

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING: 14th September 2017

- **Welcome back:** The Board of Management would like to take the opportunity to welcome all staff members back to school. It especially extends a warm welcome to new members of staff and hopes they will enjoy working in Newtownmountkennedy Primary School.
- **New Students:** Welcome back and best wishes to all our students as they begin a new school year. 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.
- **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 Junior and Leaving Cert results in the past few months and wish them every success in the future.
- **Enrolments:** The Board is delighted to hear that enrolments in our school continue to rise but is concerned that we may lose a teacher at the end of October. Newtownmountkennedy Primary School has a lot to offer its students and we urge the community to promote the school to those who may have recently moved into the area and who might consider enrolling their children.
- **Work experience:** The Board would like to inform those seeking work experience in the school for this school year, that applications must be received by the Board of Management prior to the October meeting.
- **Parking:** The Board reminds parents that they must not park in St Joseph's Centre or in the Junior & Senior School grounds; these are for staff parking only. The Board would also ask all those driving to and from school to be vigilant in the car park and on the roads around the school. Many of our students walk to and from school and it is important that their safety remains a priority.
- **Children with Autism** – The Board would like to thank all those who were involved in upgrading St Joseph's Building during the summer to accommodate two of our classes for children with autism. The building now includes an upgraded sensory room and OT room, which we hope will be of great benefit to our students.
- **Capital Works Project:** The application for planning will be lodged shortly, at which stage it is hoped that plans will be available to be viewed.
- **Parents' Association:** The Board was pleased to hear that a new Parents' Association committee has been established and that discussions are already underway with regard to fundraising initiatives. The Board wishes them all the best as they work to support the school in this coming year.
- **Best Wishes:** We keep in our thoughts staff members Joanna Power as she continues to recover from her cancer treatment and Carol Wolohan as she recovers from surgery. The Board would like to wish Mrs Murphy well as she begins her retirement.
- **Droichead:** The school has registered as a Droichead school. This is a new system for mentoring and supporting newly qualified teachers. Four staff members are currently being trained as Droichead team members and two of our teachers hope to be probated this year under the Droichead scheme.
- **Maths Recovery:** The Board is pleased to hear that our school was offered this whole school maths initiative. We thank staff who are willing to become involved and trained in national initiatives such as this.
- **Carambola:** The Board asks that parents and students review their Carambola orders. A number of new items have been added and the Carambola scheme offers a substantial lunch for all students in line with our Healthy Eating policy. All students are expected to abide by this Healthy Eating policy and should not bring additional lunches to school.
- **New School Year:** A Whole School Assembly to celebrate the New School Year will take place in St Joseph's Church for our staff and students on Thursday 28th September at 9.30a.m, this will include a Blessing of students' school bags. All are welcome to attend.

Next Meeting: Thursday 19th October 2017 at 7p.m. in Senior School.