



# Newpark Comprehensive School PTA AGM

16 October 2024

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## Agenda

- Welcome – Tim Smyrk
- Principal's Report – Eoin Norton
- PTA Chairperson's Report – Tim Smyrk
- PTA Treasurer's Report – Martina Rowe
- Nominations for PTA Committee for 2024/2025
- Any other items



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# Welcome

## Tim Smyrk (Chairperson)



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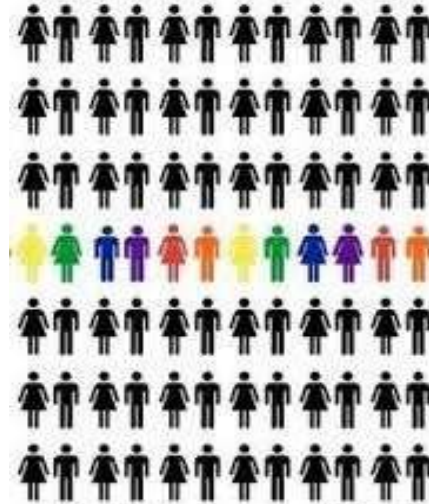
# Principal's Review of 2023/2024

## Eoin Norton



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## Admissions



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## State Examinations

### Leaving Certificate 2024

Continued success  
Objective metric  
Subjective metric  
Comprehensive destinations

### Junior Certificate 2024

Continued success  
JCPA issues later in the year  
Technical subjects, STEM success



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
*State Examinations Commission*

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# Entrance Scholarships

## Trinity College Entrance Exhibition 2023

Lelio McManus  
Isobel McSweeney  
Adam Merebet  
Elliot Burns

## UCD Entrance Scholars 2023

Ciara Behan  
Emmet Hodgkinson  
Edith Kelly  
Keziah Langrell  
Gavin MacAonghusa  
Conor Murphy  
Andrew Paul  
Matthew Sherlock-Robertson  
Anoush Turner



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# State Examinations



An Roinn Oideachais  
Department of Education

## Assessment Arrangements

For Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate  
Examinations 2025



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# School Improvement



School Self-Evaluation process in 2023/2024 continued the two previous focuses:

- Managing student anxiety within the school community.
- The effective use of technology to improve and support learning and teaching in the School.

And added a third focus:

- Increased collaboration in teaching, learning, assessment and reporting (TLAR).

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# Digital Strategy



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## Review of the Mobile Phone Policy, 2024/2025

### Consultation with stakeholders

1. Staff: Break-out small groups, August 2024
2. Staff: Open forum discussion, October 2024
3. Parents/guardians: Survey, October 2024
4. Students: Survey and focus groups, November 2024
5. Possible policy revision to Student Council and PTA
6. Policy revision to Board



**Renewed Mobile Phone Policy – Parent/Guardian Consultation, October 2024**

As a parent/guardian of a Newpark student, you are receiving this questionnaire as part of a consultation process in relation to student mobile phone use and a review of the school's *Mobile Phone Policy*.

To bring about effective change within the school, appropriate consultation is engaged to implement inclusive and measured choices for the community.

The school last reviewed its phone policy during the 2022/2023 academic year and introduced its current policy in March 2023. It is available on [newparkschools.ie/policies](http://newparkschools.ie/policies). The policy has been working well in the intervening period. In tandem, the school has also implemented associated strategies to promote non-phone based student-student interaction.

This current review of the *Mobile Phone Policy* is initiated against the backdrop of the Minister for Education's recent announcement of a "policy of no access to mobile phones during the school day." School policy reviews take cognisance of new information and guidelines from the Department of Education and the Minister for Education.

In Newpark, we understand that addressing this issue is not restricted to the questions in this survey. A multi-faceted response both locally and nationally is appropriate, to include amongst other strategies, the questions raised in this survey, education in relation to phone use, social media habits, being 'present', and the application and review of legal age requirements in relation to social media access.

As a stakeholder in the school community, your thoughts on the issue of student mobile-phone use are very much valued.

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## Curriculum developments

Fifth Year options – Sixteen of a possible seventeen option subjects are being offered to fifth-year

First-year option sampling has concluded. First-year students choose two options, or one option and two short courses. Ten option subjects are offered in first-year across sixteen iterations, with Wood Technology, Engineering, Home Economics, Business and Art retaining most popularity with students.

CSPE, SPHE and PE now all running as short courses with CSPE and SPHE having an hour pw for Junior Cycle



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## Education for Sustainable Development



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## Senior Cycle Redevelopment

- Drama, Film & Theatre Studies and Climate Action & Sustainable Development planned for September 2025.
- The first set of revised subjects will be introduced in schools in the 2025/26 school year: Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Business, Arabic, Ancient Greek and Latin.
- The second set to be revised will be introduced in the 2026/27 school year: Accounting, Construction Studies, Engineering, English, Geography, Physical Education.



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## Student Voice and Leadership



- Student Council
- Cultural Council
- Sports Council
- ACCS Student Voice Forum
- Board of Management Student Voice sub-committee
- Wellbeing committee
- Gold Week
- Wellbeing Week
- Halloween dress up day
- Fundraisers
- Newpark Variety Show



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## Promoting Positive Mental Health in School



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## ParkMUN



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## School Trips



- Stratford
- French Exchange - 2<sup>nd</sup> years
- Senior Geography – Italy
- Aran Islands – 2<sup>nd</sup> Year
- Junior Rugby – France
- Senior Art – London
- Numerous day trips!



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# ECA (Sports)



Day	Date	HOCKEY	RUGBY	BASKETBALL	Swimming
Mon	9	Junior and Senior Girls 16:00 - 17:00pm Junior and Senior Boys 17:00 - 18:00pm	1st year and Senior Boys 16:00 - 17:30pm	2nd Year Boys 16:00 - 17:00pm U16 Boys 17:00 - 18:00pm	Free Lane Swim 08:00-8:30am
Tue	10	1st year boys and girls 16:00- 17:00pm 2nd year boys and girls 17:00 - 18:00pm	Junior Boys Training 16:00 - 17:30pm	u16 girls 16:00 - 17:00pm	Free Lane Swim 08:00-8:30am
Wed	11	Junior A Girls vs Kilkenny AWAY @15:00pm Senior B Girls vs Kilkenny AWAY @16:00pm Minor A Girls vs Kilkenny AWAY @16:00pm Bus leaves @12:45pm	1st and 2nd year boys blitz AWAY in Old Belevedere Rugby club @ 14:15pm Senior Boys vs Columbas HOME @14:30pm	Senior Boys vs Clares College Ballyjamesduff AWAY @11:45am (All Ireland Cup) Bus leaves @09:15am	Free Lane Swim 08:00-8:30am
Thu	12	1st and 2nd year girls 16:00 -17:00pm Junior and Senior Girls 17:00 - 18:00pm	1st years 16:00 - 17:30pm Junior Boys vs Columbas AWAY @16:00pm Senior B vs Columbas AWAY @16:00pm	Senior Girls 16:00 17:00pm 2nd year girls 17:00 - 18:00pm	Free Lane Swim 08:00-8:30am
Fri	13	Minor Boys vs High School HOME @ 16:15pm	Girls Rugby 16:00 - 17:15pm	U16 girls vs Sion Hill HOME @16:00pm	Free Lane Swim 08:00-8:30am
Sat	14	Junior B vs Mount Anville AWAY @09:00am Senior C vs Mount Anville AWAY @10:00am			

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# ECA (Clubs & Societies)



## ECA Clubs – October 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Badminton</b> Sports Hall at 1.10 Rui Faria, Ms Cameron <b>Christian Union</b> T11 at 1.10 Hannah Clabby, Sophie Shepherd, Lisa Maxwell, Mr Lamprecht <b>Seisín Ceoil</b> G5 at 1.10 David McGovern & Eoin Hopwood, Ms Hagan <b>Debate</b> M3 at 1.10 Joss Brooks & Ethan Cannon Gonzalez Mr Daly & Mr McCarthy <b>Textiles</b> T9 at 1.10 Clem Beard Joyce Ms Anil Crampton & Ms Feighery <b>Warhammer</b> G9 at 1.10 Mr Costigan	<b>Newpark Voices</b> G7 at 1.10 Ms Slattery <b>Ukelele</b> G6 at 1.10 Mr Costigan & Ms Scott <b>Visual Art</b> T15 art-room at 1.10 Coco Evans & Luke Conaghan <b>Art Portfolio (LC students)</b> G12 Art-room at 1.10 Mr Kirwan <b>WWGG/Green Schools</b> T5 at 1.10 Ms Dempsey, Mr Power, Mr O'Sullivan <b>Model United Nations</b> T13 at 1.10 Silvia Ciulli, Hannah Clabby, Oscar Schmidt, Ms Rider <b>Newsletter</b> T12 at 1.10 Isobel Smiley, Nónin Cooling, Martha Bray Ms Ring & Ms Johnston		<b>Film</b> T15 art-room at 1.10 Oisín Twohig, Ben Carroll, Mr Byrne <b>Dance</b> Theatre at 1.10 Allegra Zipser & Tuathla Cooling Ms Magan <b>Dungeons and Dragons</b> T15 art-room at 1.10 Oscar McGowan & Casper Ryan, Ms Niamh Leech <b>Lego Club</b> T16 art-room at 1.10 TakiTora Sé BouAynaya & Jacob Vaughan, Ms Niamh Leech <b>Garden</b> T3 at 1.10 Matias C. Cisneros, Rosanna Hood, Ms Fullam <b>Book Club</b> Library at 1.10 Tom Farragher, Eleanor O'Sullivan, Ms Colin <b>Pride</b> M5 at 1.10 Alannah Davis, Ms Keating	<b>Jazz Appreciation</b> M3 at 1.10 Oscar Schmidt, Mr Daly <b>Chess</b> M6 at 1.10 Mr Holmes <b>Crochet/Knitting</b> T9 at 1.10 Vaishnavi Dheppson Ms Josie Metcalfe <b>Board Games</b> T12 at 1.10 Mr O'Sullivan & Ms Mary O'Sullivan <b>Anti Racist Club</b> M4 at 1.10 Joseph Gill, Mr Smyth <b>Cumann Gaelach</b> G2 at 1.10 Mr McCarthy <b>Junior Drama</b> In the Theatre 4-5pm Nónin Cooling Mr Smyth



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# Procedure List – Helpful Information for Parents/Guardians



## PROCEDURE LIST

- ✓ **Driving to school?** To avoid congestion and to keep students safe, parents/guardians should not drive onto the campus unless absolutely necessary. Consider dropping your child at a safe place off-campus. When dropping your child at a safe place off-campus, please be mindful of our neighbours, especially in the Rockville and Rowanbyrn estates. Use Carysfort Avenue, Stillorgan Park, Brookville Road, Deansgrange Road; a stretch of the legs and a little fresh air are good for a young person before and after school!

If you need to drop your child onto the campus, **under no circumstances should you stop or pull up in front of the red brick building**. Drive to the rear of the redbrick, pull in as near to the exit gate as possible and ask your child to alight quickly and safely. If parking, or stopping for longer, please use the sports centre carpark.

- ✓ **Communication?** News and updates from the school will be sent via the VSware app. Please download the app and ensure that notifications are switched on. More information on the app can be found [here](#).
- ✓ **Late to school?** If your child arrives after registration has finished, they MUST sign in at the Library with a note from a parent/guardian written in the back of the journal. If students arrive after 9:30am, without a note, the yellow late slip must be signed by a Deputy Principal.
- ✓ **Need to leave early?** Students MUST sign out at the library with a note from a parent/guardian. Please use the blue notes at the back of the School Journal. This note must also be signed by the relevant form teacher or Year Leader during morning registration. *Blue notes must not be removed from the journal.*

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# Staff Update

- Ger Cloney
  - Val Connell
  - Micheál Doyle
  - Janet & Deirdre
  - Charis Rowan
  - Alec Cole
  - Karl Daly
- 
- Caoimhe Browne
  - Cathy Devis
  - Ethel Glancy
  - Laura Morrissey
  - Lillian Whooley
  - Lynn Anderson
  - Naomi Good
  - Maria O'Donnell
  - Charis Rowan



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## New to the team

- Ms Claire Atanian (CAN) – French, CSPE
- Ms Lydia Hoban (LHN) – Guidance, RE
- Ms Jane Magan (JMA) – French, CSPE
- Mr Thomas McEnery (TMC) – Graphics, DCG & Engineering
- Ms Rebecca O'Connor (RCN) – Geography, AEN
- Mr Seán O'Sullivan (SSN) – Geography, History
- Ms Nicole Slattery (NSY) - Gaeilge, Music
- Ms Megan Thornton (MTN) – AEN, PE
- Mr Kelvin Weymes (KWS) - PE



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## New to the team - PMEs/ITEs

- Ms Ava Conroy (St Angela's, Home Economics, Year 2)
- Mr Liam O'Sullivan (Hibernia, French, Year 2)
- Ms Sinead Paglinawan (TCD, Music, Year 4)
- Ms Zaragh Kavanagh (UCD, English & History, Year 2)



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# Year Leaders 2024/2025

- First Year Mr Ciaran Byrne AA
- Second Year To be assigned AA
- Third Year Ms Rachel Steele HH
- Fourth Year Ms Margaret Dempsey HH
- Fifth Year Mr Dermot O’Neill HH
- Sixth Year Ms Siobhan Costello AA



# Planned Dates

Mock JC/LC Exams	Monday 3 February – Friday 14 February 2025
House Exams 1,2,5	CHRISTMAS (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> only) Wednesday 11 Dec – Friday 20 Dec 2024
	SUMMER (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> only) Thursday 22 May – Friday 30 May
Junior/Leaving Cert.	6 <sup>th</sup> Year Last Day of Class Friday 16 May 2025 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Last Day of Class Friday 23 May 2025 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Supervised Study: Monday 20 May – Friday 30 May 2025 6 <sup>th</sup> year Graduation: Tuesday 20 May 2025 6 <sup>th</sup> Year Final Assembly: Wednesday 21 May 2025 State Examinations Commence: Wednesday 4 June 2025
Parent-Guardian/Teacher Meetings	DECEMBER TY Form Teacher Meetings Friday 6 & Monday 9 Dec 2024 1 <sup>st</sup> Yr Form Teacher Meetings Friday 13 & Monday 16 Dec 2024
	OCTOBER 3 <sup>rd</sup> Yr PTG Meetings Monday 21 October 2024 classes end at 15:20
	NOVEMBER 6 <sup>th</sup> Yr PTG Meetings Thursday 14 November 2024 classes end at 15:20
	JANUARY 6 <sup>th</sup> Yr PTG Meetings Tuesday 21 January 2025 classes end at 15:20
	MARCH 2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr PTG Meetings Thursday 20 March 2025 classes end at 15:20
APRIL 1 <sup>st</sup> Yr PTG Meetings Monday 7 April 2025 classes end at 15:20	
Transition Year Modules	Module 1 Monday 20 August – Friday 1 Nov 2024 Activity Week 1: Mon 4 – Fri 8 November Activity Week 2: Mon 11 - Fri 15 November
	Module 2 Monday 18 November – Friday 31 January 2025 Activity Week 3: Tue 4 Feb – Fri 7 February Activity Week 4: Mon 10 – Fri 14 February
	Module 3 Monday 24 February – Friday 2 May 2025 Activity Week 5: Tue 6 May - Fri 9 May Activity Week 6: Mon 12 - Fri 16 May Graduation: Thursday 22 May 2025
Extended Form Time	Wednesday 11 September 2024 8:50 Wednesday 16 October 2024 9:50 Thursday 16 January 2025 11:10 Thursday 10 April 2025 12:10



# Newsletters



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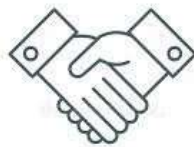
# How do you do so well?



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# Principal's Review



ACKNOWLEDGE



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## AIM & DAY TO DAY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PTA

*What the PTA does ...*

Support the aims and objectives of the Newpark School

Encourage parent/guardian participation in school activities

Locker Maintenance

Insurance and running costs of the mini-bus

Provide Sports First Aid supplies

Provide all nursing supplies

Lost Property

Fund requests from staff and students (through staff)

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## AIM & DAY TO DAY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PTA

*What the PTA tries to do ...*

**Provide a forum to represent the views of parents/guardians, to the Principal and the Board of Management, principally through set meetings during the school year**

**Subsidize Student Activities (e.g. Walton Club)**

**Fundraising**

**Organise Parent / Guardian talks**

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## PAST EVENTS 2023-2024

**September**

**Debs reception**

**November**

**First year parent social evening**

**December**

**Christmas market was held on 9<sup>th</sup> of December**

**May**

**2<sup>nd</sup> hand Uniform Sale**

**May**

**Social Evening Table Quiz**



STUDY SKILLS IRELAND

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**Parent Talks**

**Study Skills (studyskillsireland) online**



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# PLANNED EVENTS TO DATE 2024 -2025

<b>September</b>	<b>Debs reception</b> 
<b>October</b>	<b>Battle of the Bands</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>PARKMUN Nov 8<sup>th</sup> / 9<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Quiz night @ The Wishing Well 14<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Christmas market to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>First year parent social evening tbc Dec 5<sup>th</sup></b>

**Parent Talks in discussion (watch this space) Feb 2025?**  
 We are actively looking for Digital Health speakers  
 Feel free to drop a suggestion in the PTA post box

**May 2025**                      **2<sup>nds</sup> Uniform sale**

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## OH CHRISTMAS!

**Tombola**  
**Bottles / Fruit / Keyrings?**

**Stall Holders**

**Raffle Prizes**




# CHRISTMAS MARKET

NEWPARK COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 30. 11. 2024  
12 PM TO 4 PM

CRAFTS & GIFT STALLS,  
TOMBOLA, FOOD & DRINK, MUSIC,  
RAFFLE & MORE!

FREE ADMISSION FOR  
OAPS & STUDENTS, €2  
PER ADULT

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# PLANNED FUTURE EVENTS

## Newpark Minibus

Need to ring fence funds for the purchase of a new one.



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# TREASURER'S REPORT

## MARTINA ROWE



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# TREASURER’S REPORT – 2023-2024

- Continue to support the school's activities:
  - Spend wisely
  - No deficit
  - Collaborative decision-making, discussed at meetings and/or by email
- Key Finance Themes for 2023-2024
  - Fund raising - Christmas Fair, Table Quiz, Second-hand Uniform sale, Start of school bus fundraising
  - PTA Support given for – Park MUN, Microphones, Hot water boiler, Swimming hats, Parent talk on study skills
  - PTA regular on-going supports - Walton Club, Nurse supplies, Minibus, Debs reception, Lockers, Prizes
- Financial Support Services Unit (FSSU)– Post Primary - requirements – issued June 2020
  - PTA should have at most 1 bank account, two signatories required per cheque
  - PTA should hold no more than is required to defray costs for 1 year
  - Audited accounts (school-appointed), academic financial year
- Summary of Finances
  - Income of **€ 25,873**
  - Expenditure of **€ 27,458**
  - Deficit of **€1,586**

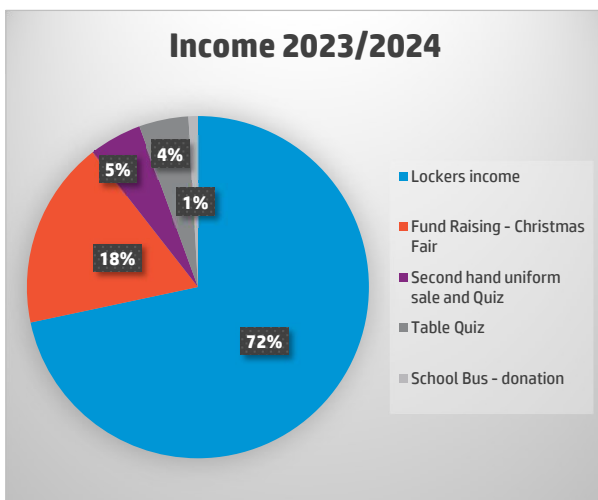


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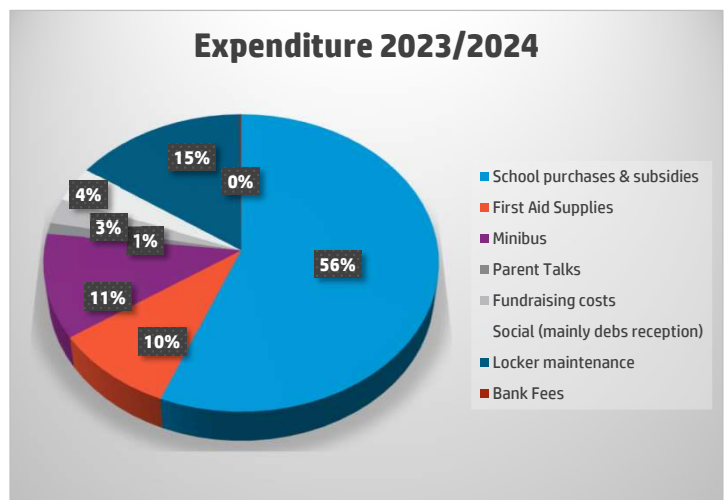
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# TREASURER’S REPORT – SCHOOL YEAR

**Income 2023/2024**



**Expenditure 2023/2024**



**Income**  
**€ 25,873**

*Negative net balance of €1,586*

**Expenditure\***  
**€ 27,458**



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# TREASURER'S REPORT –COMPARATIVE

INCOME	2023/2024	2022/2023
Lockers income	€ 18,545	€ 18,087
Fund Raising		
- Christmas Fair	€ 4,600	€ 4,118
- Table Quiz	€ 1,289	€ 1,129
- Second hand uniform sale	€ 1,206	
- School Bus Fund Donation	€ 233	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 25,873</b>	<b>€ 23,334</b>

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EXPENDITURE	2023/2024	2022/2023
School purchases & subsidies	€ 15,418	€ 12,604
First Aid Supplies	€ 2,568	€ 3,196
Minibus	€ 3,105	€ 2,147
Parent Talks	€ 330	€ 1,830
Fundraising costs	€ 764	€ 1,480
Social (mainly debs reception)	€ 1,055	€ 1,325
Locker locks maintenance (2 years)	€ 4,178	€ 500
Bank Fees	€ 40	€ 53
PTA Administration & Sundries		€ 19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 27,458</b>	<b>€ 23,154</b>



# PTA COMMITTEE 2024-2025



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# ANY OTHER ITEMS



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# Thank You

[pta@newparkschool.ie](mailto:pta@newparkschool.ie)

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