



St Oliver Plunkett's NS

BOM Annual Report 2020/2021

Board of Management

Chairperson (Patron's nominee) Sheila Macken

Treasurer (patron's nominee) Sharon Brennan

Secretary – Mairéad Murphy

Teacher Rep – Kay O' Mahony

Parents' rep -Leo Matteo, Taragh O' Connor

Community Reps – Ann Butterly, Kevin Tolan

Enrolment

The enrolment to date is 327.

Attendance has been affected by Covid 19.

Staffing: The Board of Management wish Noelle Rooney best wishes as she embarks on a new career. St. Oliver Plunkett's N.S. currently has twelve mainstream class teachers, five Learning Support/Resource Teachers and one shared teacher for one day a week, five full time SNAs, one part time SNA and an Administrative Principal. We currently have one AP1 post, Mr Callaghan and two AP2 posts Mr Caffrey and Ms Mc Crudden. The school also has the support of our school secretary and our caretaker. We use a contract cleaning company to clean the school. The staff continue to fully implement the Haddington Rd. Agreement on Public Service Reform. The additional hours have been used to facilitate class teacher planning, staff meetings, whole school planning, school improvement and professional development. Nine members of staff are trained in First Aid.

Covid procedures and policies were put in place and staff, pupils and parents worked together to keep our school safe.

Board of Management

The Board of Management had 8 meetings this year to date. A number of policy documents and school plans were revised and agreed by the board during the course of the year which included the Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment review, Anti-bullying Policy and review checklist, Covid response plan and risk assessment, Covid Policy and Statement, Acceptable Use Policy, Mobile Phone policy, School Improvement Plan, Enrolment Policy, Exemption from Irish Policy, assessment policy and the protected disclosure policy. Teachers engaged in professional development throughout the year. Mrs Murphy attended the IPPN conference for Principals. Various courses were taken by teachers in the summer months.

School Building:

The prefabs are on site and have approval to rent. There are 5 classrooms and 4 SEN rooms. These are located to the rear of the school. Planning permission for the new design has been approved by Fingal but with certain conditions attached. MCOH are working on but due to Covid 19 this has been delayed. The school has new windows and doors through the Summer Works grant. The Board would like to thank the staff and parents for their continued patience with this.

School Ethos

41 children made their communion on Friday 3rd of July. There was two sittings to facilitate social distancing.

41 children made their confirmation, 12th of March. During Catholic Week the school carried out daily activities centred on the theme of Living in Harmony with God's Creation.

All classes have a sacred space and prayers are said daily.

Fr John McNamara said mass, heard confessions in the school for the older students.

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Curricular Development

Literacy : Guided reading took place throughout the whole school. A supplementary reading scheme is available throughout the school, the New Primary Language Curriculum fully implemented from junior infants up to 2nd, familiarisation of the new curriculum was facilitated by Mr Callaghan and by PDST for the senior end of the school. The NPLC was the main focus for this year along with writing genres. Digital resources to support the New primary Language curriculum are in place.

Numeracy: Problem solving and the language of maths were our focus areas with a continued focus on tables.

Due to Covid 19 standardised tests were not taken this year.

SPHE and Well- being: The focus on SPHE continues. The Marathon kids programme was continued and classes take part in the run a mile programme. The Weaving Well Being Programme is now in all classes from 3rd to 6th. Friendship Week was a positive experience and as a whole school we focussed on SPHE lessons and anti- bullying lessons. The stay safe programme and the RSE were taught but due to school closure these will be taught in their entirety next year.

Teaching and Learning: We continue to look at differentiation and learning through ICT. Due to school closure both teachers' and students' ICT skills have developed. We aim to build on this when school reopens.

Parents : Parents are very supportive of their children's education in St. Oliver Plunkett's N.S. and actively support their children's learning through checking and guiding homework, communicating with their child's teachers and attending parent/teacher meetings. During school closure parents supported their children's learning ensuring super engagement with distance learning. The Parents' Committee is actively involved in supporting the work of the school. They organised fund raising which included a pumpkin sale, Christmas Card fundraiser, Movie afternoons and quiz. The committee support policy review. The committee purchased hoodies for our 6th class this year. The committee also supported the introduction of the Ukulele to the school. The parents' committee hosted a morning for the parents of junior infants in September. The parents' committee provide support during friendship week supplying fruit and croissants for all the children in the school for Breakfast morning. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their work and support. They continue to be affiliated to the National Parents' Council and have their own insurance.

Buildings and Grounds: The Board of Management has continued with its campaign to improve the facilities, the buildings and the grounds of our school. The grounds are being developed as an outside learning space. Tommy Gallagher continues to make the grounds an attractive and inviting space for the school community. Some of the trees have had maintenance carried out on them this year. During the year 2019/2020 the following improvements were affected in St. Oliver Plunkett's NS:

- Purchase of educational resources including maths/literacy resources, PE equipment, Aistear resources, class set of Ukuleles , novels, two interactive panels, set of recorders
- Purchase of digital educational resources to support learning through ICT.
- ICT grant received and will be spent in 2020/2021. Interactive Boards and projectors were cleaned and new projectors purchased. Two laptops were purchased to be made available to pupils in need due to school closure. Ipads and other laptops were distributed to families who requested such during school closure.
- Fire and intruder alarms maintenance completed.
- Fire extinguishers checked and maintenance carried out.
- Minor Works Grant has not been spent, plan is to replace two vinyl floor coverings once Covid 19 allows.
- New windows and doors fitted on the main school building.
- A buzzer system has been installed at two entry points.
- Tree maintenance
- Clearance of old prefabs
- Mobile coat racks replace with coat hooks in classrooms to facilitate social distancing on the corridor
- Perspex screen installed in secretary's office
- Kitchen rearranged to facilitate photocopier
- Cleaners completed a deep clean.

School & Community: The school continues to be available to the community to use classrooms for activities which include Dance and Drama classes, Art and Craft classes, tin whistle and guitar lessons. The school held a carol service in the school attended by Fr John Mc Namara. Christmas plays and songs were held for the parents. We had a very successful Grandparents day. We continue to have strong links with the Parish team, Man O War GAA, O Dwyer's GAA, North County Cricket Club and Balbriggan Rugby club. Thank you to all the local businesses and clubs for their continued support

Other Noteworthy Events

- Ukulele lessons took place for two terms with 4 classes.
- Gymnastic lessons took place for all classes for two terms.
- Unfortunately ,all GAA competitions were cancelled due to Covid 19.

- Creative Schools: Dance workshops held in school.
- Cricket: Boys and Girls both participated in coaching.
- Friendship week
- Christmas Carol Service in the school.
- Green Flag Programme continued.
- Chess lessons for 3rd and 4th
- Cross country and sprint events
- 6th class ran a km a day as part of the Marathon Kids programme
- Classes took part in the Run a Mile Programme
- Science exhibition in the Hall
- Lego Workshop
- 6th class took part in JEP, junior entrepreneur programme, project was designer mugs but completion wasn't possible.
- 5th/6th class took part in the Blue Star Programme and were awarded the Blue Flag.
- Visit by Mairéad McGuinness MEP
- Sports Day held virt
- Yellow Flag/Student Council committee working hard on inclusiveness and anti-bullying.
- Homework Club
- Guitar lessons
- Tin whistle lessons
- Art and Craft class
- Dance classes
- Local History week
- Gymnastics week: DP gymnastics gave sample lessons
- Cooking stars programme promoting healthy eating
- 6th class graduation via Zoom, hoodies purchased by parents' association.
- Two teams took part in the credit union quiz, the younger team came 2nd.
- 1st/2nd class up to 6th class attended a 6 week block of swimming lessons.

None of this could have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of the staff of St. Oliver Plunkett's NS. They are truly an invaluable resource and are very committed to their roles as educators in your child's education. Your cooperation as parents and guardians is also vitally important and we thank you for your continued support in the coming school year. This was most evident during Covid 19.

Board of Management of St Oliver Plunkett's NS.