Gaelscoil. This school will return to Coláiste next academic year.
5. 03-05-2023 B15 went to Allihies for their Gaisce Tour
6. 08-05-2023 Sports Day in Mardyke, UCC. Great success – may look to returning there next year as the facilities were fantastic.

7. 08-05-2023 Seachtain Glas – involved recycling, litter picking, recycling books, clothes etc. Have qualified for Green Flag.
8. 08-05-2023 Group setup to Celebrate 50 years at Coláiste an Phiarsaigh. In Sept 2023 Coláiste will be celebrating its 50-year anniversary. Lots planned including a new logo, flag, diary (for both teachers and students), events including past pupils, City Hall, planting trees, time capsules, visit from students from the first ever class, guided history walks, book, film and ‘Turn back the clock’ events in Oct/Nov. Mícheál would love to have the cumann involved with some of the events.
9. 12-05-2023 Visit from Norma Foley (Head of the Department of Education). Ms. Foley spoke to some the students, was gifted items of a) art b) framed poster and c) basket of vegetables. It was a very successful event. There was professional photographer present, photos of the event appeared in the papers, TG4 recorded some footage, and it went out on the news that evening.
10. 17-05-2023 TY Musical in the Firkin Crane. This was a hugely successful event. Well done to all involved. The value from an educational point of view was priceless – benefits of teamwork, joy of the experience was self-evident. Space for practice in the school was a constraint. Mary mentioned the fact that Paul Mescal had said he would have never gotten into acting were it not for his TY Musical. Jerry commended the skills learned by students to be on stage which will stand to them for presentations in future careers/college etc. Julie thought having the shows for the students from school ahead of the parents’ night was a great idea as it gave them time to practice, have a feel for the theatre etc. Nicola asked about the benefits of having all of TY Students involved – Mícheál said it was great as students who may have been out of their comfort zone blossomed. They may revert to not all students participating next year, but Mícheál will have a think about it.
11. 19-05-2023 Ecology Trip to Fota as part of the Ag Science program.
12. 23-05-2023 B14 Gaisce Awards afternoon
13. 24-05-2023 (tomorrow) will be the Leaving Cert Graduation ceremony in Vienna Woods

WELCOME

Julie Dennehy-O’Callaghan warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting, mentioning it was great to see so many members in person.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Des, Mark, Elaine, Tricia, Shelagh & Clíona

MINUTES

The minutes from March 2023 were proposed by Collette and seconded by Helen. (No minutes from April 2023 as we had the presentation of the new building instead of a Cumann meeting in April).

ACTION LIST UPDATE

All actions were closed out as they all related to the presentation night.

AOB

Traffic calming options in approaches to the school

Paula asked we raise a few queries on her behalf as she couldn't attend for the full meeting. She is wondering if traffic calming measures on both approaches to the school could be implemented (in particular the back hill – perhaps signage similar to that near Gaelscoil Uí Drisceoil). Mícheál suggested this would have to be brought to Cork City Council. He will speak with Pádraig O'Sullivan in relation to this.

Concern over potential noise from 1st & 2nd Year Summer camp

A new initiative was introduced by the department after covid that there would be a Summer Course available for students who were maybe struggling to settle. It takes place each day from 9am-2pm and there will be an Irish and Foreign Language Teacher running the camp. The idea is to help alleviate pressure for some students. It will take place from 12th June. They will be based in the temporary buildings 6, 7 & 8 so essentially will be off site. There will be day trips for them, so they won't always be around. The Leaving Certificate will take place in the Halla and Junior cycle will be in the double classroom in the main building. There will also be 13 separate Special assessment centres. The school had to apply for funding for summer camp, but it is fully paid for by the Department.

A full week of teaching lost for LC & JC Students due to the play in the Firkin Crane

Paula wanted to raise the issue of classes missed due to the play at the Firkin Crane. Mícheál said school went on as normal. Collette and Helen agreed. It was suggested maybe not have LC and JC teachers involved. This is not possible as you need the art teacher and another who would teach exam classes too. Nicola suggested having a teacher dedicated to TY but Mícheál explained there wouldn't be enough hours for a full-time teacher. There was an issue this year with booking the Firkin Crane. This has been resolved for next year and the shows will take place the first week after Easter. This means the rehearsals will take place over Easter so will lead to less disruption.

Pedestrian access for students to the School

Paula wanted to highlight the fact that there is no separate entrance for pedestrians to the school and could this be an option. The wall near the new bus stop will be broken to create a new entrance when the new school works are in place. There is currently an issue with the main gates as they do not fully close. Sorensen are tasked with resolving this. The school has seen a lot of anti-social behaviour on the grounds over the weekends. We may need to look at the option of private security patrols.

Possibility of a bus from Mayfield to Coláiste an Phiarsaigh

Mary raised the point there is not currently a bus from Mayfield to Coláiste. There is one, however, to GCC that is not full. She has contacted LP Walsh who have said if she has 20 students, they could accommodate this request and pass by Coláiste. Mícheál will happily

talk to Ger (LP Walsh) in relation to this. Mary also has a Google Doc she was hoping to share with incoming and current parents who may be interested. She will send this to Mícheál who will post it on the school app.

Positive feedback re: Transition Year

Jerry said how impressed he was with the Transition Year setup in Coláiste an Phiarsaigh and wanted to say how grateful he is for it. The rotation of subjects was great and it was all ran with such professionalism.

Jerry also thanked Nicola for the detailed minutes. Julie also mentioned Des is a great help with the Finance side of things. Julie reiterated that it's teamwork that helps everything run so smoothly, teamwork amongst the Cumann and teamwork between the School and the Cumann.

Helen said Mícheál being at the meetings makes all the difference when it comes to information sharing, decision making etc.

Supply of uniform

Peter asked why there is only one supplier of the school uniform. Mícheál said there are changes on the horizon in relation to the uniform and would like to see it available to purchase online. The supplier does take orders over the phone and delivers them to the school. There is a new school fleece which will be available for the new school year. It's a quarter zip-up, black with the school crest. This may be worn along with or instead of the school jumper. The school tie is no longer compulsory. Nicola asked for name tag options to be added to uniform items. Mícheál believes this shouldn't be an issue and will speak to Keen House in relation to this issue.

When is school finishing?

Josephine asked when school is finishing as there are conflicting reports.

5th Years will be finished when the exams are over (next Tues or earlier if the student has completed all exams)

4th Years today

6th Years maybe after the graduation tomorrow (most don't come back to school after the graduation but have the option if they wish to do so)

1st & 2nd years go to the very end – Fri

3rd years Thursday week

School approved tablet required for Incoming First Years

Mary asked would incoming 1st years need to purchase tablets. Mícheál said notification will be going out shortly. The school is switching suppliers and that is why details haven't been shared to date. The current tablets/TY laptops will all need to be reconfigured also. Details will be available shortly.

ACTIONS

1. Contact Pádraig O’Sullivan in relation to Traffic Calming measures on approaches to the school, perhaps signage etc – Mícheál
2. Mary to send Google Doc re: bus from Mayfield to Coláiste to Mícheál
3. Mícheál to share Google Doc via the app
4. Mícheál to speak to Ger in LP Walsh in relation to the possibility of a bus from Mayfield to Coláiste
5. Mícheál to speak to Keen House in relation to name tags on uniform items

CLOSE

In closing, Julie thanked everyone for attending and for their participation and wished everyone a lovely Summer. The next meeting which will take place on 19th September 2023

Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday 19th September 2023 at 8.30pm