



St. Bernadette's Senior National School

Board of Management – Annual Report June 2025



We would like to thank all parents / guardians for their continued support, encouragement & advice – we really appreciate it. Also, thanks to members of our previous Board of Management whose term ended in November. We hope and pray that everyone stays safe over the summer and look forward to seeing everybody again when we re-open on Wednesday, 27th August 2025.

The BOM has legal responsibility for the overall running of the school. A new board of management was appointed in November 2023. The board of management includes representatives of parents, teachers, trustees (*Archbishop of Dublin*) of patron, the Principal and the community.

Board of Management 2023 - 2027

Chairperson	–	Ms. Eimear Berry
Treasurer	–	Ms. Louise Grimes
Secretary	–	Mr. Jim Ryan
Teacher Rep	–	Ms. Emma Nolan
2 Parent Reps	–	Ms. Jennifer Greene Mooney Mr. Paul Furey
2 Community Reps	–	Ms. Joanna Heffernan Nathan Ms. Carol Redmond

The responsibilities of the B.O.M. include teacher appointments, provision of educational materials, maintenance of school buildings (*heating, lighting, cleaning and insurance*), the employment of all staff, school finances and the operation of after school clubs. The board of management manages the school on behalf of the patron and for the benefit of students. Its job is to make sure that the school is run efficiently and provides all pupils with a good education.

School Ethos – Catholic School events

Catholic Schools Week was 20th -24th Jan 25. There was a “Service Of Gratitude” – in the PE Hall before Halloween, Christmas, Easter & Summer holidays. The “Ceremony of Light” took place on Saturday, 10th May. The Confirmation Retreat in Glendalough was on 8th May. Confirmation was on Wednesday, 28th May 2025. The graduation took place on Thursday, 19th June with cake & treats provided by Glanmore. Accord talks visiting 4th, 5th & 6th classes on 13th & 14th May. Trócaire Boxes raised €103.39

Summer Building Works

This year there some building works taking place in the school – upgrading the ESB meters and the CCTV cameras. Our caretakers, Niall, Ken & Gerry will maintain the grounds during the summer months. They will also freshen up the paintwork, continue landscaping and planting and also continue with the maintenance in the school building to have it ready to reopen in late August.

Staffing

Next year there will be 9 mainstream classes – 2 x third classes, 2 x fourth classes, 2 x fifth classes & 3 x sixth classes. We will also have a 6 SET Resource Teachers – two in 3rd, two in 4th, two in 5th & two in 6th to assist with Team Teaching and provide additional help and support to pupils who require it in English & Maths. We will also have a Support Teacher to work with pupils experiencing difficulty in all classes. We also have one Shared SET teacher. Staff in the school meet weekly after school during “Croke Park Hours” – for on-going professional development, planning, policy formulation, lesson plans, meetings, tests analysis & class work preparation.

HSCL - Home School Community Liaison Teacher

Gillian Lynch is our shared HSCL- Home School Community Liaison Teacher. The position is shared between the Junior & Senior School. Gillian is arranging for lots of new courses and ideas to be delivered next year.

Santry Sports - Sports Day – School Tours

Santry Sports took place on 22nd May. Sports Day took place on 18th June. A wide range of new PE equipment was purchased for Sports Day and to encourage outside activity in the fresh air. SuperValu, Rowlagh, who also provided all of the pupils with Christmas selection boxes and Easter eggs is delivering the food. An ice cream van also provided an ice-cream cone, as a treat to all pupils, with the profits from the school shop. School tours – 3rd, 4th & 5th classes went to “Hidden Valley”, and 6th classes went to Emerald Park. Bowlathon - All pupils enjoyed a day's bowling in Tallaght LeisurePlex. All classes made weekly trips to the library and Quarryvale Park.

Teaching Practice - Student Teachers

Trainee teachers from all of the Teacher Training Colleges were working in nearly all of the school classes for three weeks before Easter. They enjoyed it immensely and were full of praise for all the pupils.

Attendance

Neasa Henry, is our local Tusla NEWB Education Welfare Officer, who tracks pupils' absences. She also keeps records of pupils' who regularly arrive late and also those pupils' who are collected early from school, on a regular, on-going basis. Tom Crean, SCP coordinator & Gillian Lynch, Home - school teacher, call to pupils' homes of pupils who are experiencing difficult attending regularly to offer any assistance needed. Attendance has slightly improved this school year.

Standardised Tests Results

The school has conducted the standardised tests in Maths and English again this year in mid-May. The STen test score is in the end of year School Report. A leaflet is also enclosed with the summer report explaining the Sten test scores.

School Completion Programme S.C.P.

SCP project workers, Kerri Lynch and Anita Allen and the coordinator, Tom Crean were busy through the year working with groups in the school. SCP also run the breakfast club for some pupils. During the summer break, they will be running a summer camp. There will be very limited spaces so sign up early.

Book Rental

The Dept. Of Education initiative of free books and copies will continue again next year. There is no charge for books or copies. Parents are asked to pay €30 for school resources - the amount needed to provide photocopying, PE equipment, ink & paper for children's' printers, treats, buses & art/craft supplies.

In-Service - New Maths Curriculum

School closed for a Maths in-service day on 19th May. Staff attended a series of webinars throughout this year to upskill. SNAs also attended webinars.

School Shop – Sports – hot lunches - Visitors

As a treat to pupils who purchased items in the school shop during the year the profits were used to hire an ice cream van so all pupils got a cone on 15th March & again on 18th June.

The boys & the girls football teams played many matches this year. Both teams were a credit to the school on every occasion and played exceptionally well.

Boxing resuming with our coach Mags and GAA football training with Peter. Pupils also enjoyed Athletics and Martial Arts training.

All pupils now get a hot lunch each day. Gardaí also visited 4th & 5th classes to discuss cyberbullying and explain what to do if it happens.

Fundraising

Pupils in 6th classes, as part of their Confirmation Project fund-raised during the year with Christmas Cards, a Christmas Fair and an Easter Raffle. The pupils are going donate P.E equipment to the school for the other classes. They will also donate to Rowlagh Old Folks Home.

New Additional Education Needs (AEN) Building

The Dept. of Education completed the new modular building with two new AEN classes. These are two modern, state-of-the-art classrooms. A Summer camp has also been organised for pupils in the classes. It will run throughout July.

A new permanent building with 2 more AEN classes and facilities is planned to be built in the field at the rear of the school.

Fibre Optic broadband Connection

The school now has high speed broadband connectivity through the Depart. of Ed. School Broadband Programme, delivered as part of the Irish National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) under the Recovery and Resilience Facility funded by the European Union through NextGenerationEU.

School Choir – Boiler House Artwork – Bí Cineálta Anti-Bullying

The choir, who practice weekly, went carol singing in Liffey Valley on Dec. 11th and 18th 9.30-1.45p.m. They also attended “The big Sing” in RDS on 3rd April.

Ms. Martina Kirwan (*Art in the Shed*) worked hard with parents and children to create a colourful meadow mural on the boiler house doors.

We flew our Cineáltas Flag, as part of Bí Cineálta Anti-Bullying policy campaign

The school will re-open on Wednesday, 27th August 2025