



Garrydoolis National School

Board of Management – Annual Report 2019



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 Emlly. In co-operation with Fr. Burns and parents, Catholic children were prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation (18/2/19), Confirmation (4/4/19) and First Holy Communion (11/5/19). Family masses were celebrated on 21/10/18, 18/11/18, 9/12/18, 3/2/19 and 24/3/19, when senior pupils formed the choir and completed readings.

Summer Works/Buildings

We returned last August to new flooring and paintwork in the senior and support rooms. During the Easter holidays, the junior room was re-floored and painted. Panes of glass were also replaced in the shed during Easter.

Staffing

Staffing during this academic year has been as follows:

Principal/ Special Education: Heidi Jordan
Junior Classroom: Tina Hickey
Senior Classroom: Séamus Heffernan
Secretary: Breda Ryan
Cleaner: Michelle English

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, our Parents' Association was re-established in September.

Chairperson: Marie Grace
Secretary: Denis O'Sullivan

Treasurers: Mary Lee, Davy Hogan

Members: Michelle Butler, Donal Grace

We sincerely thank our Parents' Association for their work with the following activities this year: Sammy Saving Stamps, Scholastic Book Fair, Clothes Recycling, Seachtain na Gaeilge Coffee Morning, Active Week. A bag pack will take place in Dunnes, Tipp Town on Saturday 26/10/19. Parental support is crucial if this event is to be a success, so we kindly ask parents to consider giving an hour or two on the day.

Policy Development

Policies worked on and reviewed by the BoM this year include: School Self Evaluation Plan (2018 -2020), GDPR Audit, Admissions Policy (Approved by Patron), Digital Learning Plan and Critical Incident Policy. In-school procedures are reviewed regularly throughout the year.

Forbairt

Forbairt is a programme for a school leadership team, comprising of the principal and deputy principal. It is constructed on an action learning model which is designed to support school leaders to explore leadership in their context. H. Jordan and T. Hickey participated in the Forbairt initiative this year and led a project entitled, "Leading Improved Proficiency in and Attitudes towards Oral Irish in our Whole School."

Curricular Development

School Self-Evaluation focussed on the use of oral Irish as a means of general communication throughout the school. Literacy Lift Off was continued for junior pupils and graded reading continued for seniors. Team teaching was incorporated in both classrooms focussing on maths. Additionally, team teaching was employed in the senior room for novel and persuasive writing and in the junior room for literacy and oral language development. Our graded approach to the teaching of spellings was introduced. In relation to well-being, the Friends for Life Programme was implemented with 3rd and 4th class pupils, whilst "Feel Good Friday" was also implemented in the senior room. Teacher CPD took place in relation to Irish, the New Language Curriculum, New Child Protection Inspection Model, Team Teaching and Differentiation, PE, Art and Leadership.

School Achievements and Events

Election of Student Council 2018/19, Tree Day, Visit of "Wild Encounters", County Colours Sponsored Walk, 7-A-Side Hurling Finalists, Great Limerick Run Workshops, Scholastic Book Fair, Community Games Art Success, Friendship/ Anti-Bullying Week, Maths/ Science Weeks, Engineers' Week- Visit to UL to see "Alice Perry's Amazing Adventures", Christmas Shows, Christmas Panto in UL, "Kick Off Christmas Bake Sale", Easter Egg Raffle, Crazy Hair Day, CraftEd Project- Junior Infants- 3rd class, Science Blast, S.T.E.M. Plaque- Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, Active Week- GAA, Rugby, Cycling, Soccer, Spike Ball and "Fitkidz Walking Challenge", Sports Day, RSA Workshop, Ice-Cream Party in aid of Down's Syndrome Ireland, Tour to Fota Wildlife Park and Cobh Titanic Museum, Graduation