**St. Mary’s National School**

Belmont Ave, Donnybrook, Dublin 4

*and*

Mount Eden Road, Donnybrook, Dublin 4

Tel: 01 2195734 email: office@saintmarys.ie

**Board of Management Meeting, 27ú M. Fómhair, 2021**

**Agreed Report**

1. **Permanent Building Update:**

The project manager of ABM has advised that the building works are on schedule. AP expressed concern to the PM about construction traffic entering and egressing the building site on Mt Eden during the ‘exclusion window’ (45 minutes at both ends of the school day) despite an agreement that this would not happen. The PM has advised that changes in protocols have been introduced to prevent this from continuing.

1. **Health and Safety:**

The Health and Safety officer on the Board advised that a risk assessment had been carried out at the beginning of September and the systems and protocols in place were reviewed and deemed satisfactory by the safety officers on the Board and the staff.

1. **Policy Review:**

**Child Protection**

* The Board conducted the checklist for the annual Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement.
* The Board reviewed the Safeguarding Risk Assessment.

**Anti-bullying Policy**

# The Board conducted the check-list for the annual review of the Anti-bullying Policy and its implementation

1. **Principal’s Report:**

**(a) Principal’s Child Protection Oversight Report**

The CPOR report was delivered to the Board.

1. **Ath-oscailt na Scoile:**

* The school re-opened for the new academic year on 1 September. This was a very unusual start to the school year. The In-school Management Team worked tirelessly over the few weeks leading up to the opening to ensure that the school environment was safe and welcoming. The rest of the staff returned to the school officially on 30 August for Croke Park hours. The main priority was to create an environment that felt as close to our normal as possible but which would minimise the risk of the introduction of COVID into St. Mary’s. The protocols introduced in the last term of the 2020/21 school year will continue until otherwise directed by NPHET/government.
* **Mount Eden Campus:** While the two additional prefabs were on site from early August, and the furniture and IT facilities were in place, the formal handover did not happen until Friday, 3rd September when the BCAR completion was certified. The children in the two 6th classes were accommodated in the RK Hall in Belmont Ave for three days.
* **Mount Eden Road Traffic and Safety:** Safety at ‘drop**-**off’ and collection is an issue of concern. AP has been liaising with the DCC in relation to the installation of a yellow box and road marking to alert drivers on Mt Eden Road to the location of an entrance to a school.
* The Board is aware of the safety issue for children attending St. Mary’s NS who walk/scoot and cycle down Belmont Ave on their way to school. The Board agreed to submit a letter to DCC in relation to this matter
* Last year’s 6th class who are now in various secondary schools celebrated their Confirmation on 8 September. The class was divided in two and there were two ceremonies in order to comply with guidelines for in-door gatherings.
* The children currently in two of the 4th classes celebrated their First Holy Communions on 18 and 25 September. The postponement of the two ceremonies did not diminish the importance for the children, their families and the school community. I would like to thank the current class teachers and the teachers who taught these children in 2nd and 3rd class for preparing the children for this special ceremony. A special thank you to Fiona Murphy, our RE co-ordinator and Josephine. I would also like to thank Msgr O’ Carroll for meaningful celebration these special ceremonies.
* Curriculum Meetings were available to view on SeeSaw from Wednesday 22 September to Monday, 27 September. Thank you to all the staff who facilitate these meetings.
* Photographs: 4th Class Communion Photos took place on 27 September and school photographs will take place on 7 October.
* **After-School Activities*:*** After school activities are up and running. AP is extremely grateful to the number of teachers who give their time voluntarily. The children will attend activities in their class groups. The staff are facilitating GAA, Soccer, Art Club, Club Ghaelach and Choir in a voluntary capacity and there are classes in Yoga, Piano and Chess available to the pupils at a cost.

**(c) Staffing/Appointments:**

* Our staffing arrangements for the 2021/22 school year are 24 Mainstream Classes, (1 assigned to SEN) and 3 SEN (Special Educational Needs teachers) and 2.83 SNAs.
* Fáilte to Ms. Avril Flood, Ms. Megan Valentine and Ms. Daisy Hickey, Ms. Beth Hayes and a fáilte ar ais to Mr. Luke Molloy and Ms. Christina Francis

**(d) Enrolment 2021**

The enrolment for the 2021/22 school year is 604. There are 79 pupils enrolled in Junior Infants.

**(e) Parent Association**

AP acknowledged thanked the PA for hosting the very successful coffee morning for parents of children in Junior Infants.

**5. IT Update:**

* Additional laptops and interactive flat screens were purchased for the two additional classrooms and a number of older classroom laptops were replaced.

**6. Muckross Park College Admission Policy**

The Board reiterated his commitment to seek the reinstatement of St. Mary’s NS as the priority feeder school to Muckross Park College. The Board agreed to send an email to the new Chief Executive Officer of Le Chéile Trust outlining its concerns with regard to the changes in Muckross Park’s Admission Policy and their impact on the girls in St. Mary’s NS.