

**Annual Report of the Board of Management**  
**Courtnacuddy National School**  
**2017/18**

The Board of Management of the school is pleased to publish the annual report for the 2017/18 school year. This report is issued in line with the requirements of the Education Act.

**Members of the Board of Management**

**Chairperson:** David Reck

**Secretary:** Colm Gallagher

**Staff Representative:** Brid McGrath

**Parent's Representative:** Paul Doyle & Christine Kehoe

**Patron's Nominee:** Mag Kelly

**Community Representatives:** Seamus Doyle & Sean Hennessey

The Board of Management met formally for 4 meetings during the year. Outside of these meetings the Chairperson and Secretary were in contact weekly. The Board of Management is responsible for the Management of the school and to provide an appropriate education for all pupils in the school.

**Policies Ratified by the Board**

- Child Protection
- Acceptable Use Policy
- Student teacher
- SPHE
- RSE
- Mobile Phone
- ICT
- Critical Incident Policy

## **Finances**

During the 2017/18 school year the Board of Management of the school has undertaken its duties in a number of areas. The Board has made funds available to the Principal teacher and staff to enhance and improve the resources in the school across a variety of subject areas. Finances are reviewed and certified annually by an independent accountant annually. Sean Hennessey and Margot Quigley (secretary) assist with this process.

## **Staffing**

In June 2017 a new shared SET position was created. This resulted in a permanent teaching vacancy becoming available. The school engaged with the supplementary panel (as per Circular 17/2017) and Ms. Áine Whelan was appointed to the school staff. We have clustered with Davidstown NS, Ballycullane NS, Bunscoil Rís and Taghmon NS to create this post.

As well as involvement in all curricular planning, staff accept other responsibilities:

- Green School/gardening: Mrs Doyle
- Active School: Ms. McGrath
- Music: Ms Delaney/Ms Kickham

The In-School Management team comprises Mr. Gallagher, Mrs. Doyle and Ms. McGrath (Assistant Principal II post holder). This team meets regularly and carries out extra duties/responsibilities for curricular, organisational and pastoral care areas. The principal and deputy principal meet on a formal basis regularly.

## **Attendance**

Our attendance rate was 93.8%. 11 pupils missed over 20 days while 5 pupils had full attendance. Attendance records are kept using Aladdin, the school's administration system. Annual returns were made to Túsla regarding attendance. All attendance records are being kept electronically as per DES Circular 0033/2015.

Our projected enrolment for September 2017 is 132. There are 13 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils transitioning to secondary school and 16 new entrants for September 2017.

## **Ethos**

Courtnacuddy NS is a Catholic school and as such promotes a Catholic ethos. This year the particular events to celebrate our ethos were:

- Start of year mass/end of year mass
- Catholic Schools Week (February)
- Grandparents' Day: mass and open day in school
- Sacramental preparation: first confession and first holy communion
- Confirmation preparation
- Supporting various charities such as Goal & Trocaire

## **School Building**

During the summer 2017, the school had availed of Summer Works Grant to update its heating system throughout the school. This work was carried out expertly by Jim Ryan. The Board would like to thank Dickie Murphy (caretaker) for all his hard work in ensuring the school grounds are kept in a good condition.

## **Continued Professional Development**

The Board has supported ongoing professional development of teachers. All teachers in the school have undertaken professional development in a wide variety of areas such as ICT, Special Education Needs, PST training and Wellbeing.

## **Parents Association**

This year, with assistance from the Parents' Association and the greater parent body, we purchased 10 iPads for the school. These are an invaluable resource for use in the classroom. The Parents Association play a vital role in school life in Courtnacuddy organising events such as Halloween Disco, Christmas Fair, Sports Evening etc. The main fundraiser this year was to help raise money to fund the installation of warning lighting on the approach to the school. The Board extends its thanks to the Parents' Association for all the support it gives the school particularly in the area of fundraising.

## **Competitions/Special Events**

There was a strong emphasis on participation in a diverse range of activities over the course of the school year. Among the activities/events/competitions that our pupils participated in were

- Fifth Green Flag award for Biodiversity
- Active Flag award June 2017
- Class Assemblies
- Music tuition
- School tours
- Art competitions
- Credit Union Quiz
- Swimming lessons
- Rackard league Football, Hurling & Camogie- District winners
- Tag Rugby coaching
- Rackard league Athletics
- 5 a side Soccer
- Sing Out Loud in Wexford Opera House
- Community Clean Up
- GAA coaching
- Soccer Coaching
- INSPA photography- Category Winner

The Board of Management thanks the Principal, teaching staff and ancillary staff for their commitment to the school during the year. It also commends the involvement and work of the parents of the school, members of the Parents' Association and members of the community who actively support the school in various ways. The pupils of the school are to be commended for their excellent behaviour, co-operation and their many achievements. The Board of Management looks forward to the continued success of Courtnacuddy National School in the coming school year.

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Chairperson, BOM