

# Scoil Noamh Iósaf, Baltinglass



## Board of Management Report to Parents Following their Meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup> 2020

- The Board expressed their sincere condolences to the Plant Family on the Death of Joe Plant. The board acknowledged Joe's significant to the Board of Management over the past eight years. The Board also offered its sympathy to Sr. Eileen on the death of her sister. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.
- The new school opening hours are working very well and pupils are attending school punctually in the mornings.
- The board discussed Circular 0052/2019 on *Exemptions from the Study of Irish*.
- The board agreed that the school close for pupils on October 2<sup>nd</sup> for the teachers to attend in-service on the Primary Language Curriculum as per DES guidelines. This inservice is provided by the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST).
- The Principal will attend a one-day Irish National Teacher's Organisation (INTO) seminar on leadership in Athlone.
- Cybersafe Ireland presented workshops for third to sixth classes on September 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> on internet safety and cyberbullying. This was followed by a parent information evening on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> in the school hall.
- All classes greatly enjoyed the SKIPnROPE workshops.
- Children from second to fourth classes will attend swimming this school year at Athy Pool. The pool is in full compliance with Child Protection Policy.
- Literacy Lift off is starting in first class in mid-September. Power hour will take place in senior infant classes after Halloween. The learning support team and the class teacher will support the children with reading, writing and word-work.
- Zumba with Patricia Murphy will take place every Wednesday. The cost to parents is €10 for 8 weeks. Every class will attend on a rota basis over the course of the year.
- Pupil will attend GAA coaching every Thursday with Patsy Barrett. This is also organised on a rota basis over the course of the school year.
- Dr. Ber Alcock Earley will facilitate science workshops for all classes from first to sixth classes.
- Parents are to be commended on pupil attendance and their children wearing their full school uniform to school each day.
- The Principal, Mairead Hennessy continues to be the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) for Child Protection concerns and the Deputy Principal, Carmel Doyle, is the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLIP).

- The board are satisfied that the school is compliant with Child Protection Guidelines.
- The board is satisfied that the school financial accounts are in order.
- The board agreed that no peanuts/peanut related products should be brought into the school as we have children with severe peanut allergy.
- Scoil Naomh Íósaf and the Green School Committee are working towards their fifth Green Flag on Biodiversity. Heritage expert Pat Hunt will work with the children on Biodiversity on five different dates during the school year.