

# Board of Management Annual Report June 2023

## **Board Members**

<i>Chairperson:</i>	<i>Bernie Mann</i>
<i>Patron's Nominee:</i>	<i>Fr Fergal Cummins</i>
<i>Principal:</i>	<i>Bridget Clear</i>
<i>Teacher Nominee:</i>	<i>Claire Linehan</i>
<i>Parent Nominees:</i>	<i>Mary Lowbridge,</i> <i>Frankie O'Reilly</i>
<i>Community Nominees:</i>	<i>Imelda Daly</i>
<i>( Treasurer)</i>	<i>John Keane</i>

## **School Ethos**

We are an inclusive Catholic Primary School. The Board of Management extends thanks to Fr. Fergal Cummins, Sr Margaret, the Parish Team and staff members for nurturing the faith of pupils and preparing second class to receive the sacraments. Second class children received the Sacrament of First Communion in May.

## **Building Works**

Three permanent SET rooms were built and will be ready for the next school year. We are awaiting our modular accommodation to accommodate additional teachers

## **School Policies/Assessment**

School Policies were discussed and reviewed by the BoM during the year and included an annual review of the Child Protection and Anti-Bullying policies. School policies can be downloaded from our school website or accessed in the office.

Standardised Tests results and analysis from Literacy and Numeracy tests (May 2023) were presented to the BoM.

## **School Staff - 23/24**

Best wishes to Ms Helen Nelligan, Special Class Teacher and Ms Esther Duffy, SNA who are retiring on August 31<sup>st</sup>. For the school year 23/24 we will have an Admin Principal, 27 mainstream class teachers, 3 special class teachers 9.8 Special Educational Needs Teachers, 2 EAL teachers, a shared HSCL teacher, 17 SNAs, a school secretary, 3 cleaners, 7 bus escorts and a shared caretaker. The Board of Management would like to acknowledge and thank all the staff for all

their hard work and dedication over the past year.

## **School Events**

School events this year included Hallowe'en, Christmas and Easter celebrations. A pyjama party to celebrate the magic of bedtime stories was held in school. School trips to Glendeer Pet Farm, Turoe Pet Farm, Lullymore, Let's Go in Athlone, Esker Arts Centre, Charleville, the library and the Town Park took place this year. Music therapy was provided for individual pupils and small groups. Thank you to our Parents Association for all the wonderful work they do organising and supporting us during school events. Thanks for supporting and organising the Book Fair, Cake sale, Fun Day, Easter events and so much more. Thank you to all the music, dance and sport instructors who worked with the children throughout the year. Thanks also to the Music Generation Teachers who support class music lessons and collaborate with teachers to implement a very comprehensive music curriculum.

## **Home/School Communication**

Parent/Teacher meetings took place in November. Summer Reports were issued in June. There is regular communication throughout the year by phone calls, Aladdin and See Saw. Our School Website and Twitter accounts contain news, photos, policy documents, an up-to-date calendar and contact information. Our Home School Liaison teacher visited families, organised classes and community events and worked closely with Tusla and the School Completion Team.

## **Safe Routes To School**

Our Green School Committee have been encouraging everyone to walk, scoot or cycle to school. Walks were organised on Wednesdays from Tesco, the Mart and Ballydaly with many families taking part. This initiative helps towards reducing the amount of traffic at the school and research has shown that walking/cycling to school helps to improve concentration levels which leads to better academic

achievement. It also provides opportunities for the development of social skills as everyone chats along the route. We hope to continue with the walks next year and also to engage with a Safe Routes to School Officer, Richard Silke, who will work with us to improve the infrastructure along the routes to make them safer and as a result increase the numbers walking to school.

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### **CPD**

Teachers and SNAs engaged in CPD courses throughout the year. Courses included Primary Language Curriculum, Primary Curriculum Framework, Nurture, First Aid, Fire Safety, Team Teach, Reading Recovery and Ready Set Go Maths.

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