

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING: Thursday 28th September 2023

Welcome Back: The Board of Management would like to welcome staff & students back to school for the new school year. The Board hopes that everyone had a happy and healthy summer and wishes our school community well for the coming school year.

New Staff & Students: The Board extends a warm welcome to new members of staff and hopes they will enjoy working in Newtownmountkennedy Primary School. A special word of welcome to our new Junior Infants students and to our new students in other classes throughout the school. We hope you will be very happy in our school.

Teacher Shortages: The Board is very aware of the current situation regarding teacher shortages. The recruitment process is ongoing and it is hoped that we can appoint new teachers in the coming weeks. The Board thanks Mrs Geoghegan for returning to offer substitute support this term.

Classrooms: The Board is concerned that we are still short on classroom space for our students and that some students and teachers are working in rooms that are not ideal classroom spaces.

Well Done: The Board is delighted to hear that last year's 6th class are settling well into their new secondary schools. We would also like to congratulate our past pupils who received Leaving Cert results in recent weeks and wish them every success in the future.

Congratulations and Best Wishes: The Board congratulates Mr Keddy and Ms Nolan on the birth of their daughter Nessa during the Summer. The Board also sends its congratulations to Ms Darcy on her wedding this month and wishes her every happiness in the future.

Thank You: The Board thanks our caretaker Andrew Coster for all his hard work over the summer holidays to make sure the school was ready for our students and staff on their return.

Well Wishes: The Board sends its best wishes to staff members currently absent on sick leave and wishes them well in their recovery.

School Activities: The Board is pleased to hear of a number of initiatives which are continuing in our school this year - Music Generation - Choir & Bodhrán, GAA with Aoife, Artist of the Month, Soccer with John & Geraldine and visits to the Alpacas. The Board also thanks those staff members who volunteer their time for after-school GAA training and Art classes after school.

Secondary Schools: Enrolments for many local secondary schools take place in the month of October. The Board encourages parents and students to attend the Open Nights for these schools.

New Uniform: The Board is pleased to hear that the new school uniform is a practical and affordable option for parents and is thrilled to see our students wearing it. Hoodies for 6th class are expected to be available before the midterm break.

Child Protection Policy: The Board ratified the school's Anti-Bullying Policy, Child Safeguarding Statement and SET Policy at tonight's meeting.

Capital Build: The Board is pleased that progress continues to be made with our new school building plans.

School Lunches: The Board reminds parents to review their child's Carambola menu on a regular basis as new items are added throughout the year. The Board also reminds parents of the school Healthy Lunch Policy and reminds parents to follow this when sending in lunches with their child.

Parking: The Board reminds parents to be mindful of children's safety when dropping off and collecting children from school. Parking is not permitted in disabled spaces (without permission), on yellow lines, at school gates or in staff parking areas.

Sympathies: The Board sends its sympathies to the Waters family on the recent death of Seán.

Next Meeting: Thursday 26th October 2023 at 7.30p.m. in Senior School