



Quality Learning, Friendship for All

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 2017-2018

www.stcomgallsps.co.uk

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

Principal: Mrs Cathy Hunter



Bangor Parish Family of Schools



Principal: *Mrs Cathy Hunter*
Tel: 02891 463194
Email: chunter073@c2kni.net
Website: www.stcomgallsps.co.uk
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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 2017-18

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 2017/18.

This report will hopefully give you some insight into all that has gone on in St Comgall's over what was another busy, exciting and wonderfully musically productive year.

Following on from the outstanding achievements of the Sustaining School Improvement Inspection in May 2017, the school has, against a backdrop of extreme financial pressure, continued to develop and embed the quality practice and high standards observed by the ETI and which our Governors, Principal and Staff continue to aspire to and achieve.

In the year which brought us the outstanding, never-before attempted, whole school Musical Production of *'Matilda'*, it was clear for all to see that St Comgall's had not dropped the pace and had continued to strive for excellence in all areas of the curriculum, both academically and pastorally.

The unenviable challenge for the Principal and Staff has been to continue to provide the same outstanding standards we've all come to expect but with less and less financial and human resource.

Due to budgetary constraints, the close of the Academic Year 2017-18 saw a reduction in staffing resulting in the reconfiguration of classes. In order to try to avoid further staffing reductions, the Governors urge all parents to support the work of the School, Staff and PTA.

The Governors would like to pay tribute to and commend the unwavering hard work and support received from the School PTA and Volunteers. Your financial and moral support has enabled the staff of St Comgall's to continue to focus on the delivery of high quality learning experiences.

St Comgall's PS continues to work in partnership with our Bangor Parish Family of Schools. This close, supportive network combined with the addition of a communal School Chaplain (Josh Hall) has continued to serve and strengthen the work of the School Staff and Parish Priest in supporting Catholic faith formation and development for all of the children across the family of Schools.

St Comgall's PS are delighted to continue in partnership 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



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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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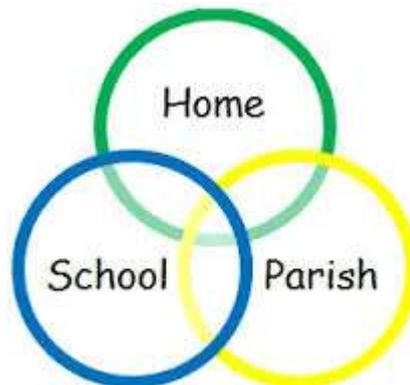


STATEMENT OF SCHOOL AIMS

“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 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.



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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.

In December 2016 through Minor Works Application, a state-of-the-art replacement P5 Mobile Classroom was installed with the latest Clevertouch Technology. A further application to replace the P6 Mobile was turned down by EA.

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**.



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 a Bronze Award in the **Unicef Rights-Respecting School Award**. Our **Pupil Council** aims to give pupils a voice and to involve



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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**, and were delighted to be recognised as a **Fairtrade School** working in partnership with our Fit For Life programme, **The Daily Mile**.

In May 2018 we achieved our **Bronze Sustrans Active Travel Award** and are now working towards Silver.

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 had the support of a very enthusiastic and **Parent Teacher Association** who worked 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 supported projects such as the development of our outdoor areas, purchase of additional sports equipment, sports day medals and team clothing, as well as supporting our production of 'Matilda' and fundraising for additional Play equipment.

Annual Enrolment Figures

Year	Enrolment
2013/14	298
2014/15	297
2015/16	299
2016/17	309
2017/18	322

Free School Meals Percentages

Year	FSM %
2013/14	13.00
2014/15	11.00
2015/16	11.37
2016/17	9.71
2017/18	9.94



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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. 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.

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.



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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. 20% of pupils are recognised as having an additional or special educational need with almost 4% having a Statement of Special Educational Need.

Special Educational Needs Percentages

Year	SEN %
2013/14	11.41
2014/15	16.50
2015/16	17.06
2016/17	11.00
2017/18	19.88

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).



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, Chaplain Josh Hall 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.



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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'**.



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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

Miss O'Connor

Mrs Mc Callion

Key Stage Leaders

Foundation Stage

Key Stage One

Key Stage Two

Miss Mullally

Mr Noble

Miss Carey



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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
Eco-Schools	Mrs Taylor-Wilson	Miss O'Connor & 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 (Learning Support Asst)
Play & Physical Development	Mrs Monaghan	Miss Mullally & Mr Ennis
PE, Health, Sport & Extra-Curricular Development	Mr Ennis	Mr Miskelly & Miss Murphy
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 2017-2018

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



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PRSD Arrangements 2017-2018: The common foci for PRSD this year were:

Professional Practice:

Contribute to and maintain Year Group Planning Folders incorporating Evidence (MER) and Data Tracking.

Participate in the development of Tracking Pupils Support sessions and programmes in Literacy & Numeracy.

Share in apt training sessions as arranged across the curriculum and in addition, the use of iPad technology to support learning & teaching.

Continue to share good practice with others through participation in St Comgall's TeachMeets, Key Stage Team Meetings, Twitter, Pinterest, Staff CPD & Professional Planning Time. Maintain an active presence on Seesaw.

Further develop the implementation of Flexible Learning Environments to support Active Teaching & Learning.

Pupil & Curriculum Development:

Further integrate UICT (addressing the 5Es) across the curriculum ensuring a **balance between C2K & iPad** technology/tasks promoting the school's (5Cs) **Digital Vision:** Creativity, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Communication and Confidence.

Literacy Focus: *Implementation of revised Phonics/Spellings/Grammar Scheme* as part of whole class Literacy & UICT lessons. Promotion of Writing Processes, Guided Reading, Literature Circles, Library Use & Talking & Listening.

Numeracy Focus: The promotion of Practical Maths strategies in whole class teaching. Further developing visual maths, conceptualisation and practical/outdoor maths.

Personal & Professional:

Support the production of the School Show, Matilda.

Contribute to the achievement of any school awards such as Unicef Rights-Respecting School, Fair-Trade School, Dyslexia-Friendly School, Digital Schools of Distinction etc.

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 **15/5/18** – Governors & External Advisor: Mrs Cathy Hunter (Reviewee), Reviewers: Mr Brian Jamison, Mrs Susie Johnston (CCMS Advisor)



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Monitoring & Evaluation Processes 2017-2018

<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 UICT	Miss Mullally	PRSD Visit	Planners Term 1
	Jolly Phonics & Grammar		Co-ord Visit	PTE 2017 Analysis Targets Term 1a
	Promotion of Writing Process		Monitoring of IEPs / RoC	Co-ord Visits Term 2
	Literature Circles (KS2)			Literacy Book Look Term 1
	TSPC (Talking & Listening)			PTE Results & Analysis Term 3b
Mathematics & Numeracy	Visual Learning in:	Miss Carey	Co-ordinator Visits	Planners Term 2
	Cross-Curricular & TSPC - integration			PTM 2017 Analysis Targets Term 1a
	Balance between Number & Topic Work		PRSD Visits by Principal	Maths Week Term 1b
	Problem-Solving Strategies & Investigation			Numeracy Book Look Term 2
	Outdoor Maths			PTM Results & Analysis Term 3
Cross – Curricular Skills Promotion	Cross-Curricular Skills – <i>Using Mathematics, Using ICT & Communication</i> – used to support TWAU, PDMU, STEM	Mrs Lavery	PRSD Visits	Planners Action Plans & SDP
	School Award Programmes	Mr Miskelly Miss Walker Mrs T-W Mrs Lavery Mrs Hunter	Co-ordinator Visits	Seesaw Evidence Termly
			Book Looks	Evidence Folders & Event recording Term 1-3
UICT	Balance between iPad & C2K technology to enhance Teaching & Learning	Miss Walker	PRSD Visits by Principal	Planners Term 2 & 3
	Compilation of Pupil Digital Learning Portfolios – Seesaw		Term 3 Co-ordinator Visits	UICT Portfolios &/or Book Looks Term 3
	ESafety awareness			Awards ongoing



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Pastoral Care	Promotion of PDMU Strands & Thinking Skills NSPCC Safeguarding School Counsellor School Council & Prefects	Miss Higgins	Ongoing	Ongoing... Planners Book Looks Homework Surveys Work Samples Short Visits Pupil Feedback Events Photos etc. School Production ' <i>Matilda</i> '
Faith	Incorporating RE, RSE, Sacraments, Ethos, PDMU & Diocesan Resources	Mrs Parker Mrs Coleman	Ongoing	
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	
The Arts (Culture)	Linking The Arts to Thematic WAU Planning The Arts in TWAU, PBL & ABL activities	Collective Staff	Ongoing	

Primary Area Profile

Primary School Annual Area Profile 2018

DE Ref No	School Name	Status	Council Area
4036146	St Comgall's Primary School, Bangor	Catholic Maintained	ARDS AND NORTH DOWN

Annual Census Information			
Year	Total pupils Y1-Y7	IMU	FSME %
2014/15	297	0	10.8
2015/16	299	0	11.4
2016/17	309	0	9.7%
2017/18	322	0	9.9%
Approved Reception-Year 7 enrolment number			290
Approved Reception-Year 7 admissions number			41
Year 1 Pupils 2017/18			41
First Preferences Applications 2017/18			46

Enrolment & Transfer 2017-2018

New Pupils 2017-2018



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Forty-One pupils enrolled in Primary One in September 2017.

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 2018.

We currently have a Waiting List for places in all year groups throughout the school.

Our projected enrolment for September 2018 (based on data June 2018) is **314** pupils.

Transfer to Post-Primary

We had **51** Primary Seven pupils transferring to Post-Primary Education in September 2018.

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	22
St Columbanus' College	23
Sullivan Upper School	3
Glenlola Collegiate	1
Strathearn School, Belfast	1
Campbell College	1

Pupil Progress and Standards of Attainment

In 2017-18, 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 2018.

Annual written Progress Reports were sent home to parents on Tuesday 19th June 2018.

Additional Support to enhance Curricular Provision

Organisation	Area of the Curriculum	Year Group
BiTC Time to Read Partnership	Literacy: Reading	P5
SUSTRANS	Active Travel	P1-7
Irish Football Association	Football	P1-P7



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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 Helping Hands – Women’s Aid	P1-P7 P5
EA Music Tuition	Violin	Pupils from P3-P7
NSPCC & Childline	Child Protection, Anti-Bullying & Safety (Keeping Safe Programme)	P1-P7
Sport NI	Multi-Sports	P1-P7
Ulster GAA	Gaelic Football	P1-4
Clare Gould	The Arts & Drama	P1-7
Niall Mc Clean	Traditional Irish Music	P3-7
Rick Reith	Guitar Lessons	P3-7

BASE: Before & After School Engagement 2017-2018

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, Miss Murphy & Mrs Boal** for supporting him.

Breakfast Club operates daily **8am – 8.45am** ably led by **Miss Pickard** and **Mrs Mc Loughlin**. In addition, after-school clubs are available for P1-7 pupils daily from 2-4pm.

These include:

- Drama
- Gymnastics
- Football
- Gaelic Football
- Netball
- French
- Irish Dancing
- Traditional Music Group
- Choir
- BASECamp After-School Support – led by Mrs McLoughlin & Mrs Kane.

2017-18 saw the second consecutive year of our **Summer BASECamp** Facility – this summer scheme (staffed by CAs from St Comgall’s PS) operated daily 9-3pm for four weeks across July & August and once again proved a huge hit and invaluable support to working parents.

Huge thanks to Mrs McLoughlin, Mrs Kane, Miss Pickard, Miss Logan and Mr Busby for all of their hard work in providing this service.

Our sincere thanks to all club leaders, coaches and volunteers who contribute so much to enhance the experiences for our pupils. Thank you.



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Community Outreach & Transition:

As part of our Community Outreach Focus we have established deepening relationships with both St Comgall's PreSchool (three members of staff & two Governors now form part of the Committee) and Trinity Nursery School.

Throughout the course of the year both groups were encouraged to use school facilities to support Outdoor Play and Reading Buddy Sessions. Ongoing visits between the schools and connections with staff really enhanced and ensured a smooth transition for children transferring to St Comgall's PS.

At Post-Primary level, excellent connections have been made with OLSPCK and in particular, St Columbanus' College. St Columbanus students and staff have supported us throughout the year with students working as Peer Reading Buddies for FS children, PTA Volunteers, Sports, Music & Arts Mentors.

Both Year Six & Year Seven enjoyed practical workshops at the College and a very successful Transition Mock Timetable Day took place in the third term for P7.

The Staff of St Columbanus' College have also been hugely generous and giving of their time and talents to support us.

We are very appreciative of the ongoing partnership and support we receive.



Parent Teacher Association

St. Comgall's PS are blessed and very grateful to have such a strong and active Parent Teacher Association.

These wonderful 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 an **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 2017-18, in addition to financing our FamilyWorks School Counsellor, sports medals and more, their fundraising efforts supported the development of our KS2 Playground and provided additional equipment.

They sponsored the purchase of additional Sports Kits to allow classes and teams to represent us at events.

In addition to supporting us each night and providing refreshments for the audience, they also funded our Cast, Crew & Chorus T-Shirts for 'Matilda'.

They organized and ran numerous events for pupils to enjoy such as Discos, Parties, Entertainers, Christmas Fair, Friday Takeaway Treat Days and a Sponsored Bounce.

They supported all Sacramental celebrations in addition to numerous Parent Events/Meetings.

They maintained the outdoor learning environment and added further bike racks, decorative flowers/shrubs and seating areas to the front of the school.

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.



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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 **Mrs Tracey Stirling**, **Mrs Claire McLarnon**, Tara Brankin, Vicky Crawley and their wonderful committee/team of volunteers.

***PTA Statement of Accounts: Treasurer's Report 2017-2018**

Please find below an outline of the income/expenditure for St Comgalls PTA for financial year 1st September 2017 – 31st August 2018

Funds held at 1st September 2017: £5969.52

Comprising of:

Petty cash	Nil
Current account	£5,188.04
Select account	£781.48

Income

Advertising	£294.38	
Bank interest	£0.32	
Bucket donations	£18.50	
Change challenge	£341.49	
Christmas cards	£82.00	
Christmas market	£1,476.62	
Christmas Raffle	£1,080.10	
Donation	£50.00	
Easyfundraising	£140.40	
Friday takeaway	£850.94	
Gift aid	£352.91	
GSSDS	£772.72	
Halloween Disco	£762.95	
Junior sports day	£69.38	
Live here love here grant	£2,200.00	
MDAT	£114.30	
Mr Hullabaloo	£39.92	
Parental contributions	£1,710.00	
PayPal opening credit	£0.01	
Senior Sports day	£288.13	
Sponsored Bounce	£2,388.10	
Stamptastic commission	£16.00	
Valentines Disco	£399.34	
		<u>£13,448.51</u>
		£19,418.03



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Expenditure

Classroom fund	£1,673.91
Confirmation	£90.51
Easter bunnies	£99.00
Familyworks Counsellor	£2,808.00
First Holy Communion	£226.57
Junior playground furniture	£630.00
Matilda	£373.40
P7 Leavers Mass	£130.18
School entrance	£2,504.83
Senior playground paint	£780.00
Sport equipment/kit	£1,197.09
Sports day medals	£210.00
Strimmer	£212.40

General expenses

Bank charges	£39.23
Insurance	£105.00
Thanks you gifts/cards	£116.60
Catering	£432.96
Stationery supplies	£198.13
	£11,827.81

£11,827.81
£7,590.22

**Closing balance at 31.8.18
(Santander A/C)**

£7,590.22

Claire McLarnon
7.10.18

Communicating School Life 2017 – 2018

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 1400 followers in 2017-2018 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 – continues to be a huge success. All pupils track and record 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.



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Other Events 2017-2018

Sacraments & Catholic Faith Development

Catholic Schools Week was celebrated 29th Jan – 4th February 2018.

Service of Light & Commitment: Took place on Tuesday 6th February 2018 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 Very Rev Martin O'Hagan on Tuesday 17th April 2018.

P3/4 Enrolment Service: This took place on Thursday 22nd February 2018.

First Penance: The Primary Three Boys and Girls received the Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Penance) on Thursday 15th March 2018.

First Holy Communion was celebrated on Saturday 2nd June 2018.

Mrs Hunter, on behalf of the whole school community, would like to express sincere thanks to **Father Joseph Gunn & Chaplain Josh Hall** for their ongoing support and dedication to their roles of Parish Priest and 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 12th 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 5th December 2017 – a great success! This was very well attended as reflected in the enrolment figures for September 2018.

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.

MATILDA....

Well what can we say? Not many primary schools take on a full school musical with everyone involved from P1-P7 complete with live orchestra over three nights.

This was an outstanding production and the perfect summation of a full year's planning and hard work. The idea was brought together by **Miss Julie-Anne Mullally** (Literacy & Music Team) and Mrs Hunter (Principal) who wanted to develop Performance Skills and unite the school in a love of 'The Arts'.

Both were ably supported by **Mrs Clare Gould** (Director), **Mr Paul Busby** (Caretaker & Stage Management) and the incredibly hard-working and supportive staff of St Comgall's PS.



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A full cast and crew of **322 children** were involved in the production which ran over three nights in March 2018 to an **audience of 1200+ people**. A live orchestra provided the magical music each night and after 15 weeks' rehearsal, the production was brought to life and received in great acclaim. Filmed for posterity there is no doubt that this memory will live long in the history of St Comgall's.



Bangor International Choral Festival: Again this year the choir took part in the International Choral Event held in St Comgall's Parish Centre. Competing against choirs of all sizes and from all nationalities, we were delighted that our school choir placed second in the Musicals 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 2017-18 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: Individual pupils from P1-P7 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 Gould** 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 2017-2018 we supported the following charities in order to assist others.

**Children in Need
Macmillan Cancer
Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal**



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School Accommodation

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

The P6 Upper Playground Mobile is in need of replacement – the PTA did a great job painting it in the interim to enhance its appearance but, to-date, the EA have declined the application for Minor Works to have the Mobile replaced to meet regulation size, heating and access.

We have ongoing issues with our roof – the pitch is too high and we have loose tiling which needs to be replaced. Recent bad weather has caused further damage and leaks. In addition, the Emergency Lighting is faulty and the Fire Escape Doors in the Hall are badly damaged/worn and need replaced. All of these faults have been repeatedly logged with the EA who have told us that currently there is no money available to carry out these repairs. Mr Busby continues to do what he can and reports regularly to Governors through Health & Safety audits.

Space continues to be at a premium both in terms of rooms and playground facilities. Re-allocation of offices this year allowed for the creation of a temporary thirteenth classroom to accommodate our needs. We continue to struggle to provide suitable rooms for those providing peripatetic and outreach teaching and for general use such as meeting with parents, SEN Assessment, Physical Education/Clubs, Medical Assessment, Music Tuition and Counselling.

Our sincere thanks to the **Parish Centre Committee** for kindly allowing us continued use of their Hall and side rooms when needed. We are very grateful for your support.

The Outdoor Areas have also benefitted from further 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.



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Primary School Annual Area Profile 2018

DE Ref No	School Name	Status	Council Area
4036146	St Comgall's Primary School, Bangor	Catholic Maintained	ARDS AND NORTH DOWN

Annual Census Information			
Year	Total pupils Y1-Y7	IMU	FSME %
2014/15	297	0	10.8
2015/16	299	0	11.4
2016/17	309	0	9.7%
2017/18	322	0	9.9%
Approved Reception-Year 7 enrolment number			290
Approved Reception-Year 7 admissions number			41
Year 1 Pupils 2017/18			41
First Preferences Applications 2017/18			46

Formal Intervention	
In formal intervention any period 1 April 2017-31 March 2018	

Budgets			
Year	Available Delegated Resources £	Surplus/Deficit £	Surplus/Deficit %
2014/15	895,918	63,467	7.08%
2015/16	839,502	25,494	3.04%
2016/17	804,611	-55,933	-6.95%

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



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Future Opportunities & Challenges

Opportunities	Challenges
Over-subscribed Enrolment & Waiting List Happy, fixed permanent Staff Beginning new 3 Year SDP 2018-2021	290 Capped Enrolment – very limiting – oversubscribed school 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 Flexible Learning Environments	Lack of Funding/Training/Support for SEN pupils Need for teacher training to meet needs of ALL pupils Cost of school maintenance and classroom redesign
Highly Supportive PTA	*Three Year Plan (taking account of Rising Costs) indicates continued deficit Sustainability Serious concern over Rising Costs Capped enrolment figures mean no access to additional funding PTA – leadership term coming to an end – concern as to who will step up
Staffing/Class Restructuring	Deficit/Lack of Budget could increase need for further composite classes and larger KS2 Class Sizes
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 New School Development Plan 2018-21 needs to allow time for Staff to embed good practice rather than continually take on new initiatives.
Vibrant school community & active parental involvement Partnerships with External Agencies & Transition Links	Lack of funding & support to administer parental workshop programmes Lack of funding. School Community 'buy-in' needs to be high. Need for continuous fundraising.
ICT Technology	Finances required - – replacing older IWBs. Need for school community to support and raise funds.

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



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Thank you for your time in consideration of this document
Cathy Hunter - September 2018



St Comgall's PS, Bangor
Quality Learning, Friendship For All



Bangor Parish Family of Schools



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