



# Garrydoolis National School

## Board of Management – Annual Report 2018



### Board of Management 2017/18

Chairperson- Breda O'Dwyer  
Treasurer- Mary O'Dwyer (Community Rep)  
Secretary- Heidi Jordan  
Patron's Rep- Fr. Pat Burns  
Teacher Rep - Tina Hickey  
Parent Reps- Michelle Butler, Donal Grace  
Community Rep- Dan Quinn

### School Ethos

We are an inclusive Catholic school in the diocese of Cashel and Emly. In co-operation with Fr. Burns and parents, Catholic children were prepared for the sacraments of Reconciliation (26/02/18) and First Holy Communion (12/05/18). Family masses were celebrated on 25/02/18 and 15/04/18, when senior pupils formed the choir and completed readings. As part of the "Three Day Festival of Families", senior pupils travelled to St. Ailbe's Church in Emly to view the icon. They also attended mass in Nicker Church on Friday 8/12/17. The Legion of Mary Ladies group very kindly loaned the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to our school on 13/10/18 and gifted rosary beads to the infants. Our families recently prepared artwork for exhibit at the Family Fun Day held in Limerick Junction. Our final Family Mass will take place on 17/06/18.

### Summer Works/Buildings

The boiler was recently serviced and a burst pipe in the small shed was repaired. This summer, the senior classroom and support classroom will be re-floored and skirting boards, picture rails and door surrounds in all classrooms will be painted. The external building will be power-washed and windows cleaned inside and out.

### Staffing

Staffing during this academic year has been as follows:

Principal/ Special Education: Heidi Jordan  
Junior Classroom: Tina Hickey  
Senior Classroom: Séamus Heffernan  
Secretary: Joan Barry  
Caretaker: Johnny Leahy

The Board of Management would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our staff to the school and to thank them most sincerely for same.

### Parents' Association

In line with the Strategic Plan of the Board for the 2018/19 academic year and also inspectorate recommendation, it is hoped that our Parents' Association will be re-established in September 2018.

### Policy Development

Policies worked on and reviewed by the BoM this year include: SEN Policy, Assessment Policy, Protected Disclosures Policy, Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures, Drama, Policy on Admissions and associated forms- Application to Enrol and Enrolment Form, Risk Assessment of All Potential Harm to Children and Child Safeguarding Statement, Annual Review of Anti-Bullying Policy and Child Safeguarding Statement. In-school procedures are reviewed regularly throughout the year.

### School Inspection

The inspectorate conducted a W.S.E.-M.L.L. on 23 and 24/01/18. The inspection process was a most positive experience and we thank our divisional inspector for her professionalism and courtesy throughout. The Board welcomes the findings of the report, have responded to same and will post a link on our website in due course. When reading the report, please refer to the Quality Continuum used by the inspectorate. We are very proud to have scored in the top two echelons throughout the report; "good" and "very good"; and to have been highly commended on the work ethic and behaviour of our wonderful pupils.

### Curricular Development

School Self-Evaluation focussed on exploratory approach to the teaching of number and use of Mata sa Rang, Literacy Lift Off was implemented for junior pupils and graded reading continued for seniors. Team teaching was incorporated in the senior classroom as was station teaching for maths. Our approach to the teaching of spellings has been reviewed and new resources decided upon for the coming year. In relation to well-being, the Friends for Life Programme was implemented with 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils, whilst our focus on green and active schools continued. Teacher CPD took place in relation to the New Language Curriculum, New Child Protection Procedures. PE and leadership

### School Achievements and Events

Amber Flag, Fifth Green Flag and renewal of the Active Flag, Tree Day, Crazy Colours Sponsored Walk, 7-A-Side Football & Hurling Finalists, Visit of Fire Brigade/ Gardaí/ Nurse, Football Skills County Finalists, Friendship/ Anti-Bullying Week, Maths/ Science Weeks, Amber Flag Coffee Morning, Christmas Shows, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Bake Sale, Easter Egg Raffle, JEP Project- "Greetings from Garrydoolis", Great Plant Hunt, Active Week, Sports Day, Ice-Cream Party, Tour, Graduation, Flag Raising Ceremony