

KIRKINRIOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL



The Annual Report of the Board of Governors

2018/2019 School Year

Chairperson: Mr P. McBurney
Secretary: Mrs E. McCaffery

KIRKINRIOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Annual Report 2018-2019

THE GOVERNORS

Board of Governors' Meetings

During the 2018/19 school year the Board of Governors held meetings on:
15th September, 15th October, 29th November, 24th January, 7th March, 18th April, 16th May and 27th June.

Composition of Board of Governors

Board Representatives	Mr P McBurney (Chairperson) Mr A Kennedy
Parent Representatives	Mr R Laird Mrs J Adams
Transferor Representatives	Mrs A Ramsey Mr T Heaney Mr R Hayes Mrs M Wilson
Secretary	Mrs McCaffery (Interim Principal)
Teacher Representative	Mrs J Crabbe

During the year the governors discussed various businesses items from the Education Authority and the Department of Education with recommendations, where necessary, being implemented by the school.

SCHOOL FINANCES

The staffing resources and budget for the school were approved by the governors. The three-year financial plan for the period 2018 – 2021 has been approved by the governors and the Education Authority.

Financial Report: 2018/2019.

Budget analysis	2017/18	2018/19
Initial budget	179,064	176,351
Additional allocations	0	0
17/18 carry-over	-26,484	-25,113
Total budget	152,580	151,238
Expenditure		
Staff costs	168,090	140,002
Non staff costs	14,125	45,173
Projected expenditure	182,215	198,348
Net expenditure	177,693	177,693
Projected 18/19 carry-over	-29,635	-£47,110
Actual 17/18 carry-over	-25,113	-£50,407
Net Saving	4,522	-3,297

Private School Funds

The school has a private account with the Ulster Bank, Ballymena. Funds are used for educational visits, private transport and general purposes. The accounts are audited annually. Details are available upon request.

THE SCHOOL

Enrolment and Attendance

At the beginning of September 2018 the school roll was 51. This represented an increase in pupil numbers of 27% (14 new pupils).

	% Attendance 2018/19
Primary 1/2	95.4%
Primary 3/4	96.8%
Primary 5/6/7	98.4%
Totals	97.0%

Building Accessibility and Security

The school is a one storey building, easily accessible and has a disabled toilet facility. Access is via a door entry intercom system. The outside of the building is monitored by CCTV. We have a safeguarding system where all visitors and staff must sign in. Only staff and visitors who have a current Enhanced Access NI certificate are allowed to work unsupervised with pupils.

In September we carried out a review of access arrangements and changes were made to the morning routines to improve safeguarding arrangements for our pupils.

Staff Training

Training and staff development through Performance Review and Staff Development (PRSD) are linked to the areas outlined in the School Development Plan. The staff attended various training courses throughout the year including; Anaphylaxis Training, Child Protection, ICT training, Safer internet Seminars, Audiology & ASD Training workshops, Literacy & Numeracy courses, Steps to Middle Leadership, Heart Start, SUSTRAN, Assessment, SIMs Training, Shared Education and Global Learning Programme Training.

Partnerships with Parents

Parents play an important and valued part in the life of the school and they are kept informed of all relevant aspects of school life through the monthly News Sheet, letters, PTA and school Facebook pages and the School website (www.kirkinriolaps.co.uk). This year we also rolled out the use of the SeeSaw App to all classes.

In September teachers began the year by hosting Meet and Greet sessions and families were invited to join in with classes at our Maths Fun Day on 16th October. Pupils Progress meetings were held just before the Autumn mid-term break in all classes and in November we held our first Parent Vision Meeting where we consulted on our new Calculation Strategy Document and Positive Behaviour Policy.

Parents were regularly invited into school to share their skills and experiences with pupils and in December two parents ran a series of craft workshops as part of the 'Time to Shine' programme. Parents were also invited to come and support pupils at performances for Radio Cracker and the Ballymena Festival in the Braid. The majority of parents attended both events. In January Mrs McCaffery held P7 transfer meetings for parents to discuss their child's plans for post primary and a second Pupil Progress meeting was offered to all P1-6 parents, after the Spring mid-term break.

In Term 2, P1 parents were invited in to support their children in 'Ditch the Stabiliser' workshops and written reports on pupils' progress were sent to all parents in June.

A wide variety of parents took part in sprucing up the school grounds throughout the year and provided support in forest school sessions and sporting events.

PTA

The Parent Teacher Association continues to play an important role in the life of the school. In the current national financial crisis, their fundraising efforts are even more gratefully received.

In 2018/19 the PTA held three main fundraising events. For the first time ever they organised a Christmas Craft Market that ran in the Church Hall and was very well attended by the local community. In March the ever popular Spring Fair was held in conjunction with Kirkinriola Early Years (KEY) and in May the PTA put on a spectacular Truck Show. This event was supported by the Grassmen and drew crowds from far and wide. Money was also raised through the Easyfundraising Scheme and the Grassmen kindly donated funds raised from a Dynamo Day. The substantial amounts raised were used to upgrade whiteboard technology in all classrooms and will be of significant benefit to the learning opportunities of all pupils.

The PTA has a private account with the Ulster Bank, Ballymena. Some of the money raised was used for refreshments at their social events such as; the Family Fun Night, Macmillan Coffee Morning and at school events like Open Day, the Christmas Carol Service, Sports Day and Leavers Event Supper. The PTA also paid for buses to the Pantomime and school trips.

At the end of June the PTA paid for all the children to go to Game On Activity Centre, Ballymena and they also invited parents to come along.

The accounts PTA are audited annually and details are shared at the PTA AGM. These accounts are also available upon request.

School Council

School Council Representatives from Primary 1-7 were re-elected in September 2018 by their classmates and meetings were held regularly throughout the year. This year they worked extremely hard on their action plan for Eco Schools. They continued to organise regular 'Scoot and Skate' play days, promoted energy saving strategies and even visited the Dogs Trust to see how they might be of help in our local community. In June 2019 they took part in our Eco School assessment and it is credit to them that we were awarded our Green Flag Award. This award also recognised the commitment of the whole school community towards sustainability, equality and protecting the environment.

Special Educational Needs

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) oversees the application of the Code of Practice in the school, updates the register and acts as contact for teaching staff. Links are maintained with other professionals and support agencies to ensure that pupils with additional or special educational needs have their learning needs targeted and met.

To support transition for all pupils in September 2018 our SENCO, Mrs A. McKelvey visited local nurseries and supported KEY staff in identifying any additional needs that would be supported in school.

School Inspection

The latest school inspection was carried out on 19th September 2016 by the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI)

A report was issued by ETI on 21st October 2016 that included these key findings:

1. *The quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and action to promote improvement is now good.*
2. *The quality of learning and teaching remains good.*
3. *The standards and achievements in English and mathematics remain good*

Further details from this report can be found at:

<https://www.etini.gov.uk/publications/follow-inspection-kirkinriola-primary-school-ballymena-county-antrim>

They concluded that:

“Kirkinriola Primary School demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners.”

The ETI will continue to monitor how the school sustains improvement in developing further the roles of the link governors. They also noted that it continues to be important that the employing authority, governors and the staff plan for, and manage, issues related to the sustainability of the school in order to address the current and future needs of the children and the staff.

In April 2019 we were notified that due to our commitment and work in sustaining improvement, Kirkinriola Primary School would not be included in the area planning action plans for 2019-2021.

End of Key Stage Results - June 2019

Key Stage 1

	Level 2 and above*	% of Pupils reaching targets
English	60%	80%
Maths	60%	100%
ICT	80%	100%

Key Stage 2

	SEN Pupils	Level 4 and above*	% of Pupils reaching targets
English	33.3%	66.6%	100%
Mathematics	33.3%	66.6%	100%
ICT	33.3%	83.3%	100%

** Please note due to the limited data submitted by schools as a result of the ongoing industrial action, Northern Ireland averages have not been included in this report this year. However, more information can be found in the DE Circular 2018/05*

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Our After School Club (ASC) that offers additional provision for pupils in P1-3 on a daily basis from 2.00 to 3.00 pm. The club continued to be popular, with all spaces being filled regularly and additional supervision being introduced as required to ensure all pupils wishing to attend could be catered for.

Playsport NI, Speech and Drama, Jump NI, C.A.T.C.H, Fresh Little Minds and Fun with drums all provided planned programmes for After School clubs. Ian Getty also ran his annual Summer Sports School for the whole school. These programmes were made available to all pupils and ran under the guidance of staff, coaches and volunteers. All clubs were well attended and included P1-4 pupils in some cases.

Many of the children in P4 – P7 received Swimming awards and the majority of our P7 pupils completed the Cycling Proficiency Programme. The school took part in 'Cash for Clobber' where the children were encouraged to bring old clothes, textiles etc to school, to raise funds. This event was run in conjunction with Kirkinriola Early Years (KEY).

The Book Club continued and we held a Book Fair in May 2019. The children attending Kirkinriola Early Years were invited to visit the Book Fair and enjoy a story session with Primary 1. Six children received tuition from the NEELB Music Service for clarinet and trumpet and played their instruments as part of our Kirkinriola Primary School's Got Talent show at the end of the year.

The school had a very successful Sports Day with lots of families from the KEY also in attendance. Medals were presented to the P1-7 winners and shields were awarded to the winning team. Certificates and race stickers were given to every child as recognition for their efforts in taking part.

Visitors to School

Visitors to the school included Education Authority officers, auditors, the Educational Psychologist, the School Nurse, representatives from SUSTAN, the NSPCC, members of the emergency services, C2K support staff, the School Photographer and Maintenance Officers. Representatives from local post primary schools visited the P7 pupils and local sports club coaches shared opportunities for extra-curricular activities with P6/7 girls. Link Governors made informal visits to classes and members of the Governor's Finance and Staffing committee were involved in lesson observations as part of the recruitment process for a teaching post in May.

The Recycle Bus Team visited the school in September and Primary 5-7 pupils enjoyed workshops provided by the Recycle bus team. The Environmental Health officer visited P5-7 in Term 2 and all pupils took part in the Energy Detectives programme. Finally, the assessors from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful came in Term 3 and awarded us with our Eco School Green Flag.

In Term 1, a volunteer from Code Club provided eight sessions of coding to a group of pupils from P4-7 and local author Stuart Reid was a hit with all pupils during his storytelling workshops in April.

Everyone enjoyed Bible Club in December with Colin Tinsley and Clergy and laymen from local churches visited on a regular basis to conduct assemblies.

Educational Visits

In September Primary 5-7 started the year with a trip to Rathlin Island to learn about what life was like living on an island. This trip was in preparation for their first topic 'The Great Outdoors' where they complete a novel study of Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo. In December Primary 7 pupils enjoyed visiting Dunclug College to watch their Christmas production before, visiting Prospect Nursing Home to sing carols. During the spring and summer terms our P6 and 7 pupils engaged in various STEM and Knex challenges at local primary schools and the whole school was treated to a visit from Little Critters as part of our Growing Green Topic.

The whole of P6-7 enjoyed the learning experiences and personal challenges offered by our residential trip to Belfast in March. Linking this to our topic 'Back in Time', pupils had the opportunity to visit Titanic Belfast, Crumlin Road Gaol and take the Belfast Bus Tour to stand at Stormont.

The whole school attended the pantomime Beauty and The Beast in the Waterfront Theatre, Belfast in December and Primary 1-4 were treated to film workshops in the Braid Arts Centre as part of the INTO Film Festival.

Charities

The school collected for the Macmillan Cancer Foundation, British Legion's Poppy Appeal, the Operation Christmas Shoe Box Appeal, Children in Need and the British Heart Foundation. As always a substantial amount was raised by the children, parents and staff for good causes. The governors would like to express their thanks to all who contributed.

COMMUNITY LINKS

Education for Mutual Understanding

The children are encouraged to respect each other and people in the community. They met with other schools within the Ballymena area, in the swimming pool, in other sporting contexts and also in STEM challenge activities.

We hosted a Classroom Assistant Student from NRC and three students from Dunclug College on work experience in the school.

We held a Christmas Carol Service in Cloughwater Church where every child took part in singing and sharing the story of the Nativity. The whole school also participated in Ballymena Festival, Radio Cracker and P4-7 sang at Prospect Nursing Home.

Primary 6 pupils attended the Robotics Roadshow at Dunclug College and Activ8 at Cullybackey College. P7 children attended the Innov8 Science Fair at Cullybackey College and the annual tournament at Cloughmills Primary School in June. For the first year ever our Football team took part in the Junior Cup at Ballymena Showgrounds and the 5-a-side tournament in Antrim Forum.

In September pupils participated in 'No Pens Day' to promote talking and listening skills and everyone celebrated National Poetry Day, learning and sharing favourite poems from school and home. In September pupils joined in with themed class activities for European Day of Languages, as well as trying special snacks from across Europe at break time. In March we dressed up again to celebrate World Book Day and P5-7 pupils paired with children in Kirkinriola Early Years to read and share books together.

CHAIRPERSONS REMARKS

Once again this report outlines another productive and successful year for Kirkinriola Primary School. Having spoken personally to visitors involved in extra-curricular activities, the attitude and behaviour of our children has consistently been highlighted as an example for others to follow. It is obvious to governors who have attended various school events throughout the year that the school provides an enjoyable educational experience for the children.

The 100% attainment of level 4 and above at Key Stage 2 is testament to the hard work of the staff and parents and your continued support and involvement in the educational experience of your children is encouraged.

It is worth remarking that the encouraging ETI follow up inspection in September 2016 is a welcome example of progress made under the stability of present day leadership within the school.

The Board of Governors recognise the vitally important partnerships between staff, parents and the local community at this school and would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped and supported the school throughout the year.

Paul McBurney

Chairperson of the Board of Governors
November 2019