

PRINCIPAL'S END OF YEAR REPORT
8TH JUNE, 2022

Chairperson: V Rev. Fr James Fegan P.P.
Secretary: Mr. Conor Mc Donald, Principal
Community Nominee: Ms. Joan Rafter, Treasurer
Patron's Nominee: Ms. Michelle Jordan, minute secretary
Staff Nominee: Ms. Patricia Brooks, Deputy Principal
Parents Nominee: Mrs. Stephanie Hipwell
Parents Nominee: Mr. John Nolan, Maintenance Officer
Community Nominee: Mrs. Eleanor Farrell

Staffing:

- The permanent teaching staff of the school will remain as is for 2022-2023 with 6 class teachers, 2 full time SET posts and 1 shared SET post.
- The school will remain in the current SET Cluster along with Ballyroe buck NS. Ms. Cathy Tighe and Ms. Lucy Gahan job share to cover this post. They will continue to work for 6 weeks in Ballindaggin and 2 weeks in Ballyroe buck.
- This year the school remained in a Principal Release Day cluster with Ballyroe buck NS, Ballyellis NS, Camolin NS and Ballyoughter NS. The 5 schools were entitled to hire a teacher for the year on a temporary contract to cover Principal Release Days. Ms. Aileen Mc Carthy was appointed and Tuesday was the day that she attended Ballindaggin NS. This will continue again next year.
- Class Allocation for next year is not yet decided as there are three teaching posts to be filled. These interviews cannot be held until the supplementary panel has cleared.
- Next year's SET Team:
Ms. Aisling Whitty Special Education Needs Organiser (SENCO)
Ms. Jan Kennedy
Ms. Cathy Tighe/Ms. Lucy Gahan (shared as part of cluster)
- The current SNA allocation is 1 full time post. Carol Jordan will remain as our SNA for the 2022/2023 school year.
- Patti O'Neill resigned her SNA post during the school year.
- Best wishes to Ms. Róisín Mc Carthy who commences maternity leave in July. A substitute teacher will be appointed to cover this leave.
- Best wishes to Ms. Ann Ring. Ms. Ring will begin her career break at the end of term and hopes to teach in China next year.

- Best wishes to Ms. Mary Meagher. Ms. Meagher will job share next year in Ferns NS.
- Mr. Mc Donald, Ms. Brooks and Ms. Whitty received training to run the Droichead process in the school. Mr. Conor Barlow completed the Droichead Induction process in our school this year.
- The school facilitated two Teaching Practice students this year.
- The school facilitated two Transition year students this year.

Enrolment:

Current Enrolment is 142.

Projected Enrolment for September 2022 is 147.

Attendance:

This year's attendance rate stands at 90.4%. This is very good considering self-isolating guidelines.

Organisation:

- The following policies were updated in 2022-2023 and ratified by the Board of Management:

Organisational Policies:

- Covid-19 Policy
- Admission Policy
- Code of Behaviour
- Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
- Anti – Bullying Policy
- Job Share Policy
- NQT Induction Policy

Curricular Policies / School Plans:

- Science
- History
- Geography
- Maths
- Music
- Irish

An Audit took place of:

- Graded Reading Books
- Classroom library books

Planning for 2022-2023:

- The School has signed up for Sing Out Loud.
- The school hopes to run tin whistle lessons for all classes in January 2023.
- The school hopes to return to swimming, for some classes.
- The school plans to hold the 5km run on September 25th.
- The school hopes to host an end of year school play in June 2023.
- The school has signed up to sustained support with the Professional Development Service for Teachers in the area of Maths and Technology.
- Staff will attend a refresher First Aid course.
- The school will participate in the European Week of Sport at the end of September.
- It is hoped that some of the senior classes will participate in the RDS Young Scientist, ESB Science Blast and ECO-UNESCO awards next year.

Activities for 2021/2022 included:

Activities were curtailed due to Covid-19 precautions and protocols for some of the year. However the following activities took place.

- Halloween Dress Up Day
- St. Patrick's Day Dress Up
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Visit from the ice Cream Van
- Easter Egg hunt
- G.A.A. Coaching
- World Book Day
- Celtic Travelling Book Fair
- Brikz4Kidz
- Active Schools Week
- School Sports Day
- Paired reading
- Zumba

Activities for 2022/2023:

It is hoped that most of the activities listed above will continue for the next academic year along with other new activities depending on availability.

Parents' Association:

The Principal thanked the Parents' Association and the parent body in general for their support in what was a very challenging year. He also expressed his sincere gratitude to the Parents' Association for helping to fund and help organise fun events. Without the financial support of the Parents' Association, it would not be

possible to offer the children so many opportunities during school time. Hopefully next year the Parent's Association can continue their excellent work.

Catholic Ethos:

- Sacrament of Reconciliation
- First Holy Communion
- Graduation Ceremony
- Confirmation Ceremony
- Different classes attend Mass on the last Thursday of the month during the year
- End of Year mass
- A big thank you to Fr. Fegan for his interest shown to the school and pupils. We appreciate all the help and support he has given us during the year.

Maintenance:

- Leaking heating units were repaired and replaced.
- IT maintenance was carried out.
- Floors were polished over Easter.
- School will be deep cleaned over the summer closure.
- New aluminium doors were fitted to the front entrance.
- A new key pad and lock system will be fitted to the main doors over the summer.
- The basketball court received a new tarmac surface.
- A new fence was erected around the basketball court.
- New lines will be painted on the court over the summer.
- A number of smaller offices and rooms were painted during the year.
- The secretary's office will be painted over the summer months.

Farewell to the 17 girls and boys in Sixth Class who will be progressing to secondary school in September. Go néirí an t-adh libh go léir.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Board of Management for their continued support. Also my appreciation to all of the school staff for their consistent support and assistance over the past year.

I wish the pupils, their parents, the staff and the Board of Management of St. Colman's a safe and happy summer break.

Conor Mc Donald– School Principal
8th June, 2022