

Board of Management Meeting

25/01/22

Agreed Report

The board are pleased to welcome our new members Fr. Derek and Paul Mc Gee.

The board wished to express their gratitude to Mr. McEntee for the excellent job he has done in securing substitute cover and managing staff shortages caused by Covid19.

The board were pleased to hear how Ms. Thomas has settled into her new role as HSCL and is doing an excellent job in building relationships and supporting families in our school community.

The board were delighted to welcome Ms. Callan back to school after her injury. They wished to sincerely thank Ms. Donnelly for taking over the role of AP1 in the infant department during the first term and doing a fantastic job.

Covid 19

The school is working well in staying on top of the constantly changing Covid19 guidelines. Our parents and school community have been very understanding and supportive.

The virus has had a huge impact on staffing shortages and pupil attendance in recent months, but this has improved in the last fortnight.

The use of face coverings in our older classes has been very well supported by parents and students.

The school is using *Aladdin*, *Facebook* and the school website to keep parents and students informed.

Ethos

The board were very pleased to acknowledge the positive impact of the weekly prayer services during Advent organised by Mrs. Nelson.

Fr. Derek informed the board of the positive impact on the wider community of the senior classes attending Friday mass. He felt it was a great lift for all parishioners to see the return of young people to the Church.

School Improvement Plan

The board were also informed about the progress being made on our school improvement plan (**SIP**). They were presented with analysis of our recent AFLs tests in Literacy and Numeracy and were pleased with the progress being made. Sincere thanks to Ms Caulfield and Mr. Keenan for their comprehensive reports to the board.

Thanks to Mrs Nelson and Mr Malloy on their report regarding the 6 week project completed by their classes on sign language.

School Building

The board were pleased to hear how recent repairs to our school yard surface were successful in preventing flooding during recent winter storms.

School Policies

The board reviewed and approved the following school policies during our meeting.

1. Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment
2. Language Class Policy

3. Dignity in the Workplace Policy
4. Code of Behaviour Policy (*still under review*)
5. Admissions Policy/Admissions Notice
6. Participation Policy.
7. Policy on Career Breaks and Special Leave

There are a several people to thank and congratulate for their various achievements and contributions to school life in St. Joseph's in recent weeks.

- Well done Mrs. Nelson and Mr. P. Molloy's classes who took part in a recent sign language initiative in our school. The children were introduced to an important new life skill and are now more aware of issues facing the deaf community.
- The *Virtual Christmas Panto* was a huge success well done to all staff members who helped ensure this was an enjoyable experience for the children.
- Well done to Mr. O'Connor and all staff members involved in the continued roll out of our *Every Child a Reader* project.
- Well done to all staff and members of our school community who were involved in our recent *Church Gate Collection* which raised some much-needed funds for the many important projects and initiatives taking place in our school.
- Ms. Kennedy has done a fantastic job in setting up a new scanning system in our school *Library* which will have a hugely positive impact on our ability as a staff to foster a love for reading in our pupils.
- Well done to Ms. Hughes who successfully coordinated the recent *Food Dudes* initiative in our school.

Sr. Joan ended the meeting by expressing her gratitude to Ms. Roz and the entire staff of St. Josephs for maintaining the smooth running and positive atmosphere in our school despite the challenges posed by Covid. She praised the resilience and teamwork among staff members and the leadership of our ApIs, Mr. McEntee and Ms. Roz.

Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine a dúirt sí.