Millennium

INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL

2025-2026 Academic Year

Our Children are, and feel, safe
Our Children feel good about school
Our Children see school as a partnership

Chair's Report to Annual General Meeting
Millennium Integrated Primary School
Thursday 5 November 2026.

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new." Socrates.

1. Two words that sum up the last twelve months at Millennium are surely "change" and "opportunity". The last Chair's report was delivered by Declan Hall, his 9th in total as Chair of the Board of Governors. Declan stood down in January 2026 and the almost completed new school building is testament to his guidance and leadership over the last 9 years. In June, the Principal Barry Corrigan accepted a one year secondment opportunity with the Department of Education creating the first change in senior leadership at the school for many years. But it also brought about huge opportunity for Alan McPherson to step up to Acting Principal, and more recently, for Suzanne Smyth to replace him as Acting Vice Principal for the duration of Barry's secondment. It is a true reflection of the professionalism at the school that two such senior positions were so capably replaced at such short notice. It is a time of change but great opportunity for all involved.

2. In November 2025 the first sods were cut on the site of the new school build project. The fact that this project even got to that stage in such good order is indicative of the hard work and dedication of all involved within the school, including Barry, Declan and several others who went before them. The new school build progressed in a very measured and dedicated manner, delayed briefly by storms, but remains on track for next year. The new building now stands proud and will open in 2027 for a wonderful new chapter in the history of Millennium. We will say goodbye to the old building in 2027, but we will not be looking back, only forward to the fantastic future which the new school campus will bring.

3. The last academic year brought a number of achievements which can't all be captured here. The most recent SEAG transfer tests produced our best set of results with improvements notably at the Band 1 grade and most grades below. 55 out of 58 of all pupils achieved their first preference school choice. In January 2026 the school was again recognised for its leadership in ICT with a Microsoft Showcase School recognition award. Five Integrated Education Fund (IEF) awards were achieved totalling £1,250 which is invaluable in the current financial climate.

4. Outside of the classrooms the P7 Credit Union Quiz team were area champions, with a further prize for art being received by a P7 pupil. There was representation in sports across hockey, football, gaelic games and rugby. The artistic and fun side of the school was also out in force this year with the December 2025 Key Stage 2 Production of Cinderella and Rockefella at Lagan College, and Millennium's Got Talent in June 2026. Special thanks to Suzanne Smyth for all of her endeavours with both.

5. Parents Council have once again provided tremendous additional support to the school over the last year not just in supporting vital fundraising activities, but also in ensuring that the Parents voice is heard. Parents Council has and always will be a central part of the good running of the school and the new school building will be to the credit of all of the PC members who have been involved with this over the last number of years. Particular thanks to Nicola McSharry and Viola Johnston as Chair and Vice Chair, and to the Committee members for their dedication to the school.

6. The Board of Governors has gone through quite some change over the last two years with some long established members moving aside for the new. We also welcomed three new Department of Education members to the Governors team. Looking forward to 2027 this provides a great opportunity for us at Governors to help move the school into the next phase of its journey.

7. The previous year has also seen its fair share of news headlines, mostly negative, about school budgets, industrial relations, and even Integrated Education itself. This is indeed where it is best not to fight with the old but to focus on the new. We are very fortunate indeed to be moving into a brand new school building in 2027. A building that will stand the test of time and be a shining light for Integrated Education and all that it stands for. We are equally fortunate to have such a dedicated team of staff who will help make the change in to opportunity for the class of 2027 and all of those who follow.

Richard Ross
Chair
Board of Governors

Introduction

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to present the Governors' Annual Report for Millennium Integrated Primary School for the academic year 2025–2026. This report and our AGM provide an opportunity to reflect on the achievements, developments and challenges of the year just past.

The construction of our new school has been a defining feature of 2025–2026. Following the start of work in July 2025, the official sod-cutting ceremony took place on 12 November 2025, attended by the Education Minister and representatives from the Department of Education, the Education Authority, former school leadership, the Parents' Council and our construction partners, Felix O'Hare. Throughout the year, regular project meetings, planning for furniture and equipment, ICT provision and outdoor play have been happening in the background in preparation for our moving to the new building in early 2027. We look forward to the opportunities this building will offer our children and the wider school community.

Our Board of Governors is a dedicated team of professionals who come from a wide range of backgrounds and bring different skills, experience and perspectives to the school. They are the employing authority for Millennium Integrated Primary School and, as a Grant-Maintained Integrated (GMI) school, the Board carries significant responsibility, duty and accountability for the effective running of the school. Governors are also Directors of the company which oversees the school, bringing additional responsibilities to their role. They also directly employ almost 60 staff.

The full Board meets regularly, usually on the first Thursday evening of most months, but the commitment of our Governors extends well beyond these meetings. Members also serve on a range of committees, including admissions, recruitment, finance and policy, and regularly give additional time outside the normal meeting schedule. This can include extra evening meetings and, particularly during recruitment processes, Saturdays and other periods outside normal working hours. As the employing authority, Governors play an important role in recruitment, helping us to appoint the very best staff for our school and our children.

I am extremely grateful for the time, expertise and commitment our Governors give voluntarily to Millennium. I particularly value the close working relationship I have had with our Chair, Mr Richard Ross. The support and constructive challenge provided by Mr Ross and the wider Board are an important part of school leadership and have helped me to continue developing in my role as Principal.

The Governors continue to demonstrate their commitment to the life of the school by giving their time and experience freely, and they ensure that the school is supported to the best of their ability in maintaining the high standards which we set for the children and staff in Millennium.

Mr Alan McPherson

Vice Principal for the year 2025-26 and Acting Principal 2026-27

Composition of the Board of Governors 2025 - 2026

The Scheme of Management for the Board of Governors allows for 16 voting members, the Principal of the school and any co-opted members.

The principal and co-opted members do not have voting rights.

Of the voting members:

- 6 shall be Foundation Governors, at least one-third of whom shall, at the time of their appointment, be parents of children attending the school;
- 4 shall be appointed by the Department of Education;
- 4 shall be elected by parents of children attending the school from amongst the parents of such children; and
- 2 shall be elected by the teachers

Department of Education Representatives

Mr Rodney Dowling (Jan 2018)

Currently 3 vacancies to be filled from the Department of Education

Foundation Governors

Mr Declan Hall (Chair until February 2026 – resigned from the Board) [Designated Foundation Governor in September 2021]

Mr Neil McGrath (Designated as a Foundation Governor in September 2019 – resigned 2025)

Ms Tessa Curry (Designated Foundation Governor in September 2021)

Mrs Barnie Thompson (Appointed October 2024)

Parent Governors

Mr Richard Ross – became chair in February 2026 (Appointed September 2021)

Mrs Annie Davis (Appointed September 2021)

Mrs Victoria Parr (Appointed September 2022) – resigned December 2025

Mrs Viola Johnston (Appointed November 2024)

Teacher Representatives

Mr Alan McPherson (September 2021)

Mr James Kailanathan (November 2024)

Non-voting, co-opted member

Mrs Cathy Money (Appointed October 2024)

Non-Voting Member / Secretary to the Board of Governors

Barry Corrigan (Principal)

Responsibility of the Governors

The role of the Board of Governors is to manage the school with a view to providing the best possible education and educational opportunities for all of the pupils. This involves:

- Setting the strategic direction of the school;

- Taking corporate decisions in relation to the statutory functions of the Board of Governors; and
- Promoting good governance.

Governors are responsible for the following aspects of the school:

Strategic Governance

- Setting the school's aims and visions
- Establishing and maintaining the school's ethos
- Setting the school's plans and policies
- Monitoring and evaluating the school's performance
- Promoting self-evaluation

Corporate Governance

- School performance measures
- School finances
- Curriculum planning
- Staff management – appointments, performance, welfare, etc.
- Pupil pastoral care, protection issues, health and safety, etc.
- Pupil admissions
- Publication of information regarding school and its pupils
- Managing the school premises and relations with the community

Responsibility for the day-to-day running of the school rests with the Principal, who advises the Governors on issues arising from this operational responsibility.

Arrangements for the next election of parents to the Board of Governors

The Board of Governors welcomes the opportunity to work with our parental representatives on the Governor team. Currently, the 4 places for parental representatives are filled and when places become available, this will be communicated to the parent body.

Review of the Year 2025-2026

The new school building project continued to gather momentum throughout the academic year. The official sod-cutting ceremony on 12 November 2025 marked an important milestone for the whole school community and since then it has been exciting to watch the building take shape before our eyes.

There is a real sense of excitement amongst the children, who are now able to clearly see their new school and watch the progress being made on a daily basis. Children, including members of our Junior Board of Governors, have also had opportunities to view the site from the observation area and see the development at close hand. The regular drone footage released by Felix O'Hare, and shared through our social media channels, has provided another fantastic perspective on the scale of the new building and the space and facilities that will soon be available to our children and staff.

We have developed an excellent relationship with our construction partners at Felix O'Hare, who have worked closely with the school throughout the project. A special mention must also go to Rory, the gateman, whose warm and friendly welcome to parents, pupils and staff each day has made him a familiar and valued presence around our school community.

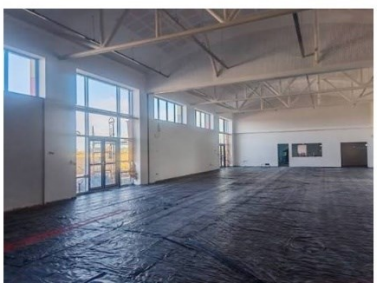
Alongside the construction itself, a considerable amount of work is taking place to prepare for life in our new school. Mr Corrigan and Mr McPherson have been busy planning for the new building, considering everything from learning environments and specialist provision to technology, outdoor facilities and the practical arrangements associated with the move. This has also included visiting other recently built schools to see how they are making effective use of their new learning spaces and to identify ideas that could work well at Millennium.

There is a realisation that our current building has its limitations. Space remains at a premium, and we continue to operate three separate break times and three lunch times to manage this as effectively as possible. While these arrangements are not always ideal for bringing the whole school together, I am particularly proud that there continues to be a strong sense of community across all of our age groups. Our children and staff have adapted extremely well, and that sense of Millennium being one school community remains very evident.









This year, we continued to broaden the range of sporting opportunities available to children, particularly in Key Stage 2. On Wednesday afternoons, teams have travelled to the **Saintfield Community facilities**, where the additional space has allowed us to provide Gaelic football and football sessions. At school, netball has also been successfully reintroduced alongside a wider programme of activities, including gardening, computing and art.

It has been particularly encouraging to see **Millennium participating more regularly in competitive sport with other local schools**. Our netball team achieved an excellent **third-place finish in a tournament**, a particularly pleasing achievement following the reintroduction of netball to the school. Our thanks go to **Miss Smyth, Rebeckah and one of our parents**, who have generously given their time to support the team.

Our football teams have also participated in a number of tournaments, achieving **second-place finishes at both Dundonald and Ballynahinch**. Children have had opportunities to experience other sports too, including rugby taster sessions at **Ballynahinch Rugby Club**. We have also established an association with **Ulster Hockey**, with our children taking part in several hockey blitz tournaments. We are very grateful to our **Parents' Council**, who further supported the development of hockey by purchasing a goalkeeper kit for the school.

Providing these additional opportunities does present practical and financial challenges. In particular, hiring a bus each week to transport children to Saintfield places additional pressure on already stretched school resources. Nevertheless, we believe that providing children with opportunities to **represent their school, experience different sports and participate in competitive events** is extremely valuable. We therefore intend to continue developing our Wednesday afternoon programme and look forward to further opportunities for our children to participate as individuals and as members of a team.

Our Specialist Provision class continued to operate within the main building. Although not an ideal location, the work that goes on in the class benefits the children enormously and it continues to be a positive addition to the school life.

Our **Nurture provision** continues to be an important part of the support we provide for children at Millennium. It offers a safe, welcoming and supportive environment where children can build their confidence, develop their emotional wellbeing and strengthen their social skills. Through structured small-group support and caring, practical activities, the provision responds to individual needs and helps children to feel secure, settled and ready to learn.

Our Nurture provision is **largely self-funded by the school**, reflecting the importance we place on supporting children's wellbeing alongside their academic development. Over the years, we have also been fortunate to receive funding and support from the **Integrated Education Fund (IEF)**, which continues to be a great friend and supporter of our school. We are extremely grateful for their contribution and the opportunities this support has helped us to provide.

The provision is **led by Mrs Finn Magee**, whose commitment and care help to ensure that children accessing Nurture feel welcomed, valued and supported within our school community.

The financial position of schools across Northern Ireland remains a significant concern, with a large proportion of schools currently operating with budget deficits. I am pleased to report that **Millennium is not currently in deficit**. This reflects careful financial planning and management by the school and our Board of Governors. However, we cannot be complacent. Without a **sustained improvement in the funding provided by the Department of Education**, maintaining this position will become increasingly challenging as schools continue to face significant financial pressures.

The school's finances are carefully scrutinised through our **Finance Committee**, with the financial position reported regularly to the full Board of Governors. We continue to budget prudently, carefully considering expenditure and prioritising resources that have the greatest impact on our children and their learning.

Within this challenging financial climate, the support of our **Parents' Council** is particularly valuable. Through their fundraising activities and the generosity of our families and wider school community, they provide an important additional source of funding for the school. This support has helped us to purchase and update **ICT equipment, resources and other materials**, as well as fund additional items that would otherwise place further pressure on the school budget.

We would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone involved in the Parents' Council and to all our families who support their fundraising activities. Their contribution makes a real and tangible difference to the opportunities and resources we can provide for our children. A separate **Parents' Council report is included within this Annual Report**, providing a more detailed breakdown of their work and how the funds raised have supported the school.

The school continued to be busy, regardless of pressures on the curriculum and on space. We had our Science week, led by Mr Brendan Donnelly, and exposed the children to a range of experiments and ideas. The Creative Arts (under the leadership of Ms. Suzanne Smyth) continues to be embedded across the school – with our scheme, Charanga, being rolled out and supported. As well as this, the recorder and the glockenspiel resources are in constant use. P7 put on their annual end of year play, under the expert guidance of Andrea Grimison and the school choir participated in a range of events in the community.

We also had a very successful Integrated Education Month with a range of visitors and activities across the school. Thank you to Mrs. Rachel Bolingbroke for leading this across the school and she ensures that the integrated message continues to be a lived experience. This led to even further success in the Carson Awards for Creativity where there were a number of prizes won by the classes across the school. These included winning £750 for the school and an award to recognise our school's outstanding contribution to the Carson Award (in memory of Frank Carson who was an ardent supporter of the Integrated movement).

In May, the school received its Impact Autism award for the work that has been going on in the school to create an inclusive environment. We would like to commend the work of Mrs Lisa McMullan and Jenny Hall in bringing this to the school. We continued to receive excellent feedback from external assessors for the annual Inclusive Quality Mark (IQM) assessment. This highlighted the work that has been undertaken in the school on many fronts and how it continues to work hard to serve the children and families that attend Millennium. The report is included here.

We continued to work with a range of outside clubs across the school, too. There are weekly clubs running from 2-4pm. We have long term partnerships with Healthy Kidz (Monday), Jujitsu (Tuesday), Drama (Wednesday), IFA Football (Thursday) and Monkeynastix (Friday).

Staffing remained relatively steady, we welcomed Mark Vincent who was appointed as Primary 6 teacher. As the 'pack was shuffled' Rachel Doyle was appointed as Primary 2 teacher to replace Sarah Mathison. There was also a change of role for Zoe Heatherington who now will take one day of numeracy support as well as a day in Primary 7 to help Alan McPherson fulfil his Vice Principal duties. This led to the appointment of Natasza Rudewicz as Damian McArdle's job share partner for two days a week. James Kailanathan was appointed as Foundation Leader after Sarah Mathison's departure.

We would also like to pay tribute to the Parents' Council for its exceptional contribution to school life. Through its fundraising and volunteering, the Council supported new iPads, transport for Key Stage 2 rehearsals, hockey equipment and a range of activities for children and families. Its events have also helped maintain our strong sense of community during a period of significant change. The full Parents' Council report and financial statement are included later in this report.

Achievements and Highlights of 2025–2026

The school received five awards from the Integrated Education Fund, worth £250 each, and our Primary 4 pupils performed their winning song at the Carson Awards ceremony. Microsoft Ireland also recognised Millennium as a Microsoft Showcase School.

Our children enjoyed a rich range of musical and creative opportunities, including the Key Stage 2 production of Cinderella and Rockerfella at Lagan College, choir performances in the community, the P5 classes attended Peace Proms and Millennium's Got Talent was held in Spring.

Our sporting programme included girls' hockey at the Ulster Hockey blitz, football tournaments and festivals, Gaelic football and rugby opportunities. The Primary 7 Credit Union quiz team won its area competition and progressed to the regional finals.

Integrated Education Month featured world-faith learning, Ulster Scots music and traditional tin whistle activities. Shared Education visits with Carr Primary School, educational trips, STEM learning and wellbeing activities enriched the curriculum.

All 58 Primary 7 pupils secured post-primary placements across 17 schools; 55 received their first preference. We are proud of the work of our pupils and staff in supporting successful transitions. Staff continued to develop inclusive practice and curriculum leadership, with engagement in TransformED, InsightED, SEN support, nurture provision and professional learning. Our Oak specialist provision continued to support children and their transitions.

Staff and Class Structure

Principal: Mr Barry Corrigan
Vice Principal: Mr Alan McPherson
Literacy Leader: Mrs Sue Fitzgerald
Numeracy Leader: Mrs Catherine Kingston
World Around Us Leader: Mr Brendan Donnelly
Creative Arts Leader: Miss Suzanne Smyth
Integration Leader: Mrs Rachel Bolingbroke
Foundation Leader: Mr James Kailanathan
Key Stage 1 Leader: Mrs Sue Fitzgerald
Key Stage 2 Leader: Mr Brendan Donnelly

Classroom Teachers (Including current year)

Nursery: Mrs Jennifer Houston
Primary 1: Mrs Lisa McMullen and Mrs Ruth Salazar / Mr James Kailanathan
Primary 2: Mrs Catherine Kingston and Mrs Rachel Orderly / Miss Rachel Doyle
Primary 3: Mrs Rachel Bolingbroke / Mrs Eithne White and Mrs Hannah McKee
Primary 4: Mrs Sue Fitzgerald / Mrs Judith Taggart
Primary 5: Mr Rory Gardner / Mr Damian McArdle and Miss Natasza Rudewicz
Primary 6: Miss Suzanne Smyth / Mr Mark Vincent
Primary 7: Mr Brendan Donnelly / Mr Alan McPherson
Oak Class: Miss Amy Murphy

Learning Support Team
Learning Support Coordinator (LSC): Miss Sara Browning
Learning Support Teacher: Mrs Finn Magee
Learning Support Teacher / P7 VP Release: Mrs Zoe Heatherington

Classroom Assistants
Nursery: Stacey Walsh,
Primary 1: Marie Coiley / Katrina McConvey, Mary-Anne McKervey
Primary 2: Jacqui Ortiz Mojaraz / Lisa Foster

Learning Support Assistants (including current year)
Wendy Adair, Suzanne Beattie, Judith Boyle, Catherine Carson; Roisin Carson, Denise Davison, Elaine Devlin, Louise Flynn, Arlene Flynn, Jenny Hall, Evie Haughey, Jennifer Holden, Stephanie Kearney, Louise Millar; Evangeline Ravinchandran; Fiona Robinson, Chloe Shannon, Rosemarie Stevenson, Rebeckah Wadell; Nuala Trainor, Michelle Whyte

Administration Team
Financial Administrator/Office Manager: Frances Lowry
Secretary: Beata Mis
School Meals: Suzanne Beattie, Ellen Woods, Eunyoung Hwang

Millennium Integrated Primary School — Parents' Council Annual Report 2025–2026

September 2025 to June 2026

1. Committee
2. Our team
3. Objectives
4. How we spent our fundraising
5. Activities
6. Fundraising
7. Social Media
8. Engagement with school community
9. Plan for Sept 2026 – June 2027

2025/26 Committee

Chair: Nichola McSherry
Vice-Chair: Viola Johnston
Secretary: Adele Meek
Co-secretary: Valerie Smyth
Treasurers: Graeme Taylor, Abbie Branagh
Volunteer Co-ordinator: Loren Walker, Alison Kamble
PR Co-ordinators: Abbie & Viola

Our Team

Our active members are referred to as Class Representatives; they play a key role in disseminating messages about events, as well as feeding back information from the Millennium parent community. In addition, our Class Representatives lead on Parent Council events, volunteer at the events and support through purchasing prizes and resources for the events.
We have 28 active members

Our objective

Our focus for this academic year was to invest some of the money that we had fundraised over the last couple of years back into the school.

We also set ourselves the target of fundraising £10,000. And as always Parents' Council aim to build upon the sense of community within the school.

How we spent our fundraising

- 4 new iPads - £4300
- Buses for KS2 Christmas concert practice - £2040
- Hockey goalkeepers kit - £174.95
- Cupcakes for P7 leavers - £58.80
- Christmas pencils for children - £178.24

In total in 2025/2026 we spent £6751.99 supporting the school

Tea & Coffee
Parents Council members volunteered to provide tea & coffee at

- P1 Harvest (October)
- P1 open day (January)
- Nursey open day (January)
- Post primary information event (SPiM) (May)
- P1 induction sessions (June)
- Leavers assembly (June)

We provided a warm welcome on 6 occasions

Activities

- First day of P1 parent's survival kit
- Halloween Disco
- School Christmas Tree (sourced & decorated)
- Christmas nativity swap shop
- Santa visit & gifts
- Christmas hamper raffle
- Christmas card sale (Children designed the cards)
- Valentine Disco
- Smarties Challenge
- Easter hamper raffle
- Belfast Marathon relay
- June Fun Day – children were sponsored to have fun

We organised 12 different activities

Fundraising

- £658.00 - Halloween disco
- £1372.00 - Christmas hampers
- £618.85 - Christmas cards
- £634.00 - Valentine disco
- £1355.96 - Smarties challenge
- £274 - Easter hamper raffle
- £5146.60 Belfast marathon sponsorship
- £4690.14 – Sponsored fun day

We fundraised £14,749.55 for the school

Social Media

- During 2025/26 we had 51 social media posts. 449 Facebook followers and 67 Instagram followers

Month	Date	Activity
September	27 August	Gifts for P1 parents
October	20th October	P1 Harvest tea & coffee
	23rd October	Halloween disco during the school day
November	TBC	Pub Quiz, Carryduff
	w/c 2 November	Nativity Swap Shop in reception
	TBC	Christmas wreath making
December	1 December	Decorate the school Christmas tree
	1 December	Class Christmas hampers
	TBC	Christmas cards
	TBC	Santa visit & gift
January	TBC	Tea/coffee at Open Days
February	1 February	Smarties Challenge
	8–10 February	Valentine's disco during the school day
March	1 March	Children's Easter hamper raffle
April	—	No activity currently planned
May	2 May	Belfast Marathon
	TBC	Family Quiz in the new school hall
June	TBC	Summer Fun Day
	TBC	Tea/coffee at Nursery & P1 information sessions
	TBC	Tea/coffee at P7 Leavers' Assembly

Finally, to close, I would like to show my appreciation by saying a few thank you mentions. Without you the events wouldn't take place or be as successful.

- Mr Corrigan & Mr McPherson and staff
- Admin staff (for the endless emails they have to read!)
- Parent volunteers
- The parents and pupils for supporting the events.
- Last, but by no means least, the core Parents Council members and volunteers who work tirelessly to organise each and every event.

Parents' Council Financial Report: September 2025 – August 2026

Date: 20th October 2026
Prepared by: Graeme Taylor
Position: Treasurer
Period Covered: From September 2025- August 2026

School Parents' Council Financial Report

Reporting period: 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026

1. Introduction

This report outlines the financial activities of the School Parents' Council for the period stated above, providing details of income, expenditure and the current financial position.

2. Summary of Financial Position

Financial Summary	Amount
Opening balance as of 1 September 2025	£18,096.30
Total income	£14,947.74
Total expenditure	£8,959.49
Closing balance as of 31 August 2026	**£24,084.55**
Net increase over the year	**£5,988.25**

Reconciliation note: These figures have been reconciled line by line against the Ulster Bank transaction statement for the reporting period and the Parents' Council finance spreadsheet.

3. Fundraising and Income Overview

Fundraising Activity	Income
Halloween Disco	£658.00
Christmas Hampers	£1,372.00
Christmas Cards	£618.85
Valentine's Disco	£360.00
Easter Hampers	£274.00
Smarties Challenge	£1,355.96
Marathon Relay: entries, sponsorship and donations	£5,146.60
Summer Fun Day	£4,690.14
Donations and sundry cash lodgements	£472.19
Total Income	**£14,947.74**

4. Expenditure Overview

Item	Expenditure
iPads for school	£4,300.00
KS2 pantomime coaches	£2,040.00
Marathon Relay entry fees, including 2027	£887.55
Summer Fun Day costs	£680.89
Disco lights and Halloween prizes	£204.41
Christmas pencils and tree	£178.24
Hockey kit	£174.95
25th celebration cake	£100.00
Smarties Challenge costs	£86.26
Meeting refreshments	£66.79
Flowers and gifts	£65.00
P7 Leavers' cupcakes and cake toppers	£58.80
Easter Hampers	£46.00
P1 gift bags	£27.32
Valentine's balloons and prizes	£25.29
Presentation cheque	£17.99
Total Expenditure	**£8,959.49**

5. Conclusion

The financial position of the School Parents Council remains strong, with a closing balance of £24084.55. The Marathon Relay and the Summer Fun Day were the most successful fundraisers this year, together raising over £9800. The council's funds have been used to support the school directly, including iPads, transport for the KS2 panto, hockey kit and gifts for the P1 and P7 pupils, and will continue to be used for any specific requests made by the school staff.

6. Recommendations

Receipts and a short note of which event each payment relates to should be passed to the treasurer at the time of payment and recorded in the finance spreadsheet, so the year-end report can be prepared directly from the records. Money collected through School Money should continue to be transferred to the Parents Council account promptly after each event. The school office has confirmed that all monies collected on behalf of the Parents Council have been transferred and no balances remain outstanding. Given the healthy balance, the committee should agree with the school how best to use the funds in the year ahead, while keeping a sensible reserve to cover the up-front costs of future events. The 2027 Marathon Relay entry fees have already been paid.

Treasurer: _____ (Signature)

Chairperson: _____ (Signature)

Date: 20th October 2026

Enrolment

The permitted enrolment from the Department of Education is 420 and the school continues to meet the needs of the local community. The nursery has an enrolment of 52 part-time places – which is made up of an AM and PM session. The Specialist Provision (Social Communication Unit) has room for 8 children who are placed by the Education Authority.

Curriculum Development and TransformED

Throughout the year, the school has been actively engaging with the Department of Education in preparation for TransformED and the roll-out of the new curriculum. As part of this work, Ms Suzanne Smyth has been appointed as the school's Lead Teacher for TransformED, providing a clear point of leadership as the school prepares for and responds to forthcoming curriculum developments.

The school has also continued to look beyond its own setting and engage collaboratively with other schools. Senior leaders participated in a four-school conference on the future of education, held at Custom House Square, Belfast, alongside colleagues from St Bernard's, Acorn IPS and Nettlefield PS. Led by Mr Corrigan and other leaders from across the four schools, the event provided an opportunity to share thinking, consider emerging priorities and explore collectively how schools can respond positively to the changing educational landscape. Other leaders from across the education sector were also invited to contribute to the event.

Alongside this wider engagement, the school has begun to identify priority areas for improvement and development in preparation for the new curriculum. This ensures that curriculum change is considered alongside existing school improvement priorities rather than as a separate initiative.

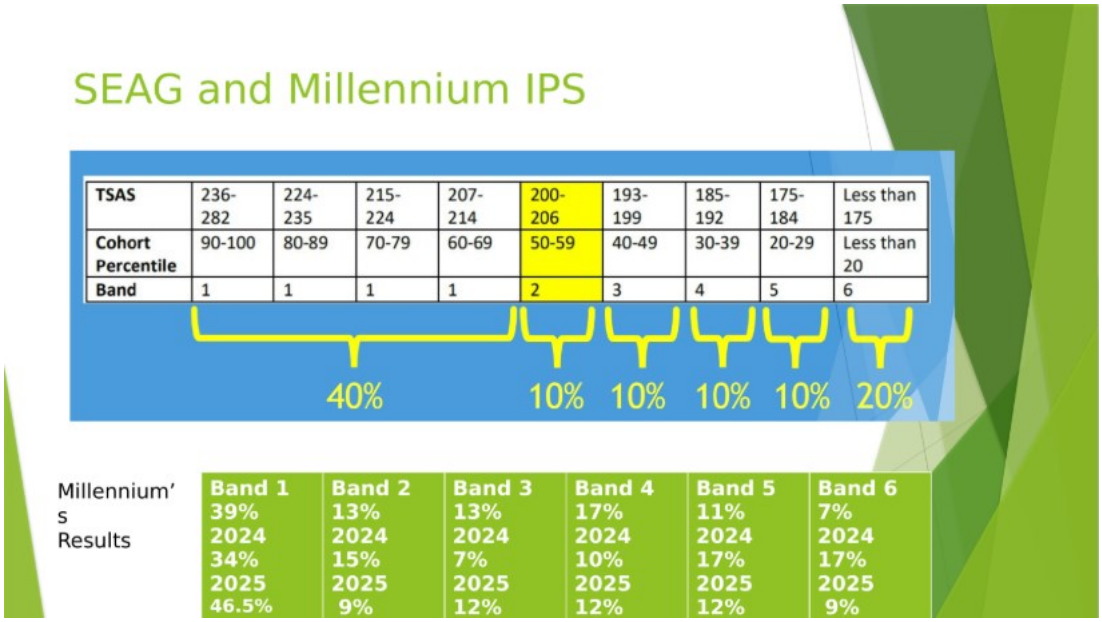
There has also been active engagement with the development of individual curriculum areas. Mrs Fitzgerald represented the school in consultation around the proposed new English curriculum, while Mr McPherson participated in consultation relating to Mathematics. This involvement has enabled the school to contribute to the wider discussion around curriculum development while also building staff awareness and capacity ahead of implementation.

Overall, this work reflects a proactive and collaborative approach to curriculum development, with leadership responsibilities established, staff engaging directly in consultation and the school working in partnership with other settings as it prepares for the next phase of curriculum change.

Post Primary SEAG Assessment

The SEAG assessment continued to form part of the transfer process for Primary 7 pupils. In the 2026 cohort, 46 pupils (79%) sat the assessment, while 12 pupils (21%) did not.
The school achieved its highest-ever proportion of pupils attaining Band 1, with 46.5% of pupils achieving Band 1 in 2026. This was an increase from 34% in 2025 and 39% in 2024, and the school's overall results were above the Northern Ireland average.

SEAG Band Results: Millennium IPS, 2024–2026



The school continued to provide information and individual support to families as they considered post-primary choices, including meetings with families to discuss admissions criteria and available options

Religious Education

As an integrated school, Religious Education is an important part of our curriculum and our wider commitment to developing understanding, respect and inclusion. Religious Education is taught through the Northern Ireland RE curriculum, while pupils are also provided with opportunities to explore a range of faiths, beliefs and traditions.

The school continues to celebrate religious traditions from across the main Christian traditions represented within our community. Roman Catholic pupils are supported in preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Primary 3, First Holy Communion in Primary 4 and Confirmation in Primary 7. These are important occasions in the life of the school and, in keeping with our integrated ethos, classmates are welcomed and encouraged to share in and support these special occasions.

The school also engages with local churches, faith communities and other organisations to broaden pupils' experiences and understanding. Visitors are invited to contribute to assemblies, with an increasing emphasis on ensuring that contributions recognise and respect the diversity of faith, belief and background within our school community.

During the year, the school developed a new rota for visiting speakers and introduced a new Assembly Policy, which was ratified by the Board of Governors. Our assembly programme is underpinned by the school's shared values:

Children: We are...	Staff: We are...
Included	**Inclusive**
Nurtured	**Nurturing**
Confident	**Confident**
Integrated	**Integrated**
Safe	**Safe**
Supported	**Supportive**
Whole	**Holistic**

These values provide a consistent foundation for assemblies and contributions from visiting speakers, reinforcing the school's commitment to inclusion, respect, diversity and the Principles of Integrated Education.

Responding to the Supreme Court Judgment

The school has also reviewed its approach in light of the UK Supreme Court judgment of November 2025 concerning Religious Education and collective worship in Northern Ireland. The judgment established that RE and collective worship must respect the rights of children and parents and identified the requirement for religious teaching to be delivered in a manner that is objective, critical and pluralistic. The Department of Education subsequently published proposals for a revised RE syllabus in July 2026 in direct response to the judgment. Our RE topics from P1-P7 covered can be accessed here.

At Millennium, we are committed to ensuring that our provision reflects these requirements and remains consistent with our integrated ethos. Parents and carers may request that their child is withdrawn from Religious Education and/or collective worship. The school will also work with families where they have concerns about participation in particular elements of religious provision. Find the form here.

Creative Arts

Miss Smyth organised instrumental music teachers for violin, lyre, piano, flute, clarinet, guitar and drums. We have over 65 children taking lessons in school. As well as this, there is also an external iRock band opportunity for children to attend.

School choirs were set up (KS2 and fun choir for P3-P4) and performed at various events in the community including the Carryduff Community Carol Service and the Carryduff Christmas Market.

Creative Arts continues to be an important element to the school and there was also a focus on this for staff development, this year.

Arrangements for children with Special Needs

The main change, this year, was the return of Sara Browning as Learning Support Coordinator. Miss Browning took over the role just after the mid-term break in October and, very quickly, found her feet, again.

The Oak Class is a Specialist Provision which is funded directly by the Education Authority (EA) but managed from within the school. This class has no more than 8 children and is staffed by 1 teacher and up to 2 classroom assistants.

Literacy and Spelling support continued across the school, building on previous work that was completed last year. This is offered by Mrs Magee on a Wednesday to Friday. She also has some small groups that can focus on social and friendship development.

Mathematics support was new for 2025-26 with one day for Mrs Heatherington. Each Monday she was able to support children with specific mathematics needs. These groups, in both Literacy and Mathematics, are at individual or small group level.

There have been considerable changes in the access to SEN services from the EA and a lot of the year has been spent embedding processes and procedures for the new Graduated Response framework for the school. This will show a significant change in how services are accessed as well as working within the new Local Impact Teams (LIT) of EA.

Mrs Lisa McMullan offered additional small group support three afternoons a week in her role as Foundation Stage Assistant Learning Support Leader.

Safeguarding Children

Mr McPherson is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection with Mrs Kingston, Mrs Houston (nursery) and Mrs Magee as the Deputy Designated Teacher team. All teachers with Child Protection responsibilities have received training from the Education Authority which was updated in 2024 for everyone. Millennium Integrated Primary School has a confidential recording system for information about suspicion of abuse, disclosure of abuse and complaints against staff. The school uses the CPOMS recording system which was introduced in 2025. Child Protection training is delivered to all staff during the August training days and all staff are made aware of our Child Protection Policy and our staff Code of Conduct.

Signage around the school reflects guidance from the Education Authority.

A detailed monthly report is provided to the Board of Governors by the Designated Teacher, and this includes details of actions the school is undertaking in relation to safeguarding. All staff and volunteers are vetted through the AccessNI in accordance with DE circulars and current

legislation. Indeed, the school goes above requirements and carries out a three year rolling update process for all staff on site.

Necessary staff are trained to receive Operation Encompass calls – a PSNI/Education Authority initiative to inform school if we have child witness domestic Violence at home. The Education Authority has been working with the Designated Teacher to introduce Personal Education Plans (PEP) for our Children Looked After.

The safeguarding team now meets half-termly and the team has been streamlined to have a member of each Key Stage and the Nursery. The Governor rep is also invited to these meetings – where issues of a child protection matter are discussed, as well as pastoral concerns including attendance and punctuality of children.

Healthy Eating

Our focus on healthy eating practices is very important to the present and future well-being of the children. Through the curriculum, visitors to school, snacks at break time, packed lunches, school dinners and our annual Healthy Lifestyle Week we have continued to raise the profile of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. The school receives its catering from an outside provider, who provides school dinners set to the nutritional standard of EA and DE. Parents are also encouraged to provide healthy food in lunches.

Sport

At Millennium, we were offering the children the opportunity to experience a range of sports as part of the Physical Education curriculum as well as through the range of after-school clubs. We aim to increase the children's awareness of the benefits of sport and sporting activities in terms of healthy lifestyles, physical well-being and the value of teamwork.

Millennium welcomes in members from local sporting clubs to increase engagement with the community. We are also taking children to Saintfield Community Pitches on Wednesday afternoons for Gaelic football and soccer training. Last year, the school also reengaged with Ulster Hockey and NI Netball. We were delighted to be able to participate in local tournaments, again, in Hockey, Gaelic football and Soccer.

The Board of Governors recognise the importance of these offerings in school, however, it also recognises the impact of the shrinking ground space has had on the ability of the school to offer a full range of clubs.

School Bus

The school bus remains a very popular option for children travelling home to Saintfield and Carryduff. The buses remain popular and carry over 80-90 children a day. This is important in terms of managing the traffic on site as well as being a greener alternative to the number of cars on the roads.

We would like to continue to recommend this means of transport for the children in the afternoon as it should ease congestion within the car park are, along with other measures.

Kids' Corner

Marie Coiley and Sue Hill continue to provide this service for the school community through their Breakfast Club (open from 7:30am) and the after-school provision which is open Monday to Friday until 6:00pm. This provision is available to families both in term time and during the school holidays.

Developing links with the local community

We had a range of links with the local community over the year. As well as highlighting the sporting links, we also took part in local Christmas celebrations in Carryduff.

We continue to maintain our links with the Carryduff churches and, as well as the Sacraments taking place in The Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel, we also held our school KS2 play at Lagan College for the first time. The choirs also attended the opening of a new shopping complex in Carryduff (Lidl store) and visited a number of places in the run up to Christmas, including a care home and an event to celebrate carers.

The Primary 2 classes continued to attend Forest Schools classes in Rowallane.

We have also started to develop links with local businesses and companies. Our new Eurospar helped sponsor the Sports Day in June. Sports Day was held in the Lough Moss Council facility. whilst the local quarry donated treats to the children for Christmas, as well as providing support for enhanced trips in Primary 5, thanks to them and to Mr Rory Gardner for his work working with community partners. Dawson Wam have generously helped fund different projects in the school.

Cross-Phase links with Local Secondary Schools

Our children attended a range of local events in local post-primary schools. We also hosted post-primary schools in the school to visit pupils. As well as this, our children went to see productions in Lagan College and Wellington College as well as experiencing a 'day in the life' of a Blackwater pupil and Saintfield High.

We also hosted a SEN open event for a number of local post-primary schools where they were available to speak to parents of children with additional needs who might not get the same level of access in an Open Day. We feel that it was a successful event with a number of schools attending and parents from schools other than our own.

School Development Plan

The School Development Plan cycle was interrupted by a number of ongoing factors – not least the legacy of industrial action. However, this year marked the school entering the final phase and a new three-year plan will be written through 2025-26 to begin in 2026.
The current plan's outcomes remain relevant to the school.

The Three Outcomes for Millennium Integrated PS are:

Our children are, and feel, safe

Our Children feel good about school

Our Children see school as a partnership

We started assessing the impact of the SDP with the children, too. Our feedback from the children was a good insight to how they feel within the school as well as helping us set a focus for the coming SDP.

The focus for the school this year was the rewriting of the behaviour policy and overhauling the marking and feedback policy.

Our surveys for Parents, Pupils, Teaching Staff and Non-teaching staff were completed in May/June of 2026.

Use of INSET and School Development Days
The school is entitled to take 5 INSET days and 5 School Development Days within the school year. Effectively, this means that there are 10 days available for school development.

The INSET days in August are used for a range of activities:

- Update to annual Child Protection training;
- Medical updates and training
- Policy reviews – including Marking and Feedback and Behaviour
- Updating GDPR Training;
- Working with assessment results;
- Working on transition between classes – information sharing;

School Development Days in the year are used for:

- ICT upskilling including use of AI,
- Assessment analysis;
- Updates to literacy (Reading/Phonics); numeracy (mental maths/problem solving) and Creative Arts
- SEN – line management / School management overview
- Assessment and Reporting

Assessment, Pupil Progress and Reporting to Parents

Assessment arrangements continued to evolve during the year as schools prepared for the implementation of **TransformED** and emerging approaches to assessment across Northern Ireland. There were **no formal Department of Education tests** undertaken during the year, with assessment processes currently in a period of transition.

Millennium continues to use a broad range of assessment information to monitor pupil progress, identify individual needs and inform teaching and learning. This includes the **GL Assessment suite**, with pupils completing **PTE (Progress Test in English), PTM (Progress Test in Maths), NGRT (New Group Reading Test), NGST (New Group Spelling Test) and CAT4 (Cognitive Abilities Test)** assessments as appropriate. A range of additional assessments is also used to support the identification and monitoring of pupils with **Special Educational Needs (SEN)**.

Alongside standardised assessment, teachers undertake **regular, informal and continuous assessment within the classroom**. This day-to-day assessment is an important part of the school's approach, enabling teachers to monitor learning and progress, identify strengths and areas requiring further development, and plan appropriate next steps. Assessment information is recorded and analysed to help teachers and school leaders identify patterns of progress and where additional support or intervention may be required.

During the year, **Mr McPherson hosted a group of representatives from the Department of Education who are examining assessment processes in Northern Ireland**. This provided an opportunity to explain Millennium's approach to assessment, including how assessment information is gathered and recorded, how the resulting data is analysed, and, importantly, how this information is then used to inform teaching, learning and support for pupils.

For pupils preparing for transfer to post-primary education, **SEAG preparation assessments** are also completed as part of the school's preparation programme. Pupils who choose to participate in the transfer process sit the **SEAG Entrance Assessment in November each year**.

Reporting to Parents

Communication with parents and carers remains an important part of the assessment process. **An annual written report is produced for every child in June each year**, providing parents with information about their child's learning and progress.

In addition, the school holds **two parent-teacher conferences each year**, giving parents and carers an opportunity to meet with their child's teacher and discuss progress, achievement and any areas requiring additional support. The school's preference is for these meetings to take place **in person**, supporting positive relationships between home and school. However, where this is not possible, meetings can also be accommodated **online through Microsoft Teams**.

Together, these processes provide a rounded approach to assessment and reporting, combining **standardised assessment data, teachers' professional judgement, continuous classroom assessment and regular communication with parents** to support each child's learning and development.

Premises

The school has double enrolment throughout all classes. All available space is being used in the school with significant use throughout the day – though we are ensuring that there are spaces available for SEN support and visiting professionals. This reduction in external space, though, continues to put pressure on the space we have available for the children to play.

The school has reduced available space to facilitate the building of the new school. We have made arrangements to ensure that space within the school is optimised without putting too much strain on resources, however, we recognise that this continues to have an impact on school cohesion (as referenced, previously).

The buildings committee of the Board of Governors inspect the building on an annual basis [with a representative of the insurance company] and highlight areas that may need attention. It is recognised that there are areas of the school building that require ongoing maintenance, however, given the proximity of the beginning of the new build, the governors are delaying any substantial works until certainty has been granted in regards to a start date.

The school has also reallocated space for the use of the Oak Class provision. This is also a further stress on what is already a shrinking footprint – but it continues to be the right thing to do for the most vulnerable children in the school. We have also lost out on library space for the past number of years due to the delays in the building.

Security

The school has a security camera system that monitors the front entrance to the school and the accessible area at the back gate. There is a buzzer entry system for both the pupil entrance and

the main entrance. All visitors must sign in and are given a visitor's badge. They are also given a leaflet explaining some key child protection policies and procedure.

Security for the SPiM is through 'regulated access' through the outdoor play area and corridors to ensure that this is accessible as well as being secure.

Financial Statement — updated figures to be confirmed

School's budget for 2025 - 26	
Surplus carried forward	£240,658
Department of Education Grants *	£5,556,808
Other Operating Income	£19,787
Total Resources available to school	£5,576,395
Total Expenditure	£5,689,543
Reserves / Balance Carried Forward	£127,710

* *Includes Capital Funding for costs associated with new building*

A full copy of the school's end-of-year audited accounts is available on request from the school.

Limited Company Accounts

As at March 2025

Net Current Assets	£36,050
Accruals and Deferred Income	(£12,197)
Capital and Reserves	£23,853

Finally, the Governors would like to express their thanks to everyone associated with Millennium in any capacity to make it a continued success.