

Convent Primary School – Annual Report 2018/2019

The Convent Primary School had a population 115 at the end of the school year 2018/2019. We have 5 class teachers, 1 full time Special Education Teachers (SET), 1 part time SET (17.25 hours), 1 SNA, 1 secretary (15 hours) and 1 Caretaker (20 hours).The Secretary works Tuesday (9:00am-1:30pm), Wednesday (9:00-3:00pm) and Thursday (9:00-1:30pm).

The Convent Primary School is a Roman Catholic School under the Patronage of the Diocese of Killaloe. The Board ensures that the religious ethos and characteristic spirit is being promoted and developed.

At the Convent Primary School, we aspire to help each child reach her full potential in a Christian atmosphere where respect, responsibility and cooperation are central to all learning experiences. We aim:

- To develop an education which enables the child to progress at her own rate, socially, intellectually and spiritually
- To develop values to help the child to be well adjusted, to have a healthy self image
- To achieve a balance between the imparting of knowledge, development of skills and the following of leisure pursuits
- To give an appreciation of our rich cultural heritage and respect for other cultures
- To awaken a sense of civic pride in the local environment
- To foster a sense of justice and respect for life – human, animal and plant
- To cultivate good relationships between all partners of education

The Board of Management is comprised of the following members:

Chairperson – Mr. Patrick Sullivan

Secretary – Ms. Alison Varley

Patron's Representative- Ms. Marie Brooks Power

Teacher Representative – Ms Tina McLoughlin

Parent Representatives – Orla Seymour, David Short

Community Representatives – Joan Needham, Maire Hession

The Board of Management met seven times this school year. The dates of the meeting were as follows: - 26th September 2018–12th December 2018 – 13th February 2019 – 3rd April 2019 – 1st May 2019 – 23rd May 2019 – 5th June 2019.

The Board ratified a new Safeguarding Statement in line with new DES requirements. A child protection risk assessment of activities in the school was carried out. The Safeguarding Statement is communicated to the whole school community via the school's website. The Statement is also on display inside Main entrance to the school. Child Protection is on the agenda at every BOM as per guidelines. A child protection oversight report is delivered at

each Board of Management meeting Children with over 20 days missed included in reports issued to TÚSLA as per guidelines at the end of the school year.

Purpose of the Annual Report

The purpose of this Annual Report is to provide a summary of information on the operation of the Convent Primary School, in line with the requirements of the Education Act. This report serves as an addition to the information provided on the school website www.cpskillaloe.ie, the various newsletters issued by the school, the information booklet issued to all new parents in June of each year and information provided to parents on all other occasions.

Finances

The Board have submitted its accounts to the school accountant for certification. School finances require prudent financial management. Additional funds are provided by school fundraising activities. The Board would like to sincerely thank all those who support these activities so generously and assure them that the money will be used prudently. The Board would like to acknowledge the wonderful work done by the treasurer of the board, Joan Needham. A total of 27,506.16 was raised over the last 4 years. Sincere thanks to the parents, Parents Association and staff for all the work they have put into achieving this substantial amount.

Policy Development

The Board reviewed the following policies this school year: - Flight Risk Policy – Intimate Care Needs Policy – Data Protection Policy – Mobile Phone usage Policy – Whistleblower Policy – School Self Evaluation Policy – Healthy Eating Policy – Stay Safe Policy – Administration of Medication Policy – Special Education Needs Policy – Health & Safety Policy – EPV Day Policy – Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy. These policies are available on the school's website.

Standardised Testing:

Academic Attainment Standardised testing took place in May for English Reading (Micra-T) and Mathematics (Sigma-T). Results were analysed and comparisons were made to the national norms. Our overall school wide test results in the Micra T and the Sigma T reflect very well the national norms and we have pinpointed our areas for growth next year. In general terms they would include: • Development of problem solving in Mathematics • Focus on strategies and interventions to support struggling readers – strategies to improve mental maths.

In-School Management

The in-school management team changed during the academic year as staff members were on approved leave. Posts of responsibilities are due to be reviewed in September 2019.

Main School Events for 2018/19:

Over the course of the school year the school was involved in many successful educational projects and extra-curricular activities. These included: Literacy Lift Off - Aistearin Infant Classes - Friendship Week - Maths Week - Science Week - Friends for Life and Fun Friends World Book Day - Féile Eile - Mindfulness - Credit Union table quiz - Eason's Spelling Bee School wide station teaching for literacy development - Active Week - Outings in the locality including the library and Clarisford Park - Christmas Concert and Carol Singing Seachtain na Gaeilge including Tráth na gCeist and Ceolchoirm - County Cross-Country Running - Tennis lessons - Sports Day - Cumann na mBunscol Hurling - School tours to University of Limerick - Peace Proms - Explorers Education Programme - Cycle Right Training for 5th & 6th class - Accelerated Reading Programme - Anti Bullying Week - Sprocket Rocket Training for 3rd & 4th class - Cinema Trip for 2nd - 6th class - Indoor camogie 4th & 5th class - Grandparents day 1st class - Swimming Lessons 4th class - Catholic Schools Week - Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation - Start and end of year school masses - Student Council -

Purchases:

During the 4 year term of the Board of Management the school has purchased a photocopier, painted inside and outside of both school buildings, new school sign with school name and logo, new flooring on infant room and halla, new telephone system in each classroom, 10 laptops, 12 iPads, rewiring of computer network, updated science equipment, set of Beebots, upgraded library books in each class, stencils on infant yard, new Aistear equipment for infant room, upgraded pupil toilets, installed wheelchair accessible toilet

Thanks:

The Board would like to express its appreciation of the hard-working, dedicated and committed staff in our school. The Board would like to commend all pupils who represented the school this school year. It also commends the members of the school community and the local community who actively support the school in so many ways. Your cooperation as parents and guardians is also vitally important and we thank you for your continued support in the coming school year.

Signed:

Patrick Sullivan

(Chairperson, Board of Management)

Alison Varley

(Acting Principal)