



St. Comgall's Primary School
23 Brunswick Road
Bangor
Co. Down
BT20 3DS

St Comgall's Primary School, Bangor

Quality Learning, Friendship For All



Annual Report of the Board of Governors

Tuesday 23rd June 2015

www.stcomgallsps.co.uk

Twitter: [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)

Principal : Mrs Cathy Hunter



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**Thank you for your time and support for the life & work of
St. Comgall's Primary School**



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Chairperson's Address

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On behalf of the Board of Governors I am delighted to present the Annual Report for the Academic Year 2014/15.

This report will hopefully give you some insight into all that has gone on in St Comgall's over what was a very busy, exciting but productive academic year.

There have been a number of exciting curricular and pastoral developments this year as the new leadership begins to take shape. I thank all associated with the school for their patience, support and understanding throughout this process and hope that you can see the positive impact these changes are having on your children's learning.

The Governors and I look forward to continuing to support and challenge the Principal and Staff to sustain the high standards set within St Comgall's Primary School.

St Comgall's continues to forge and further develop very successful links within our Family of Parish Schools. We are delighted to work in close partnership with St Malachy's PS, St Anne's PS & St Columbanus' College, particularly in light of the recent 1400th commemorative year of St Columbanus.

On behalf of the Governors, I would like to congratulate Father Gunn and Father Rooney on their recent appointments as Honorary Canons of Bobbio. The Governors, School Staff and wider Parish Community are very proud and pleased for them both.

I commend this report and the work of the school to you and remind you that the continued partnership between Home, School and Parish remains the cornerstone of what we, in St Comgall's, are all about.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Jamison

Mr Brian Jamison
Chair of the Board of Governors



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VISION STATEMENT

“Quality Learning, Friendship for All”

St Comgall's is committed to the aims and ideals of Catholic education and through this, we are committed to develop each child's full potential in a climate of joy, challenge, co-operation and celebration in partnership with and between Home, School, Parish and the wider community.

MISSION STATEMENT

We believe the school to be a vital part of the Catholic Community.

We are firmly committed to providing a loving and caring atmosphere, which embodies our Catholic Ethos in which the children can grow and develop to their full potential in all aspects of their life.

We, the Governors and Staff of St. Comgall's Primary School believe the school to be a vital part of the Community.

We, as a staff, aim to cultivate and nurture a Catholic and Christian ethos which will permeate every aspect of school life.

Positive inter-personal relationships with all at St Comgall's are the cornerstone of this principle.

The Governors & Staff of St Comgall's are firmly committed to:

- the aims of the school
- providing effective education for all our children
- developing pastoral care in the school
- establishing close links with the home, the parish and the wider community.

St. Comgall's seeks to establish an educative community centred on Christ so that His values and gospel message pervade the whole life of the school.



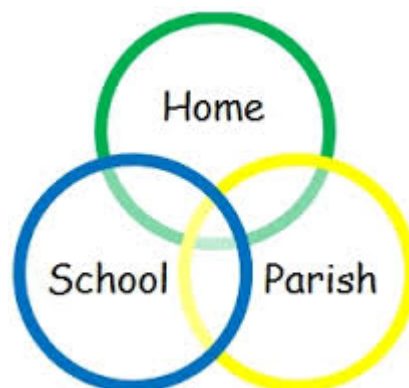
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STATEMENT OF SCHOOL AIMS

“Quality Learning, Friendship for All”

As a Catholic School we are committed to:

- fostering and nourishing Christian values for life
- creating a happy, caring, safe environment
- providing a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum
- promoting innovative teaching and an investigative skills-based approach to learning
- embracing new initiatives in our quest for life-long learning
- using a varied up-to-date range of learning resources
- providing an enriching programme of extra-curricular activities and visits
- endeavouring to strengthen partnerships between school, home, parish and community



Alone we can
do so little;
together we can
do so much.

School Profile: Developments in 2014-15:



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Situated on the Brunswick Road in Bangor West, St Comgall's National School opened in October 1890 with an enrolment of forty-eight pupils.

The original school building was the former parish church. A new school was built in 1929 and extended in 1956.

The Sisters of Mercy, who taught in the girls' school since 1932 remained associated with St Comgall's Primary School until 1990.

In March 1990 the Department of Education approved the building of a replacement school.

This project began on site in March 1994 and was completed at the end of June 1996.

There are nine permanent classrooms, three on either side of central resource areas. In addition there are three modular classrooms, a meeting room, ICT Zone and multi-purpose gymnasium and school kitchen.

A new FS/KS1 soft play area was added to our accommodation in 2003 and in 2013, an additional Eco-Trail was installed in partnership with our hard-working PTA.

The school is well resourced with a wide range of equipment including nine interactive whiteboards, indoor and outdoor play-based learning equipment, P.E. equipment and a plentiful supply of textbooks, book banded reading books and a well stocked library.

In 2007 St Comgall's underwent the C2K Lot 6 Refresh to complement our range of networked PCs. The school continues to recognise the benefits of ICT and invests heavily in providing our pupils with state-of-the-art technology and software packages to support their learning. Our latest project is the installation of iPad and Apple™ Technology to further enhance learning & teaching.

As an **"Investors in People Silver Award School" (2010)** we value and invest heavily in the training of our staff. Staff are currently involved in a number of initiatives which will further enhance the curricular programmes within the school.

St. Comgall's places great emphasis on developing our international and cross-community potential. Always to the fore of innovation, we have developed an International Dimension to the Curriculum Policy to enrich our curriculum based learning with school based projects with other schools across Europe. Indeed our international work with schools in Sweden and Spain has been recognised in 2009 when St. Comgall's achieved the prestigious **"International (Gold) Schools Award"**. In 2012, the school was the first in Northern Ireland to receive the equally prestigious **"Schools Church Award"**.

Pupils – St Comgall's is an inclusive Catholic school. We welcome pupils from all faith and non-faith backgrounds. We celebrate, respect and cherish each and every pupil.

We treat everyone as unique and cater for their individual needs.

Our School Eco-Council gives our pupils a voice and involves them in the life of our school.

The Eco-Council plays an active part in the decision making processes within our school.

In 2013, the Eco-Council successfully achieved the Eco **Silver Award** and in June 2015, have just been awarded their first **Green Flag**. An amazing achievement – well done!



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Our newly formed Pupil School Council aims to give our pupils a voice and to involve them in the decision-making processes and life of our school.

We are proud holders of the **International School** and **Church School** Awards.

Parental Partnership – We actively promote the development of strong parental partnerships through a programme of parent workshops and regular Parent Teacher meetings.

Our **Parent Teacher Association** is very active and provides additional funding for the school through regular fundraising activities.

The Curriculum

When we speak of curriculum in our school we mean the learning experiences that are present for each child.

When planning the curriculum we take into account the uniqueness of each child and their individual needs.

Our aim is to offer each child a broadly based and suitably balanced curriculum in line with the Revised Northern Ireland Curriculum.

This involves six Areas of Learning:

- Language & Literacy
- Mathematics & Numeracy
- The World Around Us
- The Arts
- Physical Education
- Religion



In addition there are **Cross Curricular Skills:**

- Communication
- Using Mathematics
- Using ICT



Special Educational Provision

We identify the educational and welfare needs of each child at the earliest opportunity to ensure early intervention and cater for them accordingly.

The identified educational needs of each child will be catered for by his/her class teacher through differentiation i.e. group and individual teaching, in-class support and if appropriate, through withdrawal for further specialised learning opportunities and/or additional support from existing staff and/or the appropriate agencies.

The provision for Special Educational and Additional Needs is reviewed and assessed regularly by the Special Education Needs Co-Ordinator (SENCo), Mr Bernard Noble.



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Where appropriate, an Individual Education (IEP) Plan will be drawn up for a child in collaboration with all relevant bodies. The SENCo offers support to all teachers in drafting IEPs and from September 2015 will provide further guidance by guiding pupils to establish a '*Personal Improvement Plan*' (PIP) for each child requiring additional learning support.

St Comgall's have developed a comprehensive support and early identification strategy.

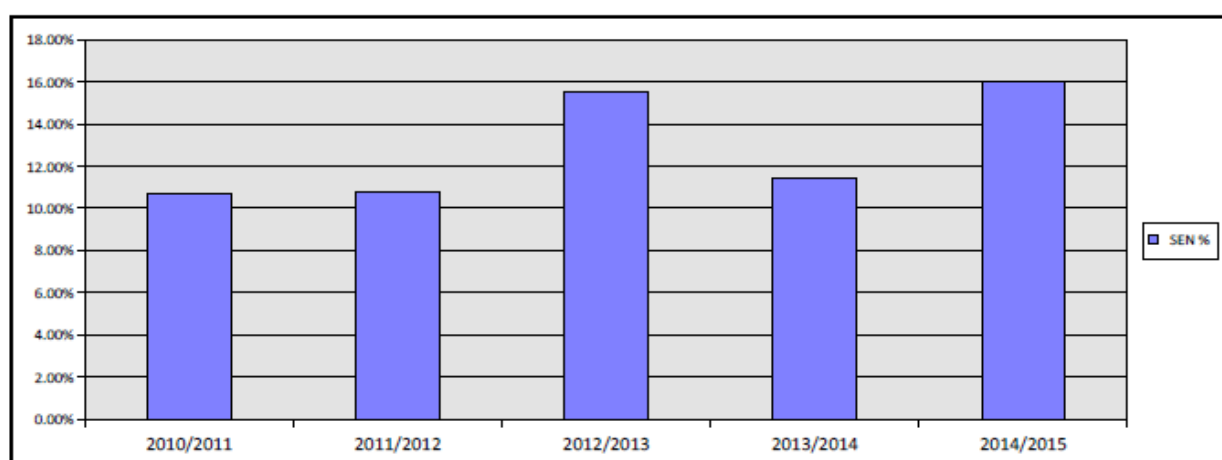
The assignment of learning support assistants has enhanced our current provision and is overseen by the SENCo in consultation with the Teaching Staff and relevant Agencies.

Currently, we have partner links with Educational Psychology, Education Welfare, ASD Service, Cottown, ASCET, CAMHS, OT, Speech & Language Therapy, Social Services & it is hoped to secure the additional services of FamilyWorks NI from September 2015.

Primary SEN 10/11 - 14/15

St Comgall's Primary School

4036146



St Comgall's PS has established an excellent reputation for promoting high levels of pastoral care and setting and realising high standards for all of our children. This was very positively commented upon during our recent ETI Inspection (April 2014).

The Principal & SENCo have developed a strong partnership to enhance and further develop Special Educational Needs Provision within the school. This year a dedicated '**Learning Zone**' has been developed from an old office store into a positive, happy and aspirational environment to which children want to attend and learn. Significant money has been spent in purchasing new resources which support active learning strategies rather than textbook reinforcement. The use of iPad technology has also supported pupil progress and internal performance data reflects the successes achieved and the high quality learning experiences on offer.

Our thanks to Mrs Annette Johnston for her contribution to pupil development.

At present, approx. 18% of pupils are recognised as having an additional or special educational need with almost 4% having a Statement of Special Educational Need.

Religious Education



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As a Catholic School we promote and foster the development of the Catholic faith, in partnership between Home, School & Parish.

However, Catholicism by nature is inclusive and all are taught to have and demonstrate respect for others.

We work closely with our Parish Priest, Father Gunn, and our Parish Family of Schools to foster, develop and promote the Catholic faith, Christian values and to secure in our pupils a Love of God & Love of Neighbour.

School Discipline

St. Comgall's Primary School adopts a positive approach to discipline expecting pupils to behave in a responsible manner by showing consideration, courtesy and respect for others at all times. This expectation is further reflected and communicated to parents via our school newsletter and monthly Assembly Themes.

The school aims to create an atmosphere of “***Love of God and Love of Neighbour.***”

Children are taught to show respect to priests, teachers, ancillary staff, visitors and to one another. Good behaviour promotes effective learning and the development of application, concentration and honest effort.

St Comgall's PS operates termly Pastoral Awards in addition to a Curricular Awards system to motivate pupil behaviour and establish clear expectations and role-models for the whole school community.

The P7 pupils act as Playtime Buddies who ensure that our Pastoral Care policy is as active in our pupils as it is in our staff.

The behaviour of our pupils was noted as ‘***exemplary***’ in our recent inspection and the standard of Pastoral Care as ‘***outstanding***’.

St. Comgall's Staffing Structure



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Board of Governors

Principal

Senior Management Team (**SMT**) – Principal & Vice-Principal

Senior Leadership Team (**SLT**) –SMT & 3 Senior Leaders

Co-ordinators with Teaching Allowances

Teaching Staff with responsibilities

Teaching Staff (13)

Auxiliary Staff (9)

Ancillary Staff (6)

St Comgall's Primary School, Bangor

Board of Governors

Very Reverend Fr J Gunn

Mr Brian Jamison

Mr Frank Kelly

Mrs Pat Mc Quillan

Dr Grainne Doran

Mr Ray Havlin

Miss Anne Higgins

Mrs Pauline Huth

Mr Pat Mc Cartan

Mrs Cathy Hunter

Trustee

Chairperson & Trustee

Vice-Chair & EA Representative

Trustee

EA Representative

Parent Trustee

Teacher Representative

Parent Representative

DE Representative

Principal & Secretary to Governors

Full Board of Governor Meetings 2014-2015

Date	Term
4 th November 2014	Term 1a
16 th December 2014	Term 1b
10 th February 2015	Term 2a
24 th March 2015	Term 2b
23 rd June 2015	Term 3

Management Structure: Areas of Responsibility 2014 / 2015



Principal: Cathy Hunter

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Area(s) of Responsibility	Staff Member Responsible
School Management	Mrs Hunter
Curriculum Leader (School Development & Monitoring & Evaluation)	Mrs Hunter
Teacher-Tutor: PRSD/EPD/Induction	Mrs Hunter
Special Educational & Additional Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo)	Mr Noble (SLT)
Pastoral Care & LAC Co-ordinator	Miss Higgins (VP & SLT)
Co-ordinator of FS/KS1	Mr Noble
C2K Manager(s)	Mrs Hunter & Miss Walker
Assessment Manager: with responsibility for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment, Data Analysis, Recording and Reporting Assessment for Learning (AFL) Pupil Portfolios & Assessment of Cross-Curricular Skills 	Miss Carey (SLT)
UICT Co-ordinator, School Website & Marketing	Miss Walker
Designated Child Protection Teacher	Miss Higgins
Deputy Designated Child Protection Teacher	Miss Carey
Co-ordinator of KS2	Miss Higgins
Co-ordinator of Religion, RSE & Sacramental Programmes	Mrs Parker
Co-ordinator of Play-Based & Outdoor Learning	Mrs Lavery & Mrs Monaghan
Co-ordinator of Newcomer Pupils	Mrs Hunter
Co-ordinator of Mathematics & Numeracy & Financial Capabilities	Miss Carey
Co-ordinator of Language & Literacy, Communication, Book Fairs & Library Provision	Mrs Coleman
Co-ordinator of The World Around Us (T.W.A.U.), & S.T.E.M.	Mrs Lavery
Co-ordinator of Physical Education, Health Education, Road Safety & Sports (Team Games, Competitions & Developing Community Links)	Mr Ennis
Co-ordinator of BASE: Before & After-School Engagement – Club Activities	Mr Ennis
Teacher Representative on PTA	Mrs Hunter
Teacher Representative on Board of Governors	Miss Higgins
Co-ordinator of PDMU, CRED & Roots of Empathy Global Dimension & The International School (Partnerships)	Mrs Lavery (RoE)
Co-ordinator of The Arts (Art, Music & Drama) Shows, Choir & Competitions	Mrs Parker & Ms Cooke
Co-ordinator of Pupil Eco- Council	Mrs Taylor-Wilson
Co-ordinator of Pupil Council, Playtime Buddies & Prefects	Mrs Hunter

PRSD Arrangements 2014-2015



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The common foci for PRSD this year were:

Professional Practice: Contribute to the development and production of Schemes of Work in Numeracy, specifically Number & Data Handling.
Develop the role of the co-ordinator in relation to MER.

Pupil & Curriculum Development: To develop and implement Active Learning strategies across the curriculum, reflected in both planning and practice:
In Numeracy, with specific focus on Data Handling and in Literacy with specific focus on Comprehension Strategies.

Personal & Professional: Participate in SEN training as part of the school's involvement in the Literacy SEN CPD programme in conjunction with St. Mary's UC & Stranmillis UC.
Participate in introductory sessions in the use of iPad technology to support learning & teaching.

Principal's PRSD took place on **4/6/15** – Governors & External Advisor:
Mrs Cathy Hunter, Mr Brian Jamison, Mrs Susie Johnston (CCMS Advisor)

All staff completed PRSD, EPD & Induction this year to a very high standard.

Monitoring & Evaluation Processes 2014-2015

<u>Learning Area</u>	<u>Focus</u>	<u>Co-ordinator</u>	<u>Monitoring Visits & Work Samples</u>	<u>Evidence</u>
Language & Literacy	Active Learning Comprehension Strategies AFL & Differentiation Cross-Curricular Skills	Mrs Coleman	Term 1b Co-ordinator Visit PRSD Visits by Principal	Planners Term 1a & 3a/b
				PIE 2014 Analysis Targets Term 1a
				Amazing Author Term 1b
				Literacy Book Look Term 2b
				PIE Results & Analysis Term 3
Mathematics & Numeracy	Mental Maths activities, Active Learning & Data Handling Balance between Number & Topic Work Cross-Curricular Skills & Portfolios	Miss Carey	Term 2a Co-ordinator Visits PRSD Visits by	Planners Term 1b & 3a/b
				PIM 2014 Analysis Targets Term 1a
				Maths Magician Term 2a
				Numeracy Book Look Term 2b



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	AFL & Differentiation		Principal	PIM Results & Analysis Term 3
TWAU	Active Learning & Use of Planning Boards Cross-Curricular Skills – links to Using Mathematics, Using ICT & Communication Links to Eco-Schools Application	Mrs Lavery	Term 2b Co-ordinator Visits	Planners Term 2a & 3a/b
				Planning Board Photos Termly
				Work Samples & Book Look Term 2a
UICT	UICT (CCEA Tasks) Cross-Curricular Skills & Portfolios AFL & Creative Learning Opportunities (TSPC)	Miss Higgins & Miss Walker	Term 2a Co-ordinator Visits	Planners Term 2a & 3a/b
				UICT Portfolios &/or Book Looks Term 2b
				ICT Whizz Kid Term 2b
PDMU & TSPC	Awareness of pupil learning styles Promotion of PDMU Strands & Thinking Skills	Miss Mc Gillan	Term 3a/b	Ongoing... Planners Book Looks Homework Surveys Work Samples Short Visits Pupil Feedback Events Photos etc
Religion	Incorporating RE, RSE, PDMU & Diocesan Resources	Mrs Parker	Term 2b	
PE	Progression of PE P1-7 PE linked to Thematic Planning Use of FMS @ FS/KS1	Mr Ennis	Term 1b	
The Arts	Linking The Arts to Thematic WAU Planning The Arts in TWAU, PBL & ABL activities	Mrs Parker, Mrs Taylor-Wilson & Mrs Lavery	Term 3a/b	

Enrolment & Transfer 2014-2015

New Pupils 2014-2015

Forty-Three pupils enrolled in Primary One in September 2014, bringing the enrolment figure to 297. This fluctuated slightly this year ending the year on a current enrolment (as of June 2015) of **298** pupils.

Open Enrolment

We have **41** places for admission to Primary 1 in September 2015.



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We were once again over-subscribed but were denied additional places by way of Temporary Variation by the DE. We also have a Waiting List of additional enquiries for places in Primary 2-7. Our projected enrolment for September 2015 (based on current data) is **298** pupils.

Transfer to Post-Primary

We have 42 Primary Seven pupils transferring to Post-Primary Education in September 2015. Two of these pupils had a Statement of Special Educational Needs and chose to transfer directly to Campbell College & St Columbanus' College respectively.

Some pupils chose to engage in the unregulated Common Entrance Examination Process. Other children chose to transfer directly to our local Catholic Post-Primary, St Columbanus College.

Post-Primary School Allocations

School	No of Pupils Transferring
OLSPCK	8
St Columbanus' College	21
Sullivan Upper School	4
Bangor Grammar	2
Glenlola Collegiate	2
St Dominic's	1
Campbell College	2
RBAI	1
Bangor Academy	1

Pupil Progress and Standards of Attainment

Assessment is currently undergoing a major overhaul in Northern Ireland and is currently the subject of public consultation and intense educational and political debate.

In 2014-15, End of Key Stage Assessments were not compulsory although, in St Comgall's PS we have chosen to internally assess and level our pupils for internal standardisation purposes. This data is not comparable as there has been widespread boycott of the scheme across Northern Ireland.

As per usual moderation practice, St Comgall's PS also administered **NFER Standardised Tests** in **English (PIE)** and **Mathematics (PIM)** during April & May 2015.

Annual written Progress Reports were sent home to parents on Thursday 25th June 2015.

Additional Support to enhance Curricular Provision



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Organisation	Area of the Curriculum	Year Group
Irish Football Association	Football	P1-P4
Primary Modern Languages	Spanish	P1-P4
Ulster Dairy Council	Healthy Eating Talk	P1-7
PSNI	Personal Development Citizenship Bee Safe Programme	P7
NI Fire & Rescue Service	Fire Safety & Community Workers	P1-P3
North Down Borough Council	Citizenship Environmental Awareness The Arts	P1-P7
SEELB Music Tuition	Violin, Cello, Brass Instruments	Pupils from P3-P7
Bryson House	Renewable Energy Talks	P4-P7
School Nurse	Health Education Talks	P1 & P7
NSPCC & Childline	Child Protection, Anti-Bullying & Safety Awareness	P1-P7
Sport NI	Multi-Sports	P3-P7
Ulster GAA	Gaelic Football	P1-4
Action Cancer	Healthy Eating & Keeping Fit Workshops	P1-7
Sentinus STEM Outreach	STEM Workshops	P6-7
SEELB	STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) Challenge	P7
Clare Mc Mahon	The Arts & Drama	P1-7
The Sports Challenge & Olympic Ambassador	Health & Fitness	P1-7

Parent Teacher Association

St. Comgall's PS has a very strong and active Parent Teacher Association.

These parent/carers give generously of their time and talents to organise fundraising activities to support the acquisition of additional, otherwise unaffordable, resources for the pupils.

They also support and attend Pastoral & Sacramental Events.

They are a very essential asset to the continued success of events run by the school.

This year they have financed the purchase of ICT/iPad equipment and much needed additional reading materials. They also provide refreshments and treats for the children and parents at key events in the life of the school.

On behalf of the Governors and entire school community of St Comgall's PS, I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to this group for their continued hard work and support, in particular to the outgoing Chair & Treasurer, **Mrs Marie Bell & Mrs Karen Phillips**.

*PTA Statement of Accounts



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PTA FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2014/15

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
Balance carried forward from 2013/14	7397.83	
Lodgements 2014/15:		
- Voluntary Contribution	1855.00	
- Gift Aid	660.87	
- Events/Fundraisers	2104.36	
- Interest	3.50	
Expenditure 2013/2014:		
- Transfer to Current account (iPads)		2552.00
Balance c/f to 2015/16	£9469.50	

*£1000 donation to Sports Kits & £3000 (school counsellor) will appear in 2015/16 accounts

Extended School Provision (BASE): Before & After School Engagement

St. Comgall's PS strives to provide a range of activities before and after school to aid pupil development and assist parent/carers with their working arrangements.

This year we were delighted to continue our successful Breakfast Club (8am – 8.45am daily) ably run by a team of Classroom assistants. Sincere thanks to Ms Pickard, Mrs Mc Ternan & Mrs Mc Loughlin.

BASE Activities 2014-2015:

Sincere thanks to Mr Sean Ennis, who took up the mantle of BASE Co-ordinator this year. We extended our provision of activities to include P1-P7 pupils for the first time and this has been a major success. The range of club activities has been second to none and the operation and management incredibly smooth due to the diligence and hard work of Mr Ennis – thank you!

Clubs on offer this year included: Basketball, Golf, Dance, Drama, Miniversity, Netball, Football, Gymnastics, Choir, Traditional Music & more.

My thanks to our staff and team of coaches for providing such quality opportunities for our pupils.

Communicating School Life 2014 – 2015



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This has been an incredibly busy but enjoyable year which saw our pupils enjoy a wide range of curriculum enhancing experiences. Our new School Newsletter in its calendar format gave parents a great insight into all that was going on. This was later enhanced by the addition of the school Twitter Feed (@ComgallsBangor) & a pioneering app called Seesaw – a digital learning platform to display pupils' work. Both of these additions have received rave reviews and are a major asset to parental engagement and quality PR for the school.

Other Events 2014-2015

Sacraments & Catholic Faith Development

Service of Light & Commitment: Took place on Monday 2nd March 2015 in preparation for Confirmation.

Confirmation: The P7 boys and girls were joined with P7 pupils from St Malachy's, St Anne's & Bangor Central Primary Schools in making their Confirmation.

The children were confirmed by Bishop Noel Treanor on Monday 23rd March 2015.

First Penance: The Primary Three Boys and Girls received the Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Penance) on Thursday 26th February 2015.

First Holy Communion was celebrated on Saturday 30th May 2015.

Mrs Hunter, on behalf of the whole school community, would like to express sincere thanks to **Father Joseph Gunn** for his ongoing support and dedication in his role as School Chaplain.

Other Events:

Hollywood Music Festival: We were thrilled that our Traditional Music Group came 1st in the Hollywood Music Festival for the 9th year in a row – Amazing! We were especially pleased that so many of our individual musicians were recognised and that Josh Owens won the overall award for young musician – congratulations to them all! My sincere thanks to Mrs Sharon Parker & Mr Niall Mc Lean for all of their hard work, time and energy in working with these young superstars.

Open Day and Evening: Tuesday 3rd December 2014 – a great success! This was very well attended as reflected in the enrolment figures for September 2015.

Catholic Schools Week: This was celebrated from 27th January -1st February. Events were held throughout the week including a special school Mass and Grandparents' Assembly. These were very well attended and were a credit to the inclusive, welcoming ethos throughout the school.

Peace Proms Choir: This year the school choir were invited to participate in the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland's Annual Peace Proms Concert. This year the event took place in the Odyssey Arena, Belfast and was attended by local dignitaries and 1000 pupils from across Northern Ireland. The children performed a medley of hits and specially commissioned songs. A great time was had by all and the children gained a lot in terms of performance skill, confidence and meeting new people. We had great support from our families who bought tickets and came along on the night also. Mrs Hunter would like to express her thanks to Mr Bernard Noble, Mrs Sharon Parker & Miss Fionnuala Donaghy for their help and time in preparing the choir.



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Bangor Speech & Drama Festival: On their first year entering St Comgall's Choral Speaking Groups came 1st & 2nd in their respective age categories – an amazing achievement! Individual pupils from P1-P7 also recited and performed poetry from specially chosen authors and we had many award winners. Congratulations to all of our boys and girls who took part!

Fundraising, Charitable & Pastoral Events:

St. Comgall's PS is a caring community which embodies the Catholic faith and models Jesus' message of 'Love of Neighbour'.

In 2014-2015 we supported the following charities in order to assist others.

Children in Need
St Vincent de Paul
Trocaire
British Heart Foundation
Royal Children's Hospital, Belfast

School Accommodation

The school is very well maintained by an excellent, hard-working Building Supervisor and his Cleaning Staff.

Due to the expense of a Grounds Maintenance Contract with the SEELB, the school would like to express our sincere thanks to **Mr Paul Busby** for maintaining the grounds, cutting the grass and hedges etc. Thanks also to **Mr & Mrs Taylor-Wilson and the Eco-Council** for their time in planting and maintaining the flowers and vegetables around the school grounds.

Ongoing issues within the school include the concern regarding the Health & Safety of bathrooms, the condition of the middle mobile classroom and safeguarding arrangements for our pupils in relation to the accessibility of the school building/fire exits.

With regard to the lack of CCTV (Child Protection) and Security features – the school is very 'open' and easily accessible. Mrs Hunter made an application to DE for a Minor Works Grant for to install new CCTV cameras, security lighting and other safety features. We also applied to replace the current middle mobile and refurbish the bathrooms as a matter of priority but to-date, despite scoping visits, no work has commenced.

As a result of sustained pupil enrolment, St Comgall's PS has very limited space.

Whilst we do timetable the use of our Meeting Room and we have creatively utilised other available space to create the Learning Zone, we have struggled to accommodate peripatetic teachers, Music Tutors and other visiting professionals such as the EP, ASCET, Cottown, EWO, School Nurse, Teachers for the Deaf and others this year.

We do not have access to a quiet room to conduct meetings with parents and staff do not have access to a space to work when released from class. Whilst we have managed this situation as best we can this year, this may be an area which Governors would wish to discuss further in the next academic year, with a view to seeking a Minor Works Order to apply for an extension.



Principal: Cathy Hunter
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Mrs Hunter, on behalf of the entire school community, would like to express her sincere thanks to **Mr Paul Busby** for his extremely high level of care and pride in this school and for his generous nature and commitment to providing the best learning environment for our pupils.

School Fund Account

ST COMGALL'S SCHOOL FUND ACCOUNT (With First Trust Bank and associated monies that pass through the School Office)

1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015

First Trust Bank Ltd - Current Account	£'s	£'s
Opening Balance at 1 September 2014	28,007.69	
Lodgements	72,943.12	
Gross Interest earned	nil	
Cheques presented and automated transactions		80,477.96
Bank Fees Charged		401.46
Closing Balance as at 31 August 2015		20,071.39

I can confirm that these transactions are recorded in the above mentioned account in respect of the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015.

MAURA YOUNG

Accounts reviewed by:
Maura Young

On behalf of the Board of Governors Finance Committee
11 September 2015



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FINANCE – Local Management of Schools (LMS)

The school budget is robustly monitored by the Principal and the Finance Committee of the Board of Governors. Regular meetings ensure that the school is resourced to the best of our ability in line with the priorities on the School Development Plan. We are indebted to the expertise of this Committee.

	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Balance carried forward from 2013/14	125,517.00	
Initial Formula Funding 2014/2015	769,447.00	
Additional Funding	954.00	
Staff Costs 2014/2015		705,237.00
Other Costs		127,430.00
Less Income		-216.00
	£895,918.00	£832,451.00
Carry Forward to 2015/2016		£63,467.00

Future Opportunities & Challenges

Opportunities	Challenges
Over-subscribed Enrolment & Waiting List 12 Classes Happy, fixed permanent Staff New 3 Year SDP 2015-2018	Capped Enrolment Limited Space within School Building Making the most of our Budget in light of capped enrolment & rising staff/utility costs Lack of training & support from CASS
Active Learning & Teaching Methodologies iPad Technology	Post-Primary Transfer Uncertainty & expectations from School Community Lack of Funding/Training/Support for SEN pupils Need for teacher training to meet needs of ALL pupils
Carefully Managed Budget	Sustainability – Serious concern over Rising Costs Capped enrolment figures mean no access to additional funding
Staffing Restructuring	Lack of CASS Support & Finance for CPD Expenses
ETI Report & Positive Feedback Reputation for excellence	Maintaining & improving upon Academic Performance Improving upon Teaching & Learning Provision to sustain Outstanding iPad technology rollout: Embracing new Teaching Methodologies & Technology – lack of funding
Vibrant school community & active parental involvement Partnerships with External Agents to extend opening hours and services.	Lack of funding & support to administer parental workshop programmes Lack of funding. School Community 'buy-in' needs to be high. Need for fundraising.
Purchase of iPad Technology	Plans to ensure 1:1 provision. Finances required. Need for school community to support the bid and raise funds.



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Glossary of Terms:

DE	Department of Education
BOG	Board of Governors
EA	Education Authority
KS	Key Stage
SDP	School Development Plan
SEN	Special Educational Needs
SDD	School Development Days
CPD	Continued Professional Development
EPD	Early Professional Development
PRSD	Performance Review & Staff Development
CASS	Curriculum Advisory & Support Service
SEELB	South Eastern Education & Library Service
CCMS	Council for Catholic Maintained Schools
CCEA	Council for Curriculum Examinations & Assessment

Thank you for your time in consideration of this document
Cathy Hunter - June 2015



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