

IRVINESTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL



The Annual Report Of The Board of Governors 2021/2022 School Year

Chairperson: Canon Paul Thompson
Secretary: Mrs JE Read

We at Irvinestown Primary School are committed to providing a caring, supportive, respectful, nurturing and safe environment for our school family. We foster resilience, inclusivity and high expectations to encourage children to reach their full potential in all areas of the curriculum and develop a life-long love for learning underpinned by our school motto - 'Never settle for less than your best'.

"Never settle for less than your best"

The Governors' report provides an overview of the working of Irvinestown Primary School and how the Governors and others with responsibility for the school have carried out their duties. It covers the school year beginning on 1st September 2021.

Should you wish to have any additional information or clarification on any aspect of the report please forward your request in writing to the Secretary of the Board of Governors.

I present the report for your consideration.

J E Read

JE Read
(Secretary of Board of Governors)

1. The Governing Body and Structure

(1) Names and Categories of the Board of Governors

| Name of Governor | | |
|----------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Canon Paul Thompson | (Chairman) | Transferor Representative |
| Mr D Robinson | (Vice-Chair) | Education Authority Representative |
| Mrs S Spratt-Davison | | Transferor Representative |
| Rev M Gallagher | | Transferor Representative |
| Rev G Bowes | | Transferor Representative |
| Mrs K Lilly | | Education Authority Representative |
| Mrs D Milligan | | Parent Representative |
| Mrs R McKenzie | | Parent Representative |
| Mrs J Harron | | Teacher Representative |
| Mrs JE Read | Secretary | Principal Non-voting member |

The Board of Governors was reconstituted in October 2018. Each Governor's term of office was due to expire in October 2022, however this has been extended due to the pandemic and the reconstitution process will begin early in 2023.

(2) The Functions of the Board of Governors

The Governors are ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school. The Board is required to meet at least three times a year. Sub-committees also meet throughout the year. Some of their responsibilities include:

- The oversight of the curriculum.
- Selection of staff and other personnel responsibilities.
- Admissions policy.

- School maintenance.
- Implementation of new legislation.
- Fostering links with the local community and pursuing the objectives of Mutual Understanding.
- Management of LMS (Local Management of Schools) Budget.
- Policy review

2.School Organisation

(1) Teaching Staff

Staffing is dependent upon the number of pupils enrolled at the school. The number of pupils admitted in September 2021 was 20. The total number of pupils on the roll in September was 153, but in June had risen to 154. (110 families) 38% of our pupils live within town boundary. The children attend a variety of pre-school providers prior to enrolling in Irvinestown Primary School. There were 10 members of teaching staff, which includes a teaching principal.

(2) Members of Teaching Staff September 2021

| Yr | No | Teacher | Classroom assistant |
|--------|-------|--|--|
| P1 | 20 | Mrs Gray, Mrs Read | Mrs Bratton Miss Irvine |
| P2 | 25-27 | Mrs Wright | Mrs Kathro |
| P3 | 20 | Mrs Martin | Mrs Ellis Miss Trimble |
| P4 | 21-20 | Mrs Harron | Mrs Griffin |
| P5 | 23 | Mrs Sowden- full-time until Christmas and 3 days per week Jan-June. Miss Byers 2 days per week Jan-June | Miss Allen Mrs Johnston Mrs Wilson |
| P6 | 23 | Mrs Bradshaw | Mrs Farrell Ms Noble (from 26/11/22) |
| P7 | 21 | Mrs Crozier (Mrs Woods on maternity) | Mrs Farrell (7.5hrs) |
| Engage | | Mrs K McCutcheon | |

Mrs Read was on long term sick leave from January to mid-June and Mrs Harron deputised in her absence.

(3) Ancillary and Auxiliary Staff 1 September 2020

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Senior Clerical Officer | Mrs S Stewart |
| Classroom Assistants | Miss R Allen |
| | Mrs S Bratton |
| | Mrs J Ellis |
| | Mrs H Farrell |
| | Mrs M Griffin |
| | Miss L Irvine |
| | Mrs E Johnston |
| | Mrs S Kathro |
| | Ms Y Noble (started 26/11/2021) |
| | Miss L Trimble |
| | Mrs M Wilson |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Supervisory Assistants | Mrs E Johnston |
| | Mrs M Wilson |
| Caretaker | Mrs F Hunter |
| Cleaning Staff | Mrs F Hunter |
| | Mrs E McNulty |
| School Crossing Patrol | Mr T Ward |
| Unit catering supervisor | Mrs M Cashel until 29 th April Mrs S Bratton acting supervisor from 2 nd May |
| Catering assistants | Mrs S Bratton |
| | Mrs L Campbell |
| | Mrs I Mitchell |
| | Mrs H Sproule |

3. School Finances

(1) LMS (Local Management of Schools) Delegated Budget

The school operates under a fully delegated status.

Income and Expenditure for the financial year April 2021 to March 2022

The 3-year Financial Plan prepared by the Board of Governors for the period 2021-2024 was approved by the Education Authority.

(2) Private School Funds

The school has private accounts with the Danske Bank in Irvinestown. The accounts are audited.

Income from:

Trevor Lucy Photographer - £309.40 (commission from photo sales)

Edina Science Grant - £600.00

Cash for Clobber recycling - £308.96

Pollinators grant £3163.07

Sponsored bounce £2953.65 profit

Commission from Scholastic Book fair £1408.71

(3) External funding

EXTENDED SCHOOLS: £12,501 + Cluster £3,750 = £16,251

SEND £23,780

ENGAGE 2 £13,233

WELL-BEING FUND £3,250

HEALTHY, HAPPY MINDS £5,327.10

OUTDOOR LEARNING £1,500

QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE £456

4. COVID RESTRICTIONS

Many restrictions were still in place, particularly regarding bringing visitors into school, however we tried to operate the school day as normal as possible. Class bubbles remained in place.

5. Attendance 2021/2022

The average attendance was a lot lower than in previous years- an all-time low- 92% No children were referred to the EWO for support with poor attendance, due to the pandemic.

6. The Curriculum

(1) The Northern Ireland Curriculum

The school continued to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all its pupils and has fulfilled the statutory requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. The Governors very much appreciate the efforts of all members of staff in helping to provide a teaching and learning environment in which the children can fulfil their potential, despite the many challenges of Covid-19 recovery. The high standards achieved by the pupils are a reflection of the excellent work from all our staff. Irvinestown Primary School is fortunate to have such highly motivated and talented staff who work tirelessly to ensure that our pupils have access to the best educational experiences possible.

Within each class, differentiation of work has taken into account the varying ability levels of the children. A variety of teaching techniques and styles have been employed, from class teaching to group workshops and learning outdoors. We employed an Engage teacher, Mrs K McCutcheon two days per week to provide small group support to children

who required additional support. The extra funding provided by the Department of Education for the Engage programme was very welcome.

All children on the Special Needs Register had an Individual Education Plan. Support for each child was in the form of differentiated learning within the class and support from Learning Support Assistants. Children were withdrawn for additional in-school support. External support from the Literacy Service was provided for five children who met the EA criteria for one-to-one support. SBEW advice was given to one child. Speech and Language assistants worked with four children within school. RISE worked with two children in school. The Autism Advisory AAIS service worked with seven pupils.

MENTAL HEALTH

We held a very successful Mental Health week 7-13 February 2022, with all classes working on the theme 'Growing Together'. The media is constantly commenting on mental health and well-being in young people. A lack of resilience is leading to difficulty coping with the ups and downs of life. Developing such skills cannot be left to one week in the year. We work on these skills every day through our PDMU and Paths programme. To encourage and help develop resilience and skills of independence, we encourage parents to allow their children as many opportunities as they can, to become independent, resourceful, problem-solvers. Opportunities such as being responsible for their own snack and dinner money i.e. carrying their own money (in an envelope), passing on simple messages to their teachers, and trying to resolve friendship issues positively on their own are all beneficial.

A webinar was offered to parents – Parenting Anxious Children and Teenagers. This seminar was facilitated by Bronagh Starrs, internationally renowned psychotherapist, trauma specialist, academic and author. This seminar focused on supporting parents of anxious children to understand childhood anxiety.

Workshops for mental health

- Anne Taggart – Yoga P1-P7
- Laughing mindfulness workshops for P4-7
- Scripture Union mental health talks P6

We continue to have a music therapist available in school to support children on a 1-1 basis once a week. There is a waiting list but if you feel this would be something your child would benefit from please discuss with your child's teacher at the Parent Teaching Meetings coming up.

E-SAFETY

Safer Internet Day was held on the 7th February 2022. All children received a lesson on e-safety. Parents were also urged to take responsibility to ensure parental controls are in place **alongside supervision** when children are using ALL devices that are linked to the world wide web. Regular updates and safety advice was given in the monthly newsletters. A safeguarding newsletter was sent out in October.

A safeguarding assembly was held for pupils.

Internet legends safety talk P4-P7

PSNI Internet safety P6& P7

PSNI Road Safety P6+P7

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

Anti-Bullying Week 2021 -Monday 15th – Friday 19th November and had the theme 'One Kind Word'. During this week children took part in activities encouraging them to have a

better understanding of bullying. We held Odd Socks Day on Monday 15th November to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week and what makes us all unique. Odd Socks Day was an opportunity to have fun, be yourself and spread awareness of the core values Anti-Bullying Week promotes. All classes contributed towards a school assembly during Anti-Bullying week. This was available on all the online platforms. Our full Anti-Bullying Policy is available from school and on our School Website. In addition, information about the different forms of Bullying can be found on the Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum website.

Scripture Union Alastair McFarland
P7 -It's your move P7 transition programme
P5 – Amazing Jesus

Love for Life P6 and P7.

P7 worked on the **Business beginnings project** organised by Young Enterprise

Victorian Timesteps day- P7. A teacher from the Victorian age came into the P7 classroom to teach the pupils in Victorian style.

The P7 class worked with a medical student (Hannah) from Queen's University Belfast via Microsoft Teams for eight weeks. She based her lessons around the topics of Healthy Body, Healthy heart and Lungs and Healthy skin. This programme is the result of a partnership between Queen's University and Sentinus.

Tom Sweeney, performed his Christmas Show in Strule Arts Centre on 12 December and FODC put it online for the schools to watch afterwards in their school bubbles.

Verbal Arts -P7
Bolster Community-Friends for Life P6

David Watson - First Aid training for P6+P7

World Book Day

World Book Day was a great success. Everyone enjoyed coming to school dressed as their favourite character. We had great fun doing a World Book Day parade outside so that each of the classes could see the variety of fantastic costumes while remaining in their socially distanced bubbles. Many prizes were distributed.

Photos of the children were displayed on your child's online forum and on the school website home page and class page. The annual **Scholastic Book Fair** was in school from **28th February to Thursday 3rd March**. We sold a fantastic £2347.85 and received 60% in commission (£1408.71) from the total amount of books sold. This was a tremendous boost for our libraries and stock of Accelerated Reading books in school.

Staff and pupils came together virtually to make a Relax and Read video. We have had a lot of positive messages regarding the fantastic photos and messages it provided.

(2) Curriculum/Professional Development

FIRST AID TRAINING was given to all staff prior to the start of the school year.

Curriculum/professional development during the year focused on First Aid, outdoor play and ICT Music and sound.

Teachers availed of opportunities for professional development through attendance at in-service courses organised by the school, Shared Education and the Education Authority. Many staff used the opportunity provided by Zoom and webinar training to access courses through the Teachers Professional Learning Forum.

(3) Exceptional Closures

There were five Exceptional Closures during the year for staff development/training in the following areas: (25 + 26 October, 4 Jan, 21 Feb, 6 June)

25 October- Nerve Centre – training on Music and Sound

26 October –Developing ethos (CSSC – Heather McKenzie)

4 January- World Around Us + Lexia

21 Feb- Health and well being

6 June- Assessment, data analysis from standardised tests

We worked with the Controlled Schools Support Council on developing our school ethos. We worked on a staff development day with the whole staff and some governors. Our 3 proposed statements were given to parents and to pupils for their opinions. Feedback was extremely positive, and we then tweaked and finalised an agreed statement of ethos which will be integrated into policies and adapted. *Our statement of ethos was finalised as: We at Irvinestown Primary School are committed to providing a caring, supportive, respectful, nurturing and safe environment for our school family. We foster resilience, inclusivity and high expectations to encourage children to reach their full potential in all areas of the curriculum and develop a life-long love for learning underpinned by our school motto –‘Never settle for less than your best’.*

(4) Shared Education Project

This year the children and staff were unable to meet in person with pupils from St Paul’s PS and Ballinamallard PS due to the pandemic. Staff connected virtually.

Parents were asked for their views on Shared Education and the response was very positive.

6. Assessment

(1) Statutory Assessment

Statutory Assessment Results 2021/2022 were unavailable due to Covid-19.

Internal Assessment – The Standardised Tests were completed in May 2022.

Parents can be assured that our internal assessment and reporting systems are robust and that every child continues to have the opportunity to reach their full academic potential.

Year 7 pupils received their Record of Achievement Folders at an End of Year Celebration Event.

(2) Transfer Procedure

The AQE went ahead as planned, however the GL assessment did not take place.

The number of children transferring to each of the secondary schools is detailed below: -

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Enniskillen Royal Grammar School | - | 2 | |
| Devenish College (Enniskillen) | - | - | 9 |
| St Mary's High School | - | 4 | |
| Castlederg High School | - | 1 | |
| Omagh Academy | - | 2 | |
| Erne Integrated College | - | - | 3 |

7. Awards 2021/2022

Prize Day 2022

| <u>CUPS</u> | |
|--|---|
| Y1 Effort - Girls | Jessica Grey Hanley Campbell 555pts |
| Read Cup - Y1 Effort - Boys | Freddie Gibson 571 pts |
| Y2 Effort - Girls | Alicia Durand 673 pts |
| Kernaghan Foundation Cup - Y2 Effort - Boys | Cameron Durand 698 pts |
| Armstrong Pharmacy Cup -Y3 Effort Girl | Lexie Bradshaw 755 pts |
| Gordon Nixon - Y3 Effort Boy | Brody Boylan 664 pts |
| Davison Cup - Y4 Effort Girl | Kyla Johnston 765 pts |
| Bruce Cup - Y4 Effort Boy | Jake Dixon 668pts |
| Y5 Effort - Girls | Kim McKevlin Amelia Dickey 727 pts |
| Y5 Effort - Boys | Brody Fallis 666 pts |
| PTA Cup - Y6 Effort - Girls | Isabel Guida 723 pts |
| Y6 Effort - Boys | Jacob Noble Wilson Grey 702 pts |
| Harron Cup - Y7 Effort - Girl | Jessica Largo Elis 844 pts |
| Deane Cup - Y7 Effort - Boy | Jake Johnston 673 pts |
| Savemore Cup - KS1 Sports Day | Ryley Hyland 76 pts |
| Klass Design Cup - KS2 Sports Day | Brody Fallis 86 pts |
| Sporting Achievement | Jessica Largo Elis - Hockey/Cross Country/soccer |
| Jeweldeane Cup - Extra Curricular Cup | Jessica Largo Elis Amy McKevlin 75 pts |
| Walker Contractors Cup -Handwriting Y1/2 Foundation | Isabella Crozier |
| Henderson Cup - Handwriting Y4 Key Stage 1 - It's a census get me out of here | Kyla Johnston |

| | |
|---|--|
| Handwriting Year 7 - Key Stage 2 | Amy McKevlin |
| Eric Ferguson Cup - Drama KS1 | Kendal Campbell |
| Penny Lane Cup - Drama KS2 | Ruby Aiken |
| School Shield - Y7 Exemplary Behaviour | Katie Irwin |
| Abbott Cup for Technology | Y7 Dioramas - Harvey O'Neill Ethan Wild |
| Johnston Cup - Music | Oscar Magee Cornet |
| Wray Cycles Cup - Cycling | Jensen Moore - attentive and in control |
| Kian Carrigan Cup (Buddies) | Erin Rose McBrearty |
| Isaac Johnston Cup for Special Achievement | Faith Dilworth |
| William Graham Cup for Competitions | Lexie Bradshaw in Y3 130 pts |
| Tilly Walker Cup for Endeavour | Kai Leonard |
| Kernaghan Junior Entrepreneur Cup | Katie Irwin |
| Johnston Cup - Kindness | Ruby Aiken |
| Smith Reading Cup | Ella Martin for 1,800,000 words |
| ICT Cup | Torin Sholes Ethan Wild |
| ECO Cup | Nathan Thompson |

| | Sports day Cup | Winning House |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 st | Archdale 1184 | Archdale 22,805 |
| 2 nd | Boa 1030 | Boa 21,466 |
| 3 rd | Necarne 870 | Necarne 21,126 |
| 4 th | Devenish 834 | Devenish 20,004 |

| | Boy | Girl |
|----------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Archdale | Wilson Grey 702 | Jessica Largo Elis 844 |
| Boa | Jacob Noble 702 | Kyla Johnston 765 |
| Devenish | Bailie Cobane 660 | Lexie Bradshaw 755 |
| Necarne | Nathan Thompson 698 | Isabel Guida 723 |

8. Music

Tuition

The Education Authority's music service provided instrumental tuition in person for strings (Mrs B McAleer) and brass. (Mr S Magee). 24 pupils availed of this service. Pupils who were in receipt of FSM do not have to pay for the tuition. Other pupils paid £113.50 for the provision.

Musical Pathways - Helen Cassidy - P1-P4 (April - June)

9. Sport

Activities

Between Sept 2021 and June 2022 pupils were offered a variety of sporting activities both within the school day and after school. Unfortunately, due to the COVID 19 restrictions placed on society, sporting competitions were not scheduled until March,

when two teams of pupils travelled to Omagh to take part in a hockey competition. They played very well winning some matches and representing I.P.S. with excellent sportsmanship. 37 pupils took part in the Fermanagh and Omagh district Council Cross-country event at the Bawnacre. They have to be commended as they won the following: Wilson Grey 1st, Kyle Johnston 1st, Jessica Largo Elis 2nd, Aaron Armstrong 3rd, Kim McKeivlin 4th, Amy McKeivlin 4th, Isabelle Wallace 4th, Ethan Carty 5th, Faith Dilworth 6th, Brody Fallis 6th, Bailey Cobane 7th, Logan Grey 9th, Kendal Campbell 9th, Amelia Dickey 9th, Kacie Little 10th. The girls won second overall.

A team of P6+P7 pupils went to Enniskillen Model PS Football competition. They were placed third.

- P7 Cycling Proficiency was carried out after school - 12 pupils participated and passed their Cycling Proficiency test
- Swimming was available for the following classes - P7, P6.
Pupils paid £3 per session towards the transport

Sports Day

We were able to hold our Sports Day this year. It really was a super day with great weather and fun. Lots of parents came and supported the children.

Spar sponsored fruit and bottles of water. They also provided participation medals too.

Core Kids were in school weekly at lunchtime to provide fun activities for each class.

10. House System

The House system was fully operational again. The pupils in the winning house had a trip to the cinema and the play centre at Drumhoney caravan park.

11. School Premises

The Traffic Management scheme was completed just before the beginning of the new 2021 2022 school year. We have speed ramps, a bus bay, more parking, a wider entrance, enhanced lighting and new gates. It is a great improvement; however, problems still exist for 5-10 minutes at home time.

Meetings regarding the School Enhancement Programme continued during the year. This programme funds construction projects valued between £500k and £4 million. This work has made little progress due to pricing issues and rising costs, however, is still expected to take place during the next four years. A main aim for such programmes is to consider immediate / serious accommodation inadequacies or sub-standard accommodation.

Work continued on the school garden - the area was doubled, and the paving for the new area was completed just before Christmas. Resources were purchased and feedback has been really positive. The pupils have really enjoyed using the extra outdoor space. The gardening club worked hard in the Summer term to enhance the area.

We are very proud of our school grounds. Mrs Hunter, building supervisor and the school's ECO Committee and gardening club continue to play a key role in the development of the school grounds.

The new foyer, traffic management scheme and garden all greatly enhance our school.

12. Security of Pupils, Staff and School Premises

The following measures have been taken to ensure safety of all at Irvinestown Primary School:

- The school has a controlled system of entry into the school. The main front door has a mag-lock. Access to visitors is granted by office staff, who speak to visitors via the hatch/ intercom
- The gates at the side are locked during the school day
- All visitors sign in at the hatch in the foyer and receive a visitors pass
- Parents are encouraged not to enter the school building at drop-off (as in Settling-in policy)
- When collecting children early from school, parents report to the office and Mrs Stewart rings the relevant classroom
- Perimeter fencing discourages unauthorised entry to the school grounds during out of school hours
- An alarm system in the school informs key holders of unauthorised persons within the school outside school hours
- Staff use key fobs to release certain locked doors from exterior
- The school carries out the Fire Evacuation Procedure at least once a term
- Front entrance and some of school site is covered by CCTV
- The school has an emergency action plan for evacuation and an off-site 'place of safety' – The Bawnacre Centre. The key to the Bawnacre gate is stored in a safe keypad box on the playground fence
- All contractors are signed in and briefed by Principal, Caretaker or Office Staff
- Any unexpected visitors to site are challenged

13. Child Protection

(1) Child Protection Safeguarding Team

The Safeguarding team comprises of the Principal (Designated Teacher), Deputy Designated Teacher (Mrs J Harron), Mrs S Spratt-Davison (Child Protection Governor) and Canon Paul Thompson (Chair of Board of Governors).

Mrs Bradshaw was trained as a substitute Deputy Designated Teacher when Mrs Harron deputised as Designated Teacher in Mrs Read's absence.

(2) Child Protection Policy

The Child Protection Policy was updated (October 2020) and made available to all members of staff and parents (via website or hard copies available at school office).

(3) Child Protection Training - Irvinestown Primary

All teaching and non-teaching members of staff were trained in Child Protection matters by Mrs JE Read (12/10/21 + 25/10/21)

Mrs Bradshaw was trained as a substitute Deputy Designated Teacher-Spring term 2022

(4) Child Protection Issues

During the reporting period the school has been dealing with some safeguarding issues. Core group and case planning meetings were attended by the Designated Teacher (Principal) or Mrs Harron in her absence.

(5) Child Protection Policies

Relevant Child Protection and Safeguarding policies were written/updated and approved by the Board of Governors:

- Social Media Policy
- Smoke Free
- Health and Safety
- Complaints
- Drugs Education
- Settling In policy
- The Critical Incident Plan and telephone tree was also updated.
- Nutrition Policy
- Health Education
- Physical activity
- Educational Visits
- Sun safety
- Emergency Procedures
- Parent Policy
- Relationships and Sexuality

14. School and the Community

(1) Educational Visits

Educational visits were limited this year, as buses were unavailable due to Covid-19 restrictions until the third term.

All classes enjoyed a fun trip to Rosstown beach at the end of June.

Accelerated Reading Treats for meeting target:

- Bawnacre Park and ice cream
- Film in hall and treats
- Extra garden time and treats

(2) Assembly

Mrs Read/Mrs Harron led the online assemblies on a Tuesday morning via Google meet and staff used Scripture Union assemblies on a Friday. Classes also started to perform

assemblies and record and upload class on their online platform. We started to get together as a school again for whole school assemblies.

(3) Musical Productions

All children from P1-7 participated in the Christmas Production, 'It's a census, get me out of here', which was held in school without an audience. Parents were able to buy copies of the DVD.

(4) Competitions

Pupils were encouraged to enter competitions sponsored by organisations in the local community. In the Credit Union Art Competition, Lexie Bradshaw won second prize and Lea Johnston won third prize in the 7 years and under category, Mabel Hetherington won 2nd Place in Category B.

Kyle Johnston was runner up in the UFU competition for Open Farm weekend. He received £20 for himself and a £100 cheque for school as well as an apple tree to plant in the school grounds. Lexi Bradshaw won a prize in the Ulster Teachers Union design a Christmas Card competition. She won a bag of goodies for her class to have a party.

HSENI - Farm Safety calendar competition - 2 winners in school Sam Millar and Joshua Armstrong. Joshua's contribution will be featured in January's page and Sam's in August. Both boys received a £30 gift card.

The new calendar was launched in Irvinestown PS on November by the HSENI, and the school was used as part of their video initiative.

Our P6 and the Eco Team won the School Garden of the year Award from Fermanagh Gardening Society. Mrs E Cruwys and Mrs C Gordon presented the prize.

Our Eco Team, under the direction of Mrs Bradshaw worked very hard throughout the year and were delighted to be awarded the Green flag for Eco Schools.

(5) After School Activities

After school activities started again in November and ran until the end of the year. The following clubs were on offer to pupils in P4-P7 - Cookery, Core kids, Stem K'nex, Choir, Gardening, Cycling(P7), Hockey, Road safety(P7), Basic skills, Tabletop games and dance. Parents and pupils were asked about clubs in their end of year survey, and it was evident from the responses that a high value was placed on after school clubs.

(6) The End of Year Celebration

The school had a Leavers' Assembly / Celebration event in June. Mrs Harron gave a summary of the year and Mrs Read commented on every one of the leavers and presented the leavers with their record of achievement and cups were awarded. The 'event' was recorded on a DVD. Year 7 pupils were presented with their Records of Achievement and their tie for their next school. The full range of cups were awarded. Parents were limited to 2 parents per child. Prize winners from P1-P6 were also present.

(7) Open Day

Our Open Morning was unable to take place so instead we recorded a virtual Open Day and published it on our school website and social media on 17th December.

Year 1 induction took place over 3 afternoons in June.

(8) Remembrance Parade Derryvullen North

Amy McKevlin and Grace Monaghan laid the wreath at the Remembrance parade on behalf of the school.

(8) Parental Interest and Support

1. Parent teacher meetings

Two parent teacher meetings were held during the weeks beginning Monday 15-19 November and Monday 21st March. We conducted these via school cloud an on-line system. The response to this system was very favourable, particularly from working parents who could arrange the interview during a break and not waste time travelling to school.

2. P.T.A.

The P.T.A. account is in a healthy position, as during the building works, we decided to minimise spending in case it was needed to subsidise / enhance the new area. This year the PTA paid for the following: Sports Kit donation, Sing Up, Projector for P4, Paint and Brushes for the garden, Musical pathways, and contributed to the Jubilee Celebrations. During the 2021/22 school year, Irvinestown Primary School PTA had some fundraisers- a fireside quiz, and guess how many sweets in the jar, and guess the name of the teddy. A total of £610 was raised. Deborah Fallis also ran a Tropic fundraiser for PTA funds which raised £70.

The PTA office bearers for the 2021/22 School Year included:

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Chair | Mr R Armstrong |
| Secretary | Mrs G Wallace |
| Treasurer | Mr M Wild Mrs T Thompson |
| Teacher Reps | Mrs J Harron Mrs J E Read |

The Governors, Principal and Teaching Staff are most appreciative of the continued support and interest of the parents in the life of the school.

3. Parent training

First Aid training was offered to all parents
Bronagh Starrs – Webinar

9. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration

The whole school community had a wonderful day of royal celebration in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The day was organised by Mrs Gray and the student school council who came together to organise the festivities. There were bouncy castles, and many royal themed games such as pin the tail on the corgi, pin the jewel on the crown and a different scavenger hunt for each key stage!

Children and staff enjoyed a Royal feast outdoors provided by the kitchen staff, and the pupils also prepared some food for the picnic. There were class performances, each class performing a song from each decade of the Queen's reign and the pupils were delighted when the ice cream van arrived!

Year 5 wrote and posted letters to the Queen to congratulate her on this special occasion. This was a joyous occasion following a long period of time when pupils could not partake in activities such as this due to COVID-19. The student school council made a

time capsule with memories of this momentous occasion to be discovered by pupils in the future.

10. B.E.M.

Mrs Hunter, our school caretaker was awarded a B.E.M. in the Queen's New Year's Honours List. We were absolutely delighted for her, and she was totally overwhelmed by the nomination. She travelled to Hillsborough Castle in April with her daughter, to receive her B.E.M. from Lord Brookeborough.

11. The school planted a tree in the grounds to mark 100 years since the formation of Northern Ireland.

12. World Down's syndrome day

School held a Silly Socks Day for World Down's Syndrome day on 21st March 2022. Mabel and Miss Irvine went round the classes teaching the children some words and songs using Makaton. A cheque was presented to Mrs Elaine Hetherington on behalf of the local Fermanagh Downs Syndrome Support Group for £258 to help support families in the community.

13. Fundraising for others

Down Syndrome Fermanagh Branch – Silly Socks Day -£258

P6 Wateraid £70 raised which was doubled by the government to £140

Christmas Jumper Day - Monday 20th December. £171 raised were forwarded to Action Mental Health.

Staff donated **£250** to Cash for Kids and also to the foodbank in Irvinestown in lieu of Christmas gifts to each other.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL- £469.61+ 1 Euro

EXTENDED SCHOOLS

We are delighted to receive extended schools funding. A school must have the following to be deemed eligible for full Extended Schools funding:-

- 51% or more of pupils enrolled from a Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) or 30% most disadvantaged Super Output Areas using both the Multiple Deprivation Measure (2017) and Education Domain; **and/or**
- 37% or more of pupils with a Free School Meal Entitlement (FSME). In the case of nursery schools, 37% or more of pupils with a FSME or whose parent/s is/are (or were at the time of first application for pre- school admission) in receipt of Income Support or Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance; Employment Support Allowance where an award of income-based job-seekers allowance has been converted and the amount of the award remains unchanged; or Universal Credit.

We received funding of £12,501 for our own school, and by clustering with St Mary's College and St.Paul's PS and including parents in our programme we get a further £3,750 funding. The following projects were funded through extended schools.

- Core kids – lunchtime and after school programme
- Music therapist (until Healthy Happy Minds project started)
- Cookery after school club
- Gardening after school club
- Tabletop games club
- First Aid – training for pupils and parents
- Basic skills catch up after school programme

Concluding Remarks

All members of the Board of Governors extend grateful thanks to the Principal and Staff for the high standards achieved both inside and outside the classroom and to the parents for their support in achieving this high level of success.

IRVINESTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal
J E Read - B.Ed.,
Adv. Dip., PQH (NI)

Telephone: **028 6862 1408**
Fax: **028 6862 8946**



24 Burfits Hill
Irvinestown
Co Fermanagh
BT94 1DY



Email - info@irvinestownps.enniskillen.ni.sch.uk
Website - www.irvinestownps.co.uk

SCHOOL CLOSINGS 2021 - 2022

AUTUMN TERM

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Term Begins | 1 st September 2021 |
| Staff Training | 25 th & 26 th October |
| Half Term | 27 th , 28 th & 29 th October |
| Last Day of Term | 21 st December |

SPRING TERM

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Staff Training | 4 th January 2022 |
| Term Begins | 5 th January |
| Half Term | 17 th & 18 th February |
| Staff Training | 21 st February |
| St Patrick's Day Holiday | 17 th & 18 th March |
| Last Day of Term | 12 th April |

SUMMER TERM

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Term Begins | 26 th April |
| Early May Bank Holiday | 2 nd May |
| Late May Bank Holiday | 2 nd & 3 rd June |
| Staff Training | 6 th June |
| Last Day of Term | 30 th June |

On Last Day of Each Term
School Closes at 12.15pm (Y1 & Y2) & 12.30pm (Y3 - Y7)
Staff Training Days - School Closed