

S.N. Mhíchíl Naofa,
11, Sr. Ó'Bearáin,
Luimneach.
V94.AoK7
Uimh. Rolla 12834 S



St. Michael's N.S.,
11, Barrington St.,
Limerick.
V94.AoK7
Tel/Fax 061 - 31 59 27

Email: office.stmichaelsns@gmail.com

Website: www.smnslimerick.ie

Board of Management - Annual Report 2017/2018

Fáilte romhaibh go léir. Caithfidh mé a rá go raibh bliain an-ghnóthach ag an mBord Bainistíochta. Seo a leanas cúntas ar imeachtaí an Bhoird i rith na bliana 2017-2018.

The purpose of this Annual Report of the Board of Management of Saint Michael's National School is to provide a summary of information on the operation of the school in line with the requirements of the 1998 Education Act. This Report serves as an addition to the information provided on the school's website www.smnslimerick.ie, the various Newsletters issued by the school and information provided to parents at parent teacher meetings and various other school events.

2017-2018 was another busy and active year for the Board of Management of our school with the following summaries of our work:

A message from the Principal

As most of you are aware, I took up my position as Principal of Saint Michael's N.S. in September 2018. It has been a very busy year indeed. The staff of the school, the parents and the children made me feel welcome, right from the 1st of September. It did not take long for me to settle into the school. As a teaching principal I am sure you are all aware that this role while it is extremely rewarding, it is an extremely challenging position. I have a responsibility to the children I teach and on top of that I am managing the day to day running of the school. Working together with the support of the Board of Management, the PTA, the pupils and the staff so much has been achieved together this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jennifer O'Leary who as Chairperson of the Board welcomed me in September and guided me as I settled into my new role. I would also like to welcome our new Chairperson Dean Niall Sloane. He is a pleasure to work with. I look forward to continuing to work with you all in the year ahead.

Miriam Smyth - Principal

School Ethos

Saint Michael's N.S. is a co-educational National School under the patronage of the Church of Ireland Bishop of the United Dioceses of Limerick & Killaloe, the present Patron being the Very Rev'd Dean Niall Sloane. Our staff, in conjunction with the church upholds the ethos. Our children attend assembly each Wednesday in Saint Michael's Church. Our assemblies are led by the following leaders: Dean Niall Sloane, Rev. Edna Wakely, Sean Roys, Kevin Fitzgibbon, John Stanfield and Paul Ritchie.

Board of Management

Patrons Nominee / Chairperson - The Very Rev'd Niall J. Sloane

Community Nominee / Treasurer - Brian Gaffney

Teachers' Nominee - Sally Fossitt

Patrons' Nominee - Jennifer O'Leary

Principal - Miriam Smyth

Community Nominee - Keith Benson

Parents' Nominee - Brian Beck

Curricular Development

This year the teachers reviewed the PE policy. This tied in nicely with the Active Flag initiative which the school engaged in.

The teachers completed in-service training on the New Primary Languages Curriculum. As a follow on from the professional development the school engaged the services of two PDST advisers in English and in Irish. These visits have benefited the staff hugely and will further inform policy development in these areas.

Staffing

For 2018/2019 we will have the same allocation of teachers. 5 Mainstream teachers and 2 Special Education Teachers. Our principal is a teaching principal. Along with managing the school she teaches Junior and Senior Infants. We share two part-time Special Education Teachers with Limerick School Project. We also have 1.25 SNA's – this is the same as last year.

Child Protection

The school's Designated Liaison Person is the school Principal Miss Miriam Smyth. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person is Ms.Sally Fossitt. They are legally obliged to refer all Child Protection concerns to TUSLA.

Website Launch

In February the school launched its first website – www.smnslimerick.ie. This would not have happened without the hard work of Brian Gaffney and the principal. Mary Gilmartin (PTA Chairperson) was also a fantastic help to Miss Smyth during the final stages of the set-up of the website.

Health, Safety & Child Protection

At each board meeting a report is presented in relation to these matters. In September 2017, all staff including ancillary staff, parent volunteers and assembly leaders were invited to complete the e- vetting process. This will be monitored and updated each school year or as the need arises.

At the start of each term the teachers carry out a health and safety audit of the school, schoolyard and grounds. All maintenance issues are addressed in a timely manner.

The playground has been divided into two separate areas (Juniors-1st and 2nd to 6th) The staff feel that this is working well.

Policy Development

The following policies were developed/reviewed & ratified during the year:

Health & Safety

Child Protection

Attendance Strategy

Anti-Bullying

Code of Behaviour

Critical Incident

Acceptable Usage

PE Policy

Child Safeguarding Statement

Class Division

Parental Complaints

Enrolment

Intimate Care

Supervision

Board Finances

The financial management of our school is conducted in strict compliance with the Department of Education and Skills requirements.

At each Board of Management meeting the treasurer furnishes the board with a detailed report on school finances.

Croke Park Hours

Both teachers and Special Needs Assistants have completed their commitment to work their Croke Park Hours 2017/2018.

Staff Training/CPD

First Aid Training – All Staff

Epipen/Anapen and AED training – SNA's

New Languages Curriculum – In Service – Teaching Staff

Child Protection Training – All Staff

DLP and DDLP Child Protection Training – Sally Fossitt and Miriam Smyth

Many of the teachers also engaged in professional development relating to their profession of teaching outside of school hours.

Fundraising

Many fundraising events took place in aid of the school, with much help from the PTA and the staff of Saint Michael's N.S. Many thanks to all who fundraised. Some of the events were-

- Teatowels
- Carol Singing
- Christmas plays/choir performances
 - Clothes collections
 - Table Quiz
- International Food Fair
- Buy a Brick Campaign

Parent Teacher Association

Chairperson – Mary Gilmartin

Secretary- Niamh Fry

Treasurer – Mesfin Abebe

We are very grateful to all of the parents who take the time to get involved in the parents association. Not only attending meeting, but volunteering to help out whenever and wherever is necessary. Their dedication to our school is fantastic.

School Tours

The students all enjoyed their tours immensely.

Junior/Senior Infants – The Farmyard Ennis

1st/2nd Class – Craggaunowen Heritage Park

3rd/4th Class – Bunratty Folk Park

5th/6th Class- Mitchelstown Cave

6th Class Mystery Tour – Takes place in June

Standardised Test Results

The principal reports the results of the standardised tests in 2nd/4th and 6th class to the Board of Management at the end of each year. These results are also reported to the Department of Education through the POD system.

As a staff we are very happy with the progress that our pupils are making and we are very proud of how diligently they work throughout the year.

Teacher Class Allocations

The following is the teacher allocation for the 2018/2019 school year.

Ms. Smyth- Junior Infants

Ms.Moran – Senior Infants and First

Ms.Morrow – Second and Third

Ms. Robinson – Third and Fourth

Ms.Fossitt – Fifth and Sixth

Special Education Teachers – Ms. Wallace and Ms.McMahon

Shared SEN with LSP – Ms. Conroy & Ms,O'Connell

Our SNA allocation remains the same as last year. Ms.Coombs and Ms.Hayes are our SNA's.

Building Project

As you are all aware we have been sanctioned for a new classroom and some additional works. We are just going to tender and will have a builder appointed very soon. Work should commence by September.

Maintenance

Roof Cleaning

Tree Pruning

Roof – Storm Damage

Repairs to school yard

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ms.Moran who got married over the Easter break. We wish her and Brendan the very best in married life. May they have a long and happy marriage.



School Enrolments

We have 128 pupils currently on roll. There are 16 children in 6th class moving on to secondary school in June.

Projected Enrolment for Junior Infants for Sept 2018 is 17 pupils

TUSLA Reporting on pupil attendance

The school completed all mandatory reports to Tusla regarding pupil attendance and we will complete the End of Year report at the end of June.

Board of Management Training

Our Chairperson Dean Niall Sloane and Board Member Jennifer O'Leary attended Child Protection training in line with new legislation in this area.

Building Project

We are about to go to tender and we will have news about when our new building will commence very soon! We are all looking forward to seeing the builders arrive on site! We will be able to issue a school calendar for next year once the builder has given us a schedule of building works.

Board of Management Meetings

The Board met eight times this year.

Board Meetings were held on the following dates:

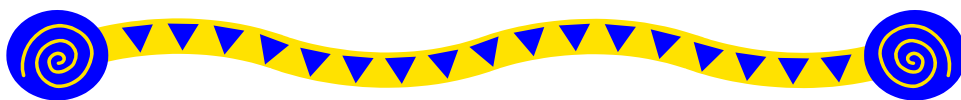
- 24th August 2017
- 5th September 2017
- 7th November 2017
- 19th December 2017
- 6th February 2018
- 7th March 2018
- 10th April 2018
- 30th May 2018

Information Technology

Online Enrolments – With the launch of our website we have been able to include the feature of online Pre-Enrolment. This means parents can submit applications online at their convenience.

IT Grant – The school received an IT grant this year . The teachers are in the process of formulating an ICT Plan with the aim of developing and improving resources and delivery of ICT education.

Aladdin Online Payments – We now have the facility to enable parents make payments to the school online. This is done through a secure portal on our website. We appreciate your patience while we get this up and running.



Word of Thanks

In the past 12 months our school enjoyed many successes as itemised in our various Newsletters. None of this could have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the whole staff of Saint Michael's National School. Our teachers, SNA's, school secretary and our caretaker all do fantastic work all year round and should be commended for their dedication to our school. The Board of Management would also like to thank the Parents' Association for their tremendous support and trojan work throughout the year. We look forward to what the next school year will bring.

A Message from the Chairperson of the Board of Management

To be delivered at the BOM meeting tonight