

**Cumann Pheadair Naofa  
(St. Peter's GAA Club, Warrenpoint)  
[www.warrenpointgaa.com](http://www.warrenpointgaa.com)**



**CUMANN PHEADAIR NAOFA C.L.G.  
OIFIGEACH IDIRCHAIMRIMH SCOILE**

**(SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER)**

**REPORT TO CLUB AGM  
15 OCTOBER 2020**

15/10/2020

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Cumann Pheadair Naofa Club School Links continued to develop throughout the academic year 2019/2020 but in March 2020 had to cease due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. The main focus of the Cumann Pheadair Naofa Club School Link was with the well-established partnership between Cumann Pheadair Naofa and St. Dallan's Primary School. Principal Una Farrell and GAA Co-ordinator Mr Brendan Rice and Cumann Pheadair Naofa Senior Committee Member Mrs Noreen Kelly, are very committed to the partnership and the development of a strong Club School Link.

## **2. DOWN GAA CLUBS SCHOOL DRAW**

St. Dallan's Primary School sales in the Down GAA Schools' Draw in 2018 was very poor and did not meet their target in selling raffle tickets. The money from this raffle is used by the Down GAA County Board to pay for the Down GAA Coaches who visited St. Dallan's throughout the academic year. It was decided that for the year of 2019/20 that the parents of St Dallan's would be asked for a voluntary contribution of £10 per family so this coaching could continue.

## **3. COACHING**

Since the inception of the Club School Liaison Partnership in 2009, the Club has continued to provide coaching in football, hurling and camogie

### **Hurling**

The hurling section continues to provide excellent support to St. Dallan's in terms of coaching. During the first term, traditionally the focus is on primary four and primary five children. Following the Christmas break the focus in term two is normally geared towards primary six and primary seven children in preparation for the indoor Blitz's.

From September 2019 Eamon Blaney from Ulster Council came to St Dallan's every Friday afternoon to provide training for the P4s. After Christmas P6s were provided coaching up until the school closure 15th March 2020.

After school hurling coaching commenced October 2019 for children in P5 to P7. This coaching was carried out by Chris Rooney, Eugene McConville and Collette Lock and was provided alternate Friday's 3 to 4 pm for Term 1 with about 15 boys in attendance. In Term 2 Hurling coaching was provided on alternate Fridays up to March 2020.

The coaching in St Dallans and surrounding schools prior to this year has raised the profile of CPN as a hurling club and has opened it to the surrounding areas of Burren, Rostrevor as well as Warrenpoint. This can be clearly seen in the membership of the young hurlers and the growing numbers of members from neighbouring villages.

A special thanks to Eugene McConville, Chris Rooney, Collette Lock who all put their time and passion into building Hurling in Cumann Pheadair Naofa.

### **Football**

After school training was held every Wednesday 3pm to 4.15pm by Brendan Rice. There were good numbers this year in combined P6/P7 with over 25+. The school team attended several Cumann Na mBunscol competitions during the school year and performed well. The P7 team attended a school's tournament on 19<sup>th</sup> September and came second in this round. They went on to the next round in Hilltown but unfortunately did not get in to the final. They also came second in the indoor tournament in January 2020.

During Term 1/2 Mark Poland attended every Monday to take football coaching to Primary 4 and 7 during their PE time. This was very well received by all the pupils of St Dallan's.

### **Camogie**

From October 2019 Patricia Keenan aided by Brendan Rice provided camogie coaching on alternate Fridays until March 2020. This regular camogie coaching into St Dallans has raised the profile of camogie in the school and in the club. Going forward the school can now participate in indoor camogie tournaments and possible challenge matches can be set up with neighbouring schools. This can only be advantage to the growing skills of the young camogs in Cumann Pheadair Naofa.

On 07.02.20 St Dallans attended the indoor tournament accompanied by Patricia Keenan and Mrs Fegan. It was a great experience for the girls.

A special thanks to Patricia Keenan for making this happen.

### **Ladies Gaelic Football**

Ladies Gaelic Football coaching continues to be delivered in St. Dallan's by Miss Helena Johnson. Appreciation was expressed to Helena Johnson for her commitment to ladies gaelic football. Over 30 P6/P7 girls attended each training session Thursday afternoons and as a result the girls football in St Dallans is growing each year. Unfortunately, In 2020 the girls were unable to attend any matches due to Covid 19 restrictions.

### **Handball**

GAA coordinator Brendan Rice continues to promote handball in St. Dallan's. The pupils continue to use the handball wall at break time and lunch time. Whilst the handball wall has been a good addition to St. Dallan's playground

#### **4. ANNUAL GAA HEALTH AND WELLBEING DAY**

Discussions for a trip to Croke Park had been in operation prior to School Closure but it will be something for the year 2021 to discuss.

#### **5. COMMUNICATION**

Communication has been central to the development of the Cumann Pheadair Naofa / St. Dallan's Club School Link. In this regard Cumann Pheadair Naofa wish to acknowledge the excellent support from St. Dallan's Primary School and in particular Mrs Noreen Kelly who is responsible for communications in St. Dallan's. The following areas continue to be developed. They are as follows:

- St. Dallan's and Cumann Pheadair Naofa websites linked to each other.
- A link to St. Dallan's website is already on the website.
- St. Dallan's Primary School and Cumann Pheadair Naofa Fact Sheet is distributed to all P1 pupils at St. Dallan's Induction Day in May 2019. (This was not an option for May 2020 or September starters but will be distributed as soon as it has been approved)
- St. Dallan's and Cumann Pheadair Naofa share good news stories through promotion on both school and club website. There is excellent co-operation between St. Dallan's and Cumann Pheadair Naofa in acknowledging success of pupils in Gaelic Games.
- Cumann Pheadair Naofa frequently carry stories in club notes in relation to successes in St. Dallan's Primary School. Thanks to Club PRO Aisling McGivern for all her assistance.
- At the request of Cumann Pheadair Naofa, St. Dallan's staff frequently distribute notes to the pupils on club activities.
- St. Dallan's/Cumann Pheadair Naofa GAA noticeboard is frequently updated.

#### **6. ADMINISTRATION OF THE CLUB / SCHOOL LINK WITH ST. DALLAN'S**

Principal Una Farrell has put in place an arrangement whereby Cumann Pheadair Naofa Club /School Liaison Officer will meet with GAA Co-ordinator Brendan Rice each term to ascertain how the partnership is progressing and to look at ways of enhancing the Cumann Pheadair Naofa / St. Dallan's Club School Link.

#### **8. CONCLUSION**

Progress was seriously halted with the School closure and Covid 19 restrictions. Currently I am unsure of when any GAA coaching will be approved but I would like to thank the Club Senior Management Committee and the various sub sections within the Club for their support in my role as Club / School Liaison Officer and for continuing the coaching of kids outside the school.

In particular the Hurling, Football and Camogie sections for their input to after school coaching. Thanks to Miss Helena Johnston for her significant input into Ladies Gaelic Football. I would also like to record special thanks to Principal Una Farrell, GAA Co-ordinator Brendan Rice and St. Dallar's Communication Coordinator Noreen Kelly for their support and professionalism in delivering GAA activities in St. Dallar's Primary School.

I wish St. Dallar's Primary School, staff and pupils every success in the years ahead and continued progress in the promotion of Gaelic Games.

**Brigid Carr**  
**(Club / School Liaison Officer)**  
**15 October 2020**