



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

St Comgall's Primary School, Bangor

Quality Learning, Friendship For All



Board of Governors Annual Report

Academic Year 2016-2017

www.stcomgallsps.co.uk

Twitter: @ComgallsBangor

Principal: Mrs Cathy Hunter



Principal: Mrs Cathy Hunter
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter: @ComgallsBangor



Contents

- Chairperson's Address
- A Statement of the Vision and Mission of St. Comgall's P.S.
- A Statement of St. Comgall's School Aims
- School Profile & Achievements
- Leadership & Management Structure
- Areas of Responsibility & Co-ordination
- PRSD & EPD Arrangements 2016-2017
- Monitoring, Evaluating & Reporting Procedures 2016-2017
- Enrolment & Transfer to Post-Primary
- Enrolment 2017
- Additional Support to Enhance the Curriculum
- Parent Teacher Association
- 'Extended School' Provision 2016-2017
- Fundraising & Charitable/Pastoral Events
- School Building & Accommodation
- The Challenges and Opportunities facing the School
- Glossary of Terms

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



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallspis.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



Chairperson's Address

Dear Parent/Carers & Friends of St Comgall's,

On behalf of the Board of Governors I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the Academic Year 2016/17.

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 and productive academic year.

Of particular note, were the outstanding achievements of the school during their recent Sustaining School Improvement Inspection. It was extremely pleasing to have the hard work and commitment of our Principal and Staff recognised by the Education & Training Inspectorate (ETi) in May 2017. Once again, St Comgall's achieved the highest possible grading and proved their capacity for self-evaluation to sustain improvement. The ETi complimented the journey of the school in the last three years, the successful implementation of Digital Learning across the Curriculum (in particular in Mathematics) and the development of the School Learning Environments. The Governors are extremely proud of the Staff and Pupils and wish them continued success for the future.

St Comgall's always places the interests and well-being of the children at the heart of everything we do. We are blessed with a fantastic team of dedicated, highly professional staff. 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 and further our reputation as a centre of excellence. It would also be remiss of me not to acknowledge the career and the contribution made by Ms Mary Quinn over her many years in St Comgall's. The Governors, Staff and, I am sure, entire school community wish her well as she enters the next exciting chapter in her life.

In what are extremely challenging financial times, I must commend the work of the School PTA for supporting the staff of St Comgall's to be enabled to deliver such high quality learning experiences. I also commend their ability to rally and strengthen the school community in support of the life and work of the school. Moving forward, as budgets continue to decrease and pressure on staff rises, I urge the school community to continue to support the school and in particular, the fundraising efforts of the PTA.

St Comgall's continues to forge and further develop very successful links within our Family of Parish School. This serves to strengthen the Catholic ethos of all of our family of Schools across the Parish. We are delighted to continue our close partnerships with St Malachy's PS, St Anne's PS & St Columbanus' College as well as our Pre-School & Nursery colleagues to provide a continuum of high quality Catholic education in the Parish of Bangor.

I commend this report and the work of the school to you and emphasise to 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,

B Jamison

Mr Brian Jamison
Chair of the Board of Governors



Bangor Parish Family of Schools



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsp.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



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.*



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)

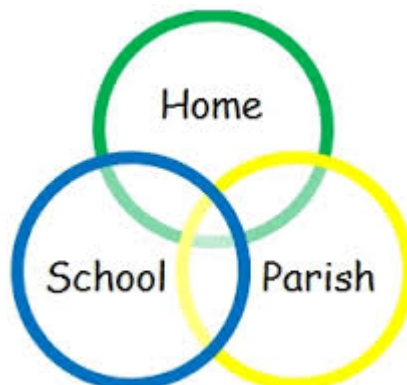


STATEMENT OF SCHOOL AIMS

“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 learning 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 & Achievements

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 closely 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.



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



There are nine permanent classrooms, three on either side of central resource areas. In addition, there are three modular classrooms, a Library/ICT Zone, 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 twelve interactive whiteboards, indoor and outdoor play-based learning equipment, P.E. equipment and a plentiful supply of textbooks, book banded reading books and in 2015, a newly established, well stocked, library and study break-out area was added.

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.

We have excellent ratios of iPad technology in the school and continue to fundraise to add to our current deployment of Apple™ Technology to further enhance learning & teaching.

An **"Investors in People Silver Award School"** (2010) we value and invest heavily in the training of our staff. Staff are involved in a number of initiatives which further enhance the curricular programmes within the school. In June 2015, we became proud holders of the **Eco-Schools Green Flag Award** and in February 2016 became the only primary school in Northern Ireland to be awarded the **iTeach Champion Digital School NI**, with all of our teachers recognised with **Gold, Silver & Bronze** teaching accreditations.

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 to enrich our learning with school based projects linked with schools across Europe. Indeed our international work with schools in Sweden and Spain was 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"** and in **October 2015** we officially enrolled as a **Global Learning Programme (GLP) School**.



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.

At present we are working hard through our Pupil Council to gain Level 1 in the **Unicef Rights-Respecting School Award**. Our **Pupil Council** aims to give pupils a voice and to involve them in the decision-making processes and life of our school. They are a fantastic group of pro-active children, voted for by their peers and always a credit to our school.

Our School **Eco-Council** also gives pupils a voice and plays an active part in developing Global Citizenship and Environmental awareness within our school. They are currently working towards a second **Eco-Schools Green Flag**, becoming a **Fairtrade School** and they work in partnership with our Fit For Life programmes such as **The Daily Mile** & **Sustrans Active Travel**.



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



Parental Partnership – We actively promote the development of strong parental partnerships through a wide range programme of parent workshops, events and regular Parent Teacher meetings. We operate **Parent Mystery Reader Programmes, Reading Partnerships, iParent Digital Learning Sessions and more.**

We are blessed to have a very enthusiastic and active **Parent Teacher Association** who work tirelessly to source and provide additional funding for the school through regular fundraising activities and grant applications. Presently they finance our School FamilyWorks Counsellor who provides 1:1 counselling for children who have suffered through bereavement, illness, family issues or anxiety. They also support our ongoing projects such as the development of our outdoor areas and fundraising for additional iPad and Play equipment.

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 additional 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. We are dedicated to early identification of need and remediation and support as apt.

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/intervention and/or additional support from existing staff and/or the appropriate agencies.



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



The provision for Special Educational and Additional Needs is reviewed and assessed regularly by the Special Education Needs Co-Ordinator (SENCo), **Mr Bernard Noble** in consultation with SLT, staff and EPS.

Where appropriate, an Individual Education (IEP) Plan will be drawn up for a child in collaboration with all relevant bodies.

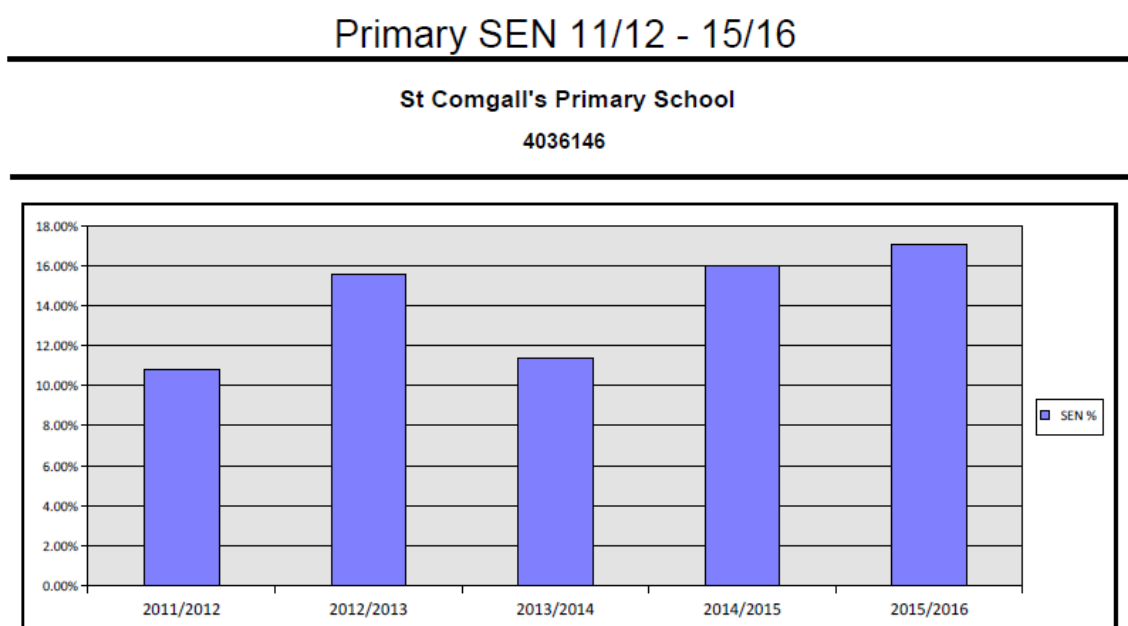
The SENCo offers support to all teachers in drafting IEPs and since September 2015, has been supported by the services of a highly-experienced, full-time **Learning Support** assistant, **Mrs Janet Mullan**, to provide individual and small group withdrawal as a **short-term intervention strategy**.

A dedicated **Learning Support Room** was established and stocked with plentiful SEN Resources.

St Comgall's also avails of additional support for our pupils and staff from Educational Psychology (EPS), Education Welfare (EWO), ASD Service, Cottown, ASCET, CAMHS, OT, Speech & Language Therapy and where apt, Social Services.

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.

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.



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** (May 2017).



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)





Bangor Parish Family of Schools



Religious Education

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 Bangor Parish **Family of Schools** to foster, nurture, 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**’.



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallspis.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



St. Comgall's Leadership Structure

Board of Governors



Principal – Mrs Cathy Hunter

(SMT)

Vice-Principal – Miss Anne Higgins



SLT

Miss Bronagh Carey

Mr Bernard Noble

Miss Julie-Anne Mullally

Middle Leaders

Miss Gillian Walker

Mrs Charlene Lavery

Mrs Sharon Parker

Mr Sean Ennis

Teachers (with Additional Duties)

Mrs Monaghan

Mrs Taylor-Wilson

Mrs Coleman

Mrs Curley

Ms Quinn

Mrs Mc Callion

Key Stage Leaders

Foundation Stage

Miss Mullally

Key Stage One

Mr Noble

Key Stage Two

Miss Carey



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



Co-ordination Focus Teams

Subject / Learning Area	Led By:	Supported By:
Literacy	Miss Mullally	Mrs Coleman & Mr Ennis
Numeracy	Miss Carey	Miss Walker & Mrs Parker
UICT, E-Safety & Digital Learning/Marketing	Miss Walker	Mrs Hunter & Miss Carey
Assessment	Miss Carey	Mrs Hunter & Miss Mullally
World Around Us (incl PBL/ABL) & STEM	Mrs Lavery	Mrs Curley & Ms Quinn
Eco-Schools	Mrs Taylor-Wilson	Ms Quinn & Mr Busby
The Arts (Culture)	Mrs Parker	Mrs Mc Callion, Mrs Curley, Mrs Taylor-Wilson & Miss Mullally
Religion, Personal & (Faith) Development	Mrs Parker	Miss Higgins & Mrs Mc Callion Mrs Lavery & Miss Walker (RoE)
Learning Support (SEN)	Mr Noble	Mrs Hunter, Miss Carey (Mrs Mullan & Ms Pickard)
Play & Physical Development	Mrs Monaghan	Miss Mullally
PE, Health, Sport & Extra-Curricular Development	Mr Ennis	Mrs Monaghan & Miss Higgins
Pastoral Care, Safeguarding & Well-Being, Parental Liaison	Miss Higgins	Miss Mullally, Mrs Hunter & Miss Walker
School Management, Finance, Curriculum Design, Staff CPD, School Council & Pupil Voice	Mrs Hunter	SLT: Miss Higgins, Miss Carey, Miss Mullally & Mr Noble

St Comgall's Primary School, Bangor

Board of Governors 2016-2017

Very Reverend Fr J Gunn

Mr Brian Jamison

Mr Frank Kelly

Mrs Pat Mc Quillan

Dr Grainne Doran

Mr Ray Havlin

Miss Anne Higgins

Mr Tony Slack

Mr Pat Mc Cartan

Mrs Cathy Hunter

Trustee

Chairperson & Trustee

Vice-Chair & EA Representative

Trustee

EA Representative

Parent Trustee

Teacher Representative (VP)

Parent Representative

DE Representative

Principal & Secretary to Governors



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



PRSD Arrangements 2016-2017: The common foci for PRSD this year were:

Professional Practice:

Contribute to the development of revised KS Planning Formats taking account of emerging technologies.

Participate & share in training sessions in the use of iPad technology to support learning & teaching.

Share good practice with others through participation in St Comgall's **TeachMeets**, Key Stage **Team Meetings**, **Twitter**, Staff CPD & Professional Planning Time.

Contribute to the development of redesigned **Flexible Learning Environments** & Active Teaching & Learning.

Pupil & Curriculum Development:

Further implement the integration of UICT (addressing the 5Es) using iPad technology as a teaching & learning tool promoting the school's (5Cs)

Digital Vision: Creativity, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Communication and Confidence.

Literacy Focus: Review of the teaching of Phonics/Spellings as part of whole class Literacy & UICT lessons. Promotion of Guided Reading (Literature Circles), Talking & Listening opportunities.

Numeracy Focus: The promotion of Visual Maths & Maths Recovery strategies in whole class teaching. Using ICT to support the development of visual maths, conceptualisation and practical/outdoor maths.

Personal & Professional:

In addition to **Personal Targets**, share good practice with others through participation in St Comgall's TeachMeets, Team-Teaching, Reflections & Professional Planning Time.

Principal's PRSD took place on **5/6/17** – Governors & External Advisor:
Mrs Cathy Hunter, Mr Brian Jamison, Mrs Susie Johnston (CCMS Advisor)

Monitoring & Evaluation Processes 2016-2017

<u>Learning Area</u>	<u>Focus</u>	<u>Co-ordinator</u>	<u>Monitoring Visits & Work Samples</u>	<u>Evidence</u>
Language & Literacy	Cross-Curricular Skills – integration of iPad technology	Miss Mullally	Term 1 PRSD Visit	Planners Term 1
	Jolly Phonics & Grammar		Term 2 Co-ord Visit	PIE 2016 Analysis Targets Term 1a
	Promotion of Reading			Co-ord Visits Term 2
	TSPC (Talking & Listening)			Literacy Book Look Term 2
			Monitoring of IEPs / RoC	PTE Results & Analysis Term 3b
Maths & Numeracy	Visual Learning in:	Miss Carey	Term 2 Co-ordinator Visits	Planners Term 2
				PIM 2016 Analysis Targets Term 1a



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



	Cross-Curricular & TSPC - integration of iPad technology Teaching Measures Balance between Number & Topic Work Problem-Solving Strategies & Investigation Outdoor Maths		PRSD Visits by Principal	Maths Week Term 1b Numeracy Book Look Term 2 PTM Results & Analysis Term 3
Cross – Curricular Skills Promotion School Awards & Initiatives	Cross-Curricular Skills – <i>Using Mathematics, Using ICT & Communication</i> – used to support TWAU, PDMU, STEM Sustrans Digital Schools/Apple Awards Roots of Empathy Eco-School Global Partnership Rights-Respecting School	Mrs Lavery	PRSD Visits Working towards Awards	Planners Action Plans & SDP Seesaw Evidence Termly Evidence Folders & Event recording Term 1-3
UICT	Integration of iPad technology to enhance Teaching & Learning Focus on: Explore & Exhibit (5Es) Compilation of Pupil Digital Learning Portfolios – Seesaw ESafety awareness AFL & Creative Learning Opportunities (TSPC)	Miss Walker	PRSD Visits by Principal Term 1 & 2 Term 3 Co-ordinator Visits	Planners Term 2 & 3 UICT Portfolios &/or Book Looks Term 3 Awards ongoing
Pastoral Care Faith & Culture	Promotion of PDMU Strands & Thinking Skills NSPCC Safeguarding School Counsellor School Council & Prefects Incorporating RE, RSE, Sacraments, Ethos, PDMU & Diocesan Resources	Miss Higgins Mrs Parker	Ongoing Ongoing	Ongoing... Planners Book Looks Homework Surveys Work Samples Short Visits Pupil Feedback

PE	Progression of PE P1-7 PE linked to Thematic Planning Use of FMS @ FS/KS1 Promotion of Healthy Eating & Lifestyle (NHS) (BASE)	Mr Ennis	Ongoing	Events Seesaw Portfolios Photos etc
The Arts	Linking The Arts to Thematic WAU Planning The Arts in TWAU, PBL & ABL activities	Mrs Parker, Mrs Taylor-Wilson	Ongoing	

Enrolment & Transfer 2016-2017

New Pupils 2016-2017

Forty-One pupils enrolled in Primary One in September 2016.

We were again oversubscribed and unfortunately further families were disappointed not to have been granted places.

Open Enrolment

We had **41** places for admission to Primary 1 in September 2017.

We were once again over-subscribed at Year One and currently have a long Waiting List for places in all year groups throughout the school.

Our projected enrolment for September 2017 (based on data June 2017) is **325** pupils.

Transfer to Post-Primary

We had **26** Primary Seven pupils transferring to Post-Primary Education in September 2017.

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	10
St Columbanus' College	8
Sullivan Upper School	3
Glenlola Collegiate	1
Lagan College, Belfast	2
Campbell College	1
Strangford Integrated College	1



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
 Tel: 02891 463194
 Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
 Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
 Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



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 2016-17, due to ongoing industrial action by all of the major teaching unions, End of Key Stage data was not provided to DE. St Comgall's PS continue to closely monitor and track the progress of all of our pupils and regularly meet to discuss and agree internal standardisation of pupil work across the school.

As per usual moderation practice, St Comgall's PS also administered **NFER Standardised Tests** in **English (PTE)** and **Mathematics (PTM)** during April & May 2017.

Annual written Progress Reports were sent home to parents on Tuesday 27th June 2017.

Additional Support to enhance Curricular Provision

Organisation	Area of the Curriculum	Year Group
BiTC Time to Read Partnership	Literacy: Reading	P4-5
SUSTRANS	Active Travel	P1-7
Irish Football Association	Football	P1-P7
PSNI	PDMU, Citizenship Bee Safe Programme	P7
NI Fire & Rescue Service	Fire Safety & Community Workers	P5
North Down Borough Council	Citizenship Environmental Awareness The Arts	P1-P7
EA Music Tuition	Violin	Pupils from P3-P7
NSPCC & Childline	Child Protection, Anti-Bullying & Safety	P1-P7
Sport NI	Multi-Sports	P1-P7
Ulster GAA	Gaelic Football	P1-4
Clare Mc Mahon	The Arts & Drama	P1-7
Niall Mc Clean	Traditional Irish Music	P3-7
Rick Reith	Guitar Lessons	P3-7
Roisin Mc Crisken	Piano Lessons	P4-7

BASE: Before & After School Engagement 2016-2017

In addition to curricular enhancement within school time, St Comgall's also offers a host of **Before & After School Club/Activity Provision**.

Sincere thanks to **Mr Sean Ennis** (PE, Health & Sport Co-ordinator) for his hard work in arranging such a wealth of activities for our pupils. Thanks also to **Mr Miskelly** for supporting him.

Breakfast Club operates daily **8am – 8.45am** ably led by **Miss Pickard** and **Mrs Mc Loughlin**.



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallspss.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



In addition, after-school clubs are available for P1-7 pupils daily from 2-4pm. These include:

- Drama
- Multisports
- Gymnastics
- Football
- Gaelic Football
- Netball
- Hip-Hop & Zumba
- Irish Dancing
- Traditional Music Group
- Choir
- BASECamp After-School Support – led by Mrs Mc Loughlin & Mrs Kane.

Our sincere thanks to all club leaders and coaches.

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 and we encourage all parents to get involved in whatever way they can.

In 2016-17, in addition to financing our FamilyWorks School Counsellor, sports medals and more, their fundraising efforts reached new heights with the development of our outdoor learning environment.

The PTA galvanized community spirit and enlisted an impressive crew of volunteers ranging from parents and grandparents to local businesses, charities and public sector agencies.

They worked tirelessly, gaining support from grants such as **George Best City Airport Community Trust** and **Live Here, Love Here** to top up funds to create the much improved Outdoor Learning environment.

This area is now timetabled and used by all classes and we cannot thank the PTA and all those who contributed or supported, in any way, enough.

As if that wasn't enough, the PTA also provided 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 amazing commitment, enthusiasm and hard work and, in particular to the new Chair, **Mrs Tracey Stirling**, and her wonderful committee/team.



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



***PTA Statement of Accounts: Treasurer's Report 2016-2017**

Please find below an outline of the income/expenditure for St Comgalls PTA for financial year 1st September 2016 – 31st August 2017

Funds held at 1st September 2016: £10502.77

Comprising of: Petty Cash £182.00 Current Account: £4807.47 Select Account: £5513.30

<u>Income:</u>	Coffee Morning	£704.21	
	PayPal Opening Credit:	£0.01	
	Halloween Disco:	£366.76	
	Parental Contributions:	£1765.00	
	Christmas Cards:	£165.24	
	Christmas Market:	£937.85	
	Easyfundraising:	£106.70	
	Christmas Ballot:	£817.13	
	Valentines Disco:	£600.57	
	Gift Aid:	£595.43	
	Friday Takeaways:	£440.23	
	Charities trust:	£150.00	
	Sponsored Bounce:	£2703.88	
	George Best Grant:	£2000.00	
	Junior Sports day:	£147.78	
	Interest Select A/C:	£2.75	
	Senior Sports Day:	£262.04	
	Tesco Gift Voucher:	£20.00	
	Tesco Bag Pack:	£805.47	
	Summer Party:	£139.53	
	Donation:	£13.85	
			<u>£12744.43</u>
			<u>£23247.20</u>

Expenditure: **Outdoor Area** £12435.43

General Expenses:

Bank Charges:	£85.41
Insurance:	£101.00
FamilyWorks Counsellor:	£2704.00
Charitable Donations:	£800.00
Fundraising Supplies:	£84.33
Thank You Gifts/Cards:	£77.02
Catering (School Events):	£768.77
Postage:	£1.75
Stationery Supplies:	£210.00
Sports Day Medals:	£210.00
	<u>£4842.25</u>

Closing Balance Carried Forward to 2017/2018

Select A/C: £781.48
Current A/C: £5188.04

These statements represent my best understanding of the receipts/monies/operation of the PTA accounts current and select during the period 1st September 2016 to 31st August 2017.

Claire McLarnon (Treasurer) September 2017



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



Communicating School Life 2016 – 2017

This has been an incredibly busy but enjoyable year which saw our pupils enjoy a wide range of curriculum enhancing experiences. Our **School Newsletter** in its calendar format and the school Twitter Feed ([@ComgallsBangor](#)) provide up-to-date tasters of all that is going on in our school daily. We reached almost 1200 followers in 2016-2017 and found Twitter to be not only a great communication and PR tool, but an excellent way to make connections and links with other schools and educators. The continued whole-school provision of the paid version of **Seesaw** – a digital learning platform to display pupils' work – was a huge success and all pupils tracked and recorded their work digitally across the year to share with their parents. Such is the value of this service that St Comgall's PS continues to fund this provision for parents. We also continue to avail of text messaging and email services to parents also.

Other Events 2016-2017

Sacraments & Catholic Faith Development

Catholic Schools Week was celebrated 30th Jan – 5th February 2017.

Service of Light & Commitment: Took place on Tuesday 21st February 2017 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 Treanor on Monday 20th March 2017.

P3/4 Enrolment Service: This took place on Thursday 23rd February 2017.

First Penance: The Primary Three Boys and Girls received the Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Penance) on Tuesday 7th March 2017.

First Holy Communion was celebrated on Saturday 3rd June 2017.

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 again came 1st in the Hollywood Music Festival for the 11th year in a row – Amazing! We were especially pleased that so many of our individual musicians were recognised – congratulations to them all! My sincere thanks to **Mrs Sharon Parker, Miss Julie-Anne Mullally & Mr Niall Mc Clean** for all of their hard work, time and energy in working with these young superstars.

Open Day and Evening: Tuesday 6th December 2016 – a great success! This was very well attended as reflected in the enrolment figures for September 2017.

Catholic Schools Week: This was celebrated from 30th January – 5th 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. All of the staff from the Bangor Parish Family of Schools (BPFS) attended a Retreat & Ethos Training Session in the Clandeboye Lodge Hotel on Friday 3rd February.



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](#)



Bangor International Choral Festival: This year the choir took part in the International Choral Event for the first time in a long time. Competing against choirs of all sizes and from all nationalities, we were delighted that our school choir placed first in the Sacred Music Section. The children performed beautifully and were commended on their conduct and professionalism by many of the spectators. They gained great confidence in performing and as a result, plan to enter again. There was great support from our families who bought tickets and came along on the day also. Mrs Hunter would like to express her sincere thanks to **Miss Julie-Anne Mullally** for leading and training the choir throughout 2016-17 and to **Mrs Mary Keag** for her help and time in preparing and accompanying the choir at events throughout the year.

Bangor Speech & Drama Festival: St Comgall's Choral Speaking Group again came 1st in their age category and were commended by the Adjudicators for their creative interpretation and performance of their poem – 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! Thanks also to **Clare McMahon** for her support.

For a full look at all of the many themed weeks, celebrations and events that took place throughout the year, parents are directed towards their child's Seesaw account as well as the School's Twitter Profile ([@ComgallsBangor](#)).

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 2016-2017 we supported the following charities in order to assist others.

Children in Need
Macmillan Cancer
Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal
Cancer Research UK
St Vincent de Paul
Trocaire

School Accommodation

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

Throughout 2016-2017 previous on-going issues within the school were finally addressed with the replacement of one of the Mobile Classrooms approved and building work completed on 22nd December 2016.

This new modular classroom meets with all of the health & safety regulations and is state-of-the-art in terms of its technology, furniture and fittings. It is extremely comfortable and we are very pleased with the end result.

Our thanks to the **Parish Centre Committee** for kindly allowing us to use a room in the Centre as a temporary classroom during the building work.



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](#)



The Outdoor Areas have also seen vast improvement this year in partnership between **Staff, PTA, Parents and local community**. On behalf of the pupils and staff of St Comgall's PS, **sincere thanks** to all involved for their generosity in giving of their time, talents and money!

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

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.

***At the time of print LMS Outturn Statements were unavailable to schools**

Future Opportunities & Challenges

Opportunities	Challenges
Over-subscribed Enrolment & Waiting List 12 Classes Happy, fixed permanent Staff 3 Year SDP 2015-2018	290 Capped Enrolment – very limiting 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 & parental expectations for support from School Community Lack of Funding/Training/Support for SEN pupils Need for teacher training to meet needs of ALL pupils
Carefully Managed Budget	*Three Year Plan (taking account of Rising Costs) indicates deficit 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 Deficit/lack of Funds could increase need for composite classes
ETI Report & Positive Feedback (May 2017) Reputation for excellence School Awards & Achievements	Sustaining & improving upon current provision & Academic Performance Improving upon Teaching & Learning Provision to sustain Outstanding iPad technology rollout: Embedding 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 continuous fundraising.
Purchase of iPad Technology	Finances required. Need for school community to support and raise funds.



Principal: **Mrs Cathy Hunter**
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallspss.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)



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
EA - SER	Education Authority South Eastern Region
LMS	Local Management of Schools
CCMS	Council for Catholic Maintained Schools
CCEA	Council for Curriculum Examinations & Assessment

Thank you for your time in consideration of this document
Cathy Hunter - September 2017



St Comgall's PS, Bangor

Quality Learning, Friendship For All



Principal: Mrs Cathy Hunter
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsp.co.uk
Twitter [@ComgallsBangor](https://twitter.com/ComgallsBangor)

