



Our story

Since 1978 Belgrove Junior and Senior Boys' Schools had been campaigning for much needed updated facilities. The existing structures were more than 50 years old and they were much too small. Hundreds of boys were being educated in dilapidated prefabs for many years.

In early February 2011 the Department of Education and Skills announced that it would fund a new school building and refurbish some of the old premises. This news was met with an equal mix of joy and disbelief by the greater school community.

Midland Construction Limited was the company contracted to carry out the building project. Paul Dodd was appointed clerk of works for the school and he played a key role in ensuring the routines of school continued safely for the duration of the building project.

This gate was the main entrance to Belgrove Junior Boys' School until February 2011 when it was closed for the last time to allow the building project to begin



Old entrance 7th February 2011



This is the old yard just before the demolition began.







Boys loved visiting the pond to observe the life cycle of the frog. In order to save the frogs the contents of the pond were moved to their new home at the back of the school.

Our Three Junior Infant classes of 2011 in the yard just before the building project began

..... and as they graduate in 2014.









One of the newer prefabs is lifted and transported to its new location - 'Prefab City' in the Senior Boys' yard.



Making way for demolition





Looking forward!



Belgrove is the best. I will miss the library, and look forward to the new one. I'd bet the new school is going to be brilliant. I will miss the pond with all the frogs and look forward to the new one. The joy and excitement in school is going to be wonderful. I can't wait and no one else can too. So many teachers are looking forward to students have come in like New. The end by Rory Deegan



Boys stand in front of the site of our future school building .



Boys spent many hours of break time glued to the fence, watching the comings and goings of the builders and their machines.

The pile-driver was particularly popular with the boys. It bored holes like a giant cork-screw into the ground in preparation for the foundations to be laid.





Making concrete blocks!





Foundations are laid and the building begins









It's going to be huge!





*Corridor
Summer works*







26.09.2011 1



26.09.2011 10:30



26.09.2011 10:31



30 September 2011

Staff Tour

29th September 2011

For months staff had been watching the new school gradually taking shape, but there was still a sense of disbelief when they were invited to don hard hats and actually step into the almost-completed new building.





The Big Move - 28th October 2011

From the outset the building project was characterised by a great sense of co-operation by all concerned, and this was never more evident than on the day of 'the big move'.

The contents of ten classrooms had to be moved from either the old corridor or their temporary prefab accommodation to their destination in the newly built 10-classroom block.

In the interests of safety it was necessary to keep the boys off-site for the duration of this move, and so the Senior Girls' School kindly let us borrow their school hall where members of the Junior Boys' staff brought the boys for a Hallowe'en assembly.

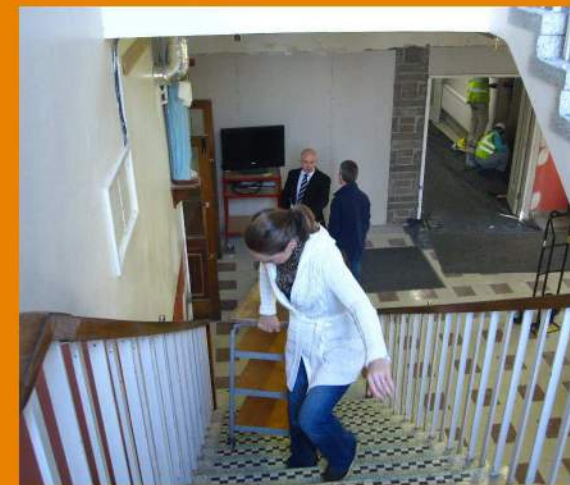
Meanwhile a huge turn-out of parents rolled up their sleeves and lifted, hauled, pushed, laughed and somehow moved every item of equipment into the new school in an amazing one-hour and 15 minutes.

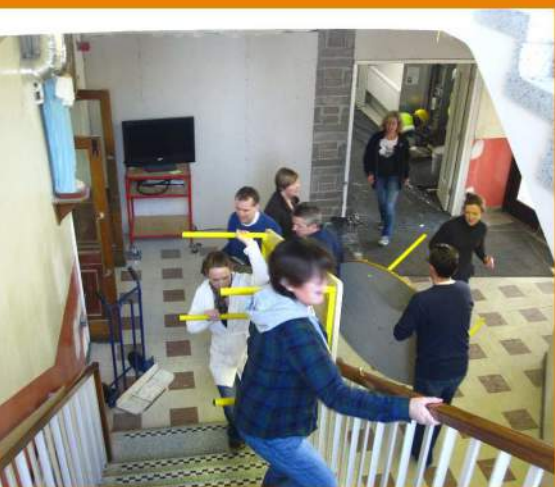


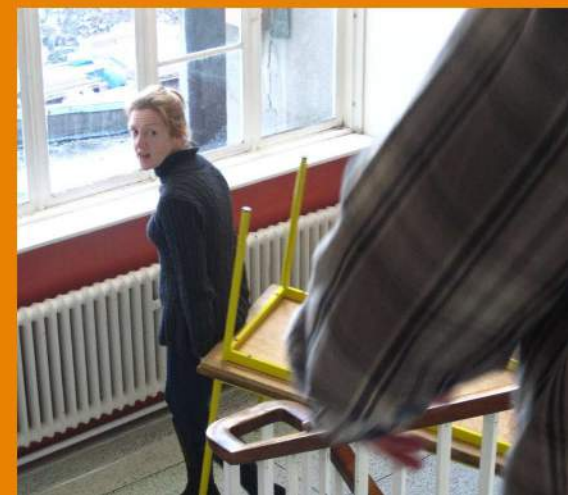
Many
hands











On the morning of move the boys started their day in the 'old' classrooms and by breaktime they had moved to their new classrooms where their lunches awaited them.



28.10.2011





Former staff visit.



8th November 2012. Archbishop Diarmuid Martin blessed our new school.





Our new school!







Library -



old



..... and new

Principal's office

old



.... and new





Staff room

old



.... and new



Corridors - old



.... and new





Foyer - old



....and new



To all those who contributed
in any way to the building of
our wonderful new school -
Thank you!

Ní neart go teacht le chéile.

