St. John's N.S., Kenmare
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Agreed Report April 27th 2026

Opening Prayer: Bernadette McGonigle led the board in saying the opening prayer.

Minutes & Matters of previous meeting: The board read through a copy of the minutes from the previous ordinary meeting on February 23rd 2026.
No Matters Arising.

Music: St. John's N.S. were delighted to welcome Peggy Healy back this term for Music. Peggy is working with all classes, promoting the Music Curriculum strands of Listening and Responding, Performing and Composing.

Gaeilge: Seachtain na Gaeilge took place from March 2nd – 13th and all the children made an extra special effort with their Gaeilge! The pupils were involved in a number of school initiatives, such as Gaeilgeoir an lae, biongó, trath na gceist, ceolchoirm agus Lá Glas.

School Planning: Our second whole-school Primary Curriculum Framework training day will take place on Friday, 15th May, facilitated by Oide advisors, marking the second such day this year as we continue to embed the new Primary Curriculum in school practice.

School Calendar 2026/2027: Following a staff consultation process on the 2026/27 school calendar, it was agreed that the school will reopen on 27th August and close on 25th June, with additional discretionary closure days aligned to the May bank holiday, resulting in a full week's closure in early May 2027. This is in line with Department of Education Circular 0018/2026 on the standardisation of the school year for 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29.

School Tracksuit Launch: The school hosted a successful launch evening on 25th February with Grant's Clothing for the new day-to-day tracksuit. The school is now in a transition phase, with full implementation planned for the beginning of the next school year.

Hot School Meals: The Hot School Meals programme commenced in St. John's on Monday, 20th April following a comprehensive procurement process, where we were supported by School Accounting. Three tenders were received, with Carambola awarded the contract. The provider has assigned three staff members on-site for three hours daily to prepare and distribute meals and manage waste, which has been minimal as pupils take home any leftovers in specific lunchboxes supplied by the company.

Sports Update: Sport continues to thrive in St. John's, with significant participation and success across a range of activities, including our girls' team winning the regional Gaelic football sevens, participation in a hurling sevens tournament, both boys' and girls' teams winning their regional soccer blitzes and progressing to county finals, and a strong showing in cross country, where Damian Donnery placed second at county level.

Primary Game: Further recognition was achieved through representation at inter-county level, with Tristan Healy-Kruis representing Kerry in the Primary Game at halftime of the Munster Senior Football semi-final against Clare, and Lily Noonan selected to represent the school in the upcoming Munster final against Cork.

6th Class Graduation Memento's: Through funds raised by the school lotto and Parents' Association, the school has provided commemorative hoodies for Sixth Class pupils as a graduation memento, and each pupil will also receive a professionally taken group photograph, recently captured by local photographer Nick Cavanagh.