Dear Parents/Guardians,

The following is the agreed report of the Board of Management following a meeting on 29th April 2024

Agreed Report

- The children from Rang 2 will celebrate the sacrament of the Eucharist on Saturday, 18 May. Credit is due to Ms. Nash and Ms. Flynn (and other supporting staff) for the way in which they have been preparing the girls. Thanks also to the teachers and pupils of 5th and 6th Class who will be involved in the choir. The PA will organise a reception for children and their families in the Ruah Centre, which is always a lovely occasion. Thanks in advance for this.
- We will hold our 6th Class' Graduation on Tuesday 25 June. There will be mass in the church at 7pm (with BBNS), which will be followed by the graduation ceremony in the hall afterwards. Thanks in advance to all those involved in the preparation for this, including the PA who will be serving refreshments on the evening.
- We had a Curriculum Evaluation with the Inspectorate on 26 and 27 February. The evaluation focused on teaching, learning and assessment of Maths. It involved the following activities: discussion with principal and teachers, review of relevant documents, a pupil focus-group interview, observations of teaching and learning, examination of pupils' work, interaction with pupils and feedback to the principal and teachers. The Board reviewed the report and has prepared a response that will be included with the published report. (See attached response to minutes). The Board commends the hard work of pupils and teachers that has resulted in positive findings. It also acknowledges the recommendations made, with a strong commitment to ensuring their implementation. The Board also commends the work of the ISLT who leads the development of our 'very comprehensive' School Improvement Plan and SSE 'capably'.
- Teachers will engage in CPD 29 May (full day closure) on the new Primary Maths Curriculum.
- SNAs will engage in CPD on 29 May also focusing on their own wellbeing, whole-school wellbeing and also training to support their role (with an occupational therapist).
- Our School Self-Evaluation this year has focused on the teaching and learning of reading comprehension strategies. The cycle is coming to an end and at our next staff meeting we will make whole-school decisions based on our evaluation. Next year's SSE cycle will focus on an aspect of Maths.
- Anna reviewed the completed School Improvement Plan for 2023-2024 with the Board and highlighted the huge amount of work and development that took place this year.
- Anna reviewed our School Self-Evaluation Report along with a legislative and regulatory checklist.
- Standardised testing for 1st-6th Class will take place the week of 20 May. The Board will review the overall test results at our next meeting. These results are reported to parents as STen scores (2nd-6th Class) in the end-of-year report. Reporting on performance of children in 1st Class is presented in one of the following 3 descriptors – 'criterion reached', 'approaching criterion' and 'criterion not reached'. These tests can be helpful in determining support for children but are always considered along with other assessments carried out by the teacher.
- School reports will be sent out in mid-June. It is important to give time to parents/guardians to get back to the class teacher should they have any queries/concerns about their child's report.
- **Sport** – Active Week will take place the week of 10th June and Sports Day will take place on Fri. 21 June (weather permitting) Many thanks to all involved in preparing for this week. A huge amount of organisation goes into it. It will be co-ordinated by Ms. Emma Nelson. All class levels get to enjoy a range of activities including games & fitness activities (with Seán Kinane), Zumba (with Aoife), Basketball (with Neville) and 'Pound Fitness'. Other activities are organised by teachers themselves, culminating into Sports Day. Our camogie team has been

taking part in Cumann na nBunscoil and are now through to the semi-finals. Great credit is due to Ms. Sinéad Treacy, Ms. Orla Smith and Ms. Cathy Hegarty for training our teams (early on Monday morning!) and of course to the girls themselves for their commitment and dedication to this over the last number of weeks. Likewise, thanks to Ms. Eimear Devlin, Ms. Ruth Cowman and Ms. Orla Smith who trained our pupils in Gaelic football (along with coach Declan from BBSE). This dedicated team won their final in Croke Park back in Term 1. Thanks to Ms. Emer Flynn and Ms. Linda Farrelly for training our pupils for Santry Sports this year. The athletics team will head to Santry in the coming weeks and well done to the pupils who made the team. Girls in 4th and 5th Class are being given the opportunity to get involved in soccer training this term, with morning training with teachers Ms. Cowman, Ms. Cotter, Mr. Feighan and Ms. Hegarty. Many thanks to them these teachers for volunteering their time to do so.

- Performances – our 3rd and 5th Classes performed their plays, *The Ugly Duckling* and *Annie* before Easter. A huge amount of work and preparation went into these, and they were of a very high standard. Many thanks to the teachers (Ms. Darmody, Mr. Feighan, Ms. Hegarty and Cotter) and Ms. Suzanne Binley for this. Our 6th Classes will be performing the play Highschool Musical on Thursday 6th June as they missed out on performing in the last few years due to Covid. It promises to be a wonderful event! Thanks to their teachers for preparing them for this.
- The Big Sing (3rd Classes) performed in the National Stadium on 18 April. They were superb. Many thanks to all involved in preparing the girls for this. It took a lot of commitment by the teachers (Ms. Darmody and Mr. Feighan) and children and this was evident their super enthusiasm and high standard on the night. As well as their performance, the children's excellent behaviour was commended by the organisers.
- Our Student Council expanded this year to include pupils from 5th and 6th Class. Next year will see more children involved. Thanks to Ms. Laura Casey, Ms. Eimear Devlin and Ms. Emma Nelson who led the council this year and of course to the girls on our Student Council. Its establishment has been a great asset to our school leadership.
- The Scholastic Book Fair will come to our school during the week of 13 May. Many thanks to Ms. Róisín Gargan, and Parents' Association & library volunteers who will generously give their time to make this possible. Last year it was clear that our pupils thoroughly enjoyed it and there was a buzz around the school while it was here. The school receives 60% of the total spent to invest in new books for our classroom and school libraries. We consider it a very worthwhile event.
- AJ, Ms. Sinéad Treacy and Suzanne Binley have held review meetings in relation to the new performance drama arrangement that began this year. It has gone very smoothly.
- Classes will be going on their school tours over the coming weeks.
- As part of the Counselling Pilot with NEPS, the Friends Programme is being taught in one of our 4th Classes. This programme aims to promote wellbeing (and runs alongside our regular Weaving Wellbeing programme. Thanks to Ms. Sinéad Mahony & Ms. Róisín Gargan for running this.
- In addition, as part of the Counselling Pilot with NEPS, the whole staff is being offered sessions called 'Finding the Balance' to support their wellbeing.
- AJ would like to acknowledge the incredible work of the whole staff this year. Both teachers and SNAs engaged in a huge amount of CPD this year and worked hard to facilitate and embed curriculum changes. Both Clare and Michael have also worked hard to improve the way we do things and our school's systems and environment. She wishes them a well-deserved break over the summer holidays and a time to restore their energy.

Yours Sincerely

The Board of Management