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**Annual Report of the Board of Management of St. Patrick’s NS**

**2023 - 2024**

The Board of Management of St. Patrick’s N.S. consists of

* Martin McGowan (Chairperson & Bishop’s Representative)
* Fr. Frankie Murray (Bishop’s Representative)
* Aisling Fee (Community Representative & Treasurer)
* Noel Heron (Community Representative & Safety Officer)
* Siobhain McGowan (Parents’ Representative)
* Paul Martin (Parents’ representative)
* Maria McGoldrick (Teachers’ Representative & Recording Secretary)
* Ruth McLoughlin (Teachers’ Representative & Secretary)

**Meetings**

During this school year, the board had scheduled termly meetings in September, October, December 2023, February, May and July 2024.

Two emergency meetings were held in January and again in June 2024.

**Policies**

The following policies were reviewed during this school year.

**September 2023**

* Anti-Bullying Policy
* Child Protection Policy
* Child Safeguarding Statement
* Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment
* Code of Behaviour
* Health and Safety Statement and Risk Assessment
* Inclusive and Special Education Policy
* Protected Disclosures in the Workplace Policy

**December 2023**

* Special Education Needs Policy 2023
* School Strategic Plan
* School Self-Evaluation and School Improvement Plan

**February 2024**

* Grievance Procedure Policy
* Complaints Procedure Policy
* Parental Status and School Communication Policy
* Close Circuit Television System Policy
* Relationships and Sexuality Policy

**July 2024**

* Drama Policy
* P.E. Policy
* Special Needs Assistant Policy
* Supervision Policy
* Tours Policy
* Administration of Medicines Policy
* Dignity in the Workplace Policy

**School-Self-Evaluation (SSE)**

The topics for School Self-Evaluation were Well-Being, Literacy, Inclusion and Digital Strategies. We have completed year two of this cycle of SSE. Surveys have been completed by all stakeholders. Results have been analysed by the School Leadership Team and the updated SSE policy has been drafted. This has been further analysed after this year and targets have been amended accordingly. This was done following consultation with the Inspector and advice sought from National Council Special Education facilitators, whom we invited in. This will be updated and ratified at the next meeting.

**Curricular Planning**

The school has started working on the implementation of the New Primary Curriculum. We have all undertaken planning in the new Primary Maths Curriculum. We have introduced a new Maths scheme in the Junior end.

**Other Curricular Areas**

* We have ALPACA in Junior and Senior Infants. This is a digital screening and early intervention for Literacy in the junior classes.
* We Reading Recovery happening in Senior Infants and First class.
* We have introduced UFLI and Heggerty from Junior Infants to 2nd Class.
* We have upskilled and introduced formative assessments using digital portfolios in 2nd & 3rd classes and this will spread to 4th and Autism classes next year.
* We introduced Attention Autism to our younger Autistic children.
* We have Mata sa Rang, Literacy Lift off, Comprehension strategies and team teaching happening in several classes.
* As a whole staff, we have all upskilled in Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.
* Mrs. Louise Brennan is completing the Postgraduate Diploma in Autism training in St. Angela’s College over last year and next year.
* Mrs. Ruth McLoughlin has just completed Level 9 Masters in Arts in Management in Education through South East Technological University.

**Maintenance**

* Two new classrooms have been sanctioned to be built, to accommodate a 3rd Autism class and another learning support classroom.
* The whole interior of the school will be touched up with paint this summer.
* Maurice has temporarily fixed the roof and we still need to apply for emergency works to get the roof fixed.
* We got solar panels installed this year and we are saving money most weeks.
* We are in the process of applying for planning permission for the new pitch.
* A semi-automatic Stira stairs has been installed for easy access to the attic and water tanks.
* We have replaced some of the older lights for new LED lights.
* We have new CCTV cameras installed around the external of the school, the school lobby area and the office, with monitoring system in the office.

**Resources**

* We have upgraded our I-Pads and we now have a trolley with 16.
* We intend to purchase another 16 I-Pads so allow every child to have access to one each, to enable us to continue using them for station teaching, formative assessment and digital portfolios.

**Income and Expenditure**

Our total income and expenditure will be published online

Total income is €13,380

Total expenditure is €24,802.35

Other income which was donated for the pitch fund (See income and expenditure sheet)

Total €14,862 which will go towards applying for planning permission.

**Other**

The school was in receipt of additional Special Education Teaching (SET) hours and English as an Additional Language (EAL) hours which were used to help all children.

We would like to thank Allen Gaels for providing Luke Rooney for coaching GAA football to all pupils since February. All children improved and benefitted from this.

We currently have 11 Ukrainian pupils enrolled in the school. Additional EAL hours were allocated to support these pupils. We will have a total of 19 pupils who will be eligible for language support which will allow us to keep our EAL teacher for the year.

We wish to acknowledge the new Paul McPadden Memorial Perpetual Trophy provided by the Ridge family for our chess league. He is Jasmine Ridge’s Granduncle, and his family kindly donated money to us to honour his name. Thank you.

We would like to thank the Tony McGowan Committee for their very generous donation in December of €4,000 to help school funds.

The Parents’ Association continued to support the school by fund-raising and providing support for school events and resources. This year they provided additional funding to pay for dance, gymnastics and badminton. They provided funding which enabled us to attend the Christmas panto in Dublin and the Dock in Carrick on Shannon. They funded swimming for 2nd, 3rd and 4th classes. Two classes were funded for music, 3rd and 6th classes partook in Ukulele. They also funded celebrations in 2nd class, related to First Communion and in 6th Class related to end of year. They organised an ice-cream van to come to the school after our school sponsored walk.

Our Parents’ Association committee comprises of Kevin Blessing, Damian Guckian, Ríona Daly, Ciara Flynn, Edel Spark, Thomas Scollan, Siobhain McGowan and Paul Martin.

We wish to thank all our staff for their hard work and enthusiasm. They continue to maintain a very high standard of teaching and learning. Their dedication to the children in our care is outstanding.

We also wish to acknowledge our Board of Management who oversee every aspect of school life. We thank them for their commitment and time.

Finally, a huge thank you to all our pupils and parents without who are the heart and soul of our school. Your support is so appreciated and valued.

 **June 2024**