



**PARENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

Location: Room 03 OLSS

Date: 6th February 2025

Time: 7:15 pm

Meeting Agenda

- 1) **Welcome (by Chairperson)**
- 2) **Apologies**
- 3) **Note(s) of Sympathy**
- 4) **Correspondence**
- 5) **Minutes of Previous Meeting – available on file**
- 6) **Any Matters Arising**
- 7) **Treasurer's Report**
- 8) **Expression of Interest required for position of Treasurer of the Parents Association which has become available since our last meeting.**
- 9) **Principal / BOM Report**
- 10) **Chairperson's Address**
- 11) **Any Other Business**
- 12) **Date of Next Meeting**



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ANY OTHER BUSINESS – TOPICS

- a) **UNIFORM SALE/SWAP to be organised for May / June ?**
See article on next page from Donegal News 2023 to give you an idea of what can be done.

- b) **Recycling bottle bank for the school - Fundraiser**
Pamela contacted Re-Turn to see what options were available in order to fundraise directly for the school. Awaiting a reply.



Our Lady's Secondary School
Castleblayney
Co. Monaghan

Tel: 042 9740351
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Principal: *Mr. Eddie Kelly*
Deputy Principals: *Ms. Jane Treanor, Mr. Darren Bishop*

Parents Association Meeting February 6th

Events to Date:

Friday December 6th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Staff Monthly Prayer Meeting 8.10am
- TY Christmas Fair
- Christmas Jumper Day
- TY Active School 3 v 3 Basketball Tournament at lunchtime
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Saturday December 7th

- Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

Monday December 9th

- School Holiday

Tuesday December 10th

- U15 Boys S & C
- Home Economics & Music Practical Exams
- U19 Boys Soccer
- First Year Girls Soccer at lunchtime
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Second Year Parent Teacher Meeting 4.15pm – 6.45pm

Wednesday December 11th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Credit Union Art Presentation
- Leaving Certificate Construction Studies Practical Exam
- Leaving Certificate Art Practical Exam
- First Year Boys GAA 1.15pm – 2.15pm
- Evening Study 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Thursday December 12th

- Christmas Reflections
- TY Art Initiative
- TY Chemistry Tour
- U14 Girls GAA at lunchtime
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- U15 Boys Soccer 4.00pm – 5.30pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Friday December 13th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Home Economics & Music Practical Exams
- 1L, 2L & 3L Christmas Tour
- TY Active School 3 v 3 Basketball Tournament at lunchtime
- U15 Boys GAA 4.10pm – 5.15pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Saturday December 14th

- Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

Monday December 16th

- Pre Leaving Certificate Irish Oral Exam
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Board of Management Meeting 6.15pm

Tuesday December 17th

- Pre Leaving Certificate Irish Oral Exam
- TY Christmas Exams
- Fifth Year Christmas Exams
- U15 Boys Soccer Semi Final
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- U19 Girls Soccer 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Wednesday December 18th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- TY Christmas Exams
- Fifth Year Christmas Exams
- First Year Boys GAA 1.15pm – 2.15pm
- Evening Study 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Thursday December 19th

- TY Christmas Exams
- Fifth Year Christmas Exams
- LCA Christmas Exams
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Friday December 20th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Fifth Year Christmas Exams
- LCA Christmas Exams

Monday January 6th

- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Tuesday January 7th

- U19 Girls Soccer Semi Final
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Wednesday January 8th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- U19 Girls Basketball
- Evening Study 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Thursday January 9th

- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Staff Meeting 4.10pm – 6.00pm (postponed due to weather)

Friday January 10th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- First Year Boys GAA
- U16 Girls Basketball
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Saturday January 11th

- Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

Monday January 13th

- TY Religion Public Speaking Event 10am - 1pm
- U15 Boys GAA 4.10pm – 5.10pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Tuesday January 14th

- Lunchtime Musical Pit Altos
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- U14 Girls GAA
- Ulster University Sports Scholarship Talk
- U13 Boys GAA 4.10pm – 5.10pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- First Year Parent Teacher Meeting 4.15pm – 6.45pm

Wednesday January 15th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- First & Second Year Girls Basketball
- Ulster Ladies GAA All Stars
- 1st Year Girls Soccer 1.20pm – 2.20pm
- U16 Girls GAA 1.20pm – 2.20pm
- Evening Study 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Thursday January 16th

- Lunchtime Musical Pit-Sopranos
- TY Reptile Haven Workshop
- Soccer trip to Manchester
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- U14 Girls GAA 4.10pm – 5.10pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Friday January 17th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- U14 Boys GAA at lunchtime
- U15 Boys GAA
- Soccer trip to Manchester
- U16 Girls GAA 4.10pm – 5.10pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Saturday January 18th

- Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

Monday January 20th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Wellbeing Week ‘Being Positive about Learning’
- Catholic Schools Week
- U14 Girls Soccer
- U16 Girls GAA Ulster Final
- First Year Boys GAA 4.10pm – 5.10pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Tuesday January 21st

- Wellbeing Week ‘Being Positive about Learning’
- Catholic Schools Week
- Sops & Altos Musical Pit Singers at lunchtime
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- U15 Boys GAA
- TY SEPI
- First & Second Year Girls Basketball
- Ulster Ladies GAA All Star trials
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Wednesday January 22nd

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Wellbeing Week ‘Being Positive about Learning’
- Catholic Schools Week
- First Year Boys GAA
- First Year Boys Soccer 1.15pm – 2.15pm
- Evening Study 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Thursday January 23rd

- Wellbeing Week ‘Being Positive about Learning’
- Catholic Schools Week
- Pit Singer Iontas at lunchtime
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Home Economics Cooking Talk
- Public Speaking Competition
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Fifth Year Parent Teacher Meeting 4.15pm – 6.45pm

Friday January 24th

- School Closure due to status red weather warning

Saturday January 25th

- Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

Monday January 27th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Pre Leaving Certificate Exam
 - Maths 9.45am- 12.15pm
 - Irish 1.35pm – 3.55pm
- Leaving Certificate Applied- Hotel, Catering & Tourism Task
- U14 Girls GAA training at lunchtime
- First Year Girls Soccer
- First & Second Year Boys Basketball
- First Year Boys GAA training 4.10pm – 5.10pm
- U15 Boys GAA training 4.10pm – 5.10pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Tuesday January 28th

- Pre Leaving Certificate Exam
 - Geography 9.25am – 12.15pm
 - Agricultural Science 9.45am- 12.15pm
 - Business 9.45am- 12.15pm
 - English Paper 1 1.05am – 3.55pm

Wednesday January 29th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Pre Leaving Certificate Exam
 - Biology 10.15am- 1.15pm
- Pre Junior Exam
 - Maths 11.15am- 1.15pm
- First Year Boys GAA
- U15 Boys GAA
- U19 Girls All Ireland Basketball Quarter Final
- TY Young Chef Competition
- Evening Study 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Thursday January 30th

- Pre Leaving Certificate Exam
 - French 8.55am – 12.15pm
 - German 8.55am – 12.15pm
- Pre Junior Cycle Exam
 - Music 10.45am- 12.15pm
 - Home Economics 2.25pm – 3.55pm
- Leaving Certificate Cycle Applied- Graphics & Construction Task
- U14 Girls GAA training at lunchtime
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- German Tour Meeting 6.30pm

Friday January 31st

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Pre Leaving Certificate Exam
 - English Paper 2 8.55am- 12.15pm
 - LCVP 1.25pm – 3.55pm
 - Applied Maths 1.25pm – 3.55pm
- Pre Junior Cycle Exam
 - Graphics 10.20am – 12.20pm
 - History 1.55pm- 3.55pm
- District D Cross Country
- Ceiliúradh CEIST
- U14 Boys GAA at lunchtime
- CMETB FET Training Services Apprenticeship Talk P7
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Saturday February 1st

- Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

Monday February 3rd

- Bank Holiday

Tuesday February 4th

- Pre Leaving Certificate Exam
 - Physics 9.15am- 12.15pm
 - Art 9.45am- 12.15pm
 - Economics 9.45am- 12.15pm
 - PE 9.45am- 12.15pm
- Pre Leaving Certificate Applied Exam
 - Graphics & Construction 10.45am – 12.15pm
 - Hotel, Catering & Tourism 10.45am – 12.15pm
 - Maths 1.55pm – 3.55pm
- Pre Junior Cycle Exam
 - English 10.20am – 12.20pm
 - Wood Technology 2.25pm – 3.55pm
- First Year Girls Soccer
- LCVP Visit to Crafty
- U14 Girls GAA training at lunchtime
- Lunchtime Musical Pit Singers Altos
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- U14 Boys Soccer 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Wednesday February 5th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am – 8.45am
- Pre Leaving Certificate Applied Exam
 - French 10.03am – 11.05am
 - Horticulture 11.45am – 1.15pm
- Pre Leaving Certificate Exam
 - Irish Paper 2 10.10am – 1.15pm
- Pre Junior Cycle Exam
 - German 11.15am – 1.15am
 - French 11.15am – 1.15am
- U14 Boys GAA
- U16 Girls All Ireland Basketball Semi Final
- Evening Study 2.000pm – 4.00pm

Thursday February 6th

- Pre Leaving Certificate Exam
 - Chemistry 9.15am – 12.15pm
 - Construction Studies 9.15am – 12.15pm
 - Music 9.45am – 12.15pm
 - History 1.05am – 3.55pm
- Pre Leaving Certificate Applied
 - English & Communication 10.15am – 12.15pm
 - Social Education 1.55pm – 3.55pm
- Pre Junior Cycle Exam
 - Business 10.20am – 12.20pm
 - Geography 1.55pm – 3.55pm
- U14 Girls GAA training at lunchtime
- Lunchtime - Musical Pit Singers Sopranos
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- Evening Study 4.10pm – 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Parents Association Meeting 7.15pm

Upcoming Events

- **Friday February 7th**: Ulster Schools Swimming Championship
- **Monday February 10th**: Board of Management Meeting
- **Tuesday February 11th**: UCD Scholarship Presentation
- **Wednesday February 12th**: First Year Boys GAA
- **Thursday February 13th**: Home Economics Healthy Eating Demonstration
- **Wednesday February 12th- Saturday February 15th**: Senior German / French Tour
- **Monday February 17th- Friday February 21st**: Midterm Break

Learning & Teaching

- Edel Murphy from the Leaving Certificate class of 2024 received a Sports Scholarship from Marino Institute of Education.
- Max Mc Ginnitty from the Leaving Certificate class of 2024 received a UCD Ad Astra Scholarship.
- Leila May Daly from the Leaving Certificate class of 2024 received a UCD Entrance Scholarship.
- The Pre Junior Cycle & Pre Leaving Certificate oral and practical exams took place before the Christmas holidays.
- The end of term assessments arrangements for different year groups took place at various stages in December.

- Parents & Guardians received the reports from the end of term assessments the week beginning January 13th. Senior Management and the relevant Year Heads met with class groups and / or individual students to discuss the same.
- The results from the end of term assessments were uploaded to Athena tracker.
- The Pre Junior Cycle and Pre Leaving Certificate Exams commenced the week beginning January 27th.
- The Second Year Parent Teacher Meeting took place on December 10th.
- The First Year Parent Teacher Meeting took place on January 14th.
- The Fifth Year Parents Teacher Meeting took place on January 23rd.
- Teaching & Learning is on the agenda for all staff & Subject Department Meetings.
- School Self-Evaluation: The development of our areas of focus for School Self Evaluation for the forthcoming year will continue through the Teaching & Learning Committee, Subject Department meetings and staff meetings. A Wellbeing Week 'Being Positive about Learning' was held the week beginning January 20th with a number of initiatives organised by the Business Department and the school Literacy & Numeracy Coordinator.
- Parents / Guardians in the different year groups are surveyed after the Parent Teacher meetings as part of the SSE process. A summary of this data was shared with the Board of Management before the meeting and discussed at the meeting.
- Senior Cycle Reform.
- Fifth Year student Cliodhna Ward represented the school in the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition in January.
- Fourth Year student Emily Mc Mahon was successful at chapter level in the Credit Union Art competition.
- Sixth Year Politics & Society featured in a RTE Documentary on Election 2024.
- LCVP students had a talk from a local business entrepreneur on January 28th.
- The Literacy & Numeracy Committee organised a number of initiatives for students like the lunchtime Darts Club.
- The German Club meets on a regular basis.
- The Art Club meets on a regular basis.
- Students from the Robotics Club continue to prepare for their upcoming competition.
- Club na Gaeilge meets on a regular basis.
- The Junior Mini Company Club meets on a regular basis.
- Evening Study takes place from 4pm – 6pm.
- A homework club for First Year students takes place from 4.00pm – 5.00pm. First Year students are supported by our SNA's and TY students.

Extra Curricular

- The following GAA teams continue training for their upcoming competitions:
 - U14 Girls GAA, U13 Boys GAA, U15 Boys GAA
 - The U16 Girls GAA team won the U16 A shield final.
 - Representatives from the Senior Girls GAA team attended the Ulster Post Primary Ladies All Star trials.
 - Representatives from the Senior Boys GAA team attended the Ulster Schools All Star trials.
- The following Basketball teams continue training for their upcoming competitions:
 - First & Second Year Girls, First & Second Year Boys, U16 Girls & Senior Girls
 - The U16 Girls Basketball team reached the All Ireland A semi final.
 - The U19 Girls Basketball team reached the All Ireland A quarter final.
- The following Soccer teams continue training for their upcoming competitions:
 - U13 Girls, , U13 Boys & U15 Boys
 - 1st Year Boys - Ulster Cup Round Round 3 vs Stranorlar
 - 1st Year Girls - Ulster Cup Group Stages
 - U15 Boys Minor - Knocked out at regional semi-final stage and into an Ulster Cup Quarter Final, opponent TBC
 - U15 Girls Minor - Knocked out of Ulster Cup Group Stages
 - U17 Boys Junior - Ulster Cup quarter final to be played against St Pats Cavan
 - U17 Girls Junior - Lost Ulster Cup Quarter Final to Royal & Prior School, Raphoe
 - U19 Boys Senior - Out at regional semi-final stage & Ulster Round of 16
 - U19 Girls Senior - Lost Ulster Cup Semi-Final 1-0 to Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana
 - First & Second Year students attended a soccer trip to Manchester January 16th – 18th.
- The school choir practices on a regular basis at lunchtime most days each week for upcoming school events.
- Students in our school competed in the District D Cross Country on January 31st. *The following students have qualified for the Ulster Cross Country:* Judy Hughes, Aine Smith, Maeve Smith and Darragh Mc Adam
- Students in our school are due to compete in the Ulster School Swimming Championships on February 7th.
- The German Club meets on a regular basis.
- The Art Club meets on a regular basis.
- Club na Gaeilge meets on a regular basis.
- The Junior Mini Company Club meets on a regular basis.

- Transition Year students have been very busy from the last meeting:
 - TY Work Experience
 - TY Coaching Mentors
 - TY Active Schools 3 v 3 Basketball
 - TY STEM Event
 - TY SEPI Initiative
 - TY Focus Group
 - TY Religion Public Speaking
 - TY John Paul 11 Awards
 - TY Red King Chess Workshop
 - TY Sports Leadership Programme

Student Voice

- Sixth Year Student Leaders are assisting with supervision on corridors before school.
- Transition Year students are assisting with peer mentoring activities for the JCSP classes.
- The Student Council meets on a regular basis.
- A number of focus groups are planned with different year groups over the course of the year.
- The Senior Management Team and Year Heads are meeting students in different year groups on 1-1 to discuss their progress.

Student Support & Discipline

Student Support

- Student Support Meetings are held every Tuesday.
- The External Counsellor continues to support students on a weekly basis.
- The school has enlisted the support of an Art therapist to support students.
- The school meals programme continues to provide support to a number of families on a weekly basis.
- The school has engaged the services of a Student Youth / Home School Liaison Officer every Wednesday through an initiative with Monaghan Education Centre.
- Our school is implementing the NCSE Check & Connect Programme this year.
- The Guidance Department are currently meeting with the different Third Year classes.
- Fifth & Sixth Year students had a sports scholarship talk with representatives from Ulster University & CMETB Apprenticeships.

Discipline

- Council of Discipline meetings take place every Wednesday.

Faith Life of the School

- Weekly prayers are said over the school intercom.
- Ms. Mc Ardle has organised monthly prayer meetings for staff.
- Catholic Schools Week was celebrated the week beginning January 20th.
- Ceiliúradh CEIST was celebrated on January 31st.

Plant Development & Maintenance

- Report on storm damage
- Report on the new SEN extension.

Policy Review:

- Circular 0055/2024 ‘Publication of Bi Cinnealta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post Primary Schools’
- Assistive Technology Policy
- Special Needs Assistants Policy

A.O.B.

- Food Village Catering Service.
- Junior Cycle / Senior Cycle Book Scheme.

Next Meeting

- TBC



Location: OLSS Secondary School

Date: 30th September 2024

Time: 7:15 pm

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Minutes of Meeting

Chairperson's Opening Address:

Tom welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies:

Gráinne Murtagh

Theresa Cassidy

Sympathy:

Tom passed a vote of sympathy especially to Assistant Deputy Principal Jane Treanor on the loss of her brother and to the general community of OLSS who have suffered bereavement since our last meeting.

Correspondence:

No correspondence.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The previous meeting was held 6th February 2024. Minutes of the meeting were sent out and are taken as read. A copy is on file and available on the OLSS website.

Any Matters Arising:

No matters arising from previous meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom and Eddie confirmed the amount of €15,055.28 @ 02.07.2024 in the Parents Association bank account. Full Treasurers report detailing income and expenditure was provided.

Principal's Address and BOM Report (Full Report available on school website):

The report was given by Eddie and as always was very informative and reflected the continuous work going on throughout the school.

Full report available on OLSS website.



Location: OLSS Secondary School

Date: 30th September 2024

Time: 7:15 pm

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Chairperson's Address:

Well done to the Board of Management for the work being done on the school. There are so many activities going on. Well done to all, it's a credit to the school.

It's great to hear such positive feedback from 1st year parents that attend the PA meetings.

Thanks also to the regular attendees at our meetings. All parents are welcome to attend the PA meetings.

The Parents Association has a good partnership with the school and help out when needed.

The Parents Association is a great benefit to the school. If you have any concerns please contact any member of the Parents Association or the school directly.

Any Other Business:

Fundraising ideas to be considered:

- Car Boot Sale
- Quiz Night

School Uniform sale / swap

- Idea for the parents association to facilitate a second hand school uniform sale / swap at the end of the school term.

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Date of Next Meeting:

Date to be confirmed.

Signed: Tom Coyle Proposed By: _____
(Chairperson)

Signed: Pamela Sheridan Seconded By: _____
(Secretary)