St Oliver Plunkett’s BOM Annual Report 2022-2023

**Board of Management 2022/’23**

Chairperson – **Sheila Macken**

Treasurer – **Sharon Brennan**

Secretary – **Eoin Callaghan**

Teacher Rep – **Kay O’Mahony**

Parent Reps – **Taragh O’Connor**

**Leo Matteo**

Community Reps – **Anne Butterly**

**Kevin Tolan**

**Enrolment**

The enrolment for 2022/2023 is 324 Annual attendance report up to June 19th is

**Staffing:**

St. Oliver Plunkett’s N.S. currently has an administrative principal, a deputy principal, twelve mainstream class teachers, five SET (Special Education Team) teachers and one shared teacher for 7.5 hours a week, five full time SNAs and one part time SNA . We currently have one AP1 post- Ms Andrews is acting up- and three AP2 posts Mr Caffrey, Ms O’Mahony and Ms Patterson (acting AP2). The Board of Management would like to thank Mr Hall for his service to the school and wish him the best of luck in his future career. The school also has the support of our school secretary and our caretaker. We use a contract cleaning company, Macleans, 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. The staff took part in training in STEM with PDST, training in the New Primary Language Curriculum, training on the new Primary Curriculum Framework, training on working with children with additional needs with a qualified OT, staff well-being and many other activities.

**School Ethos**

We celebrated Christmas with a lovely Carol Service in the school. Catholic Schools Week took place and we were delighted to welcome Grandparents back into our school as part of our celebrations. All classes have a sacred space and prayers are said daily. The first Confession, the First Holy Communion and the Confirmation all took place this year and were thoroughly enjoyed by all involved. Assemblies were held throughout the year which had prayers, songs and stories to promote well- being

**Board of Management**

The Board of Management had 6 meetings. 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 and checklist, Anti-bullying Policy and review checklist, Annual Admission Notice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Teachers engaged in professional development throughout the year. Various courses were taken by teachers in the summer months and by SNAs throughout the year. The school accounts were audited and this was communicated to the FSSU. School Building: There are 5 classrooms and 4 SEN rooms in the prefabs. The Board recently had a pre-commencment meeting in relation to work beginning on the new school building. Representatives from a range of agencies were present and work is due to commence on Monday, July 10th 2023.

**Curricular Development**

Literacy:

A supplementary reading scheme is available throughout the school, the New Primary Language Curriculum is fully implemented from junior infants up to 6th class and continued familiarisation of the new curriculum was facilitated by Ms O’Mahony. Oral Irish and Irish continued as a main area of focus throughout the year. There is an established whole school approach to the teaching and learning of Oral language (English and Gaeilge), cursive handwriting, free writing and writing genres.

Numeracy: Problem solving, the language of maths, the learning of tables continue to be focus areas.

Standardised tests in literacy, numeracy and spelling were administered. The results were communicated to parents on the annual report cards. The literacy and numeracy returns were sent to the Department of Education.

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 continues in classes from 3rd to 6th . Well Being Week was a positive experience. As a whole school we focussed on SPHE lessons and anti- bullying lessons. The school succeeded in their application for an Amber Flag. The stay safe programme and the RSE were taught. The Yellow Flag Program continues to be a big part of our school year. The Yellow Flag Committee/Student Council lead this and held an Intercultural Week this year which culminated in our Intercultural Day on Friday, May 19th.

E-learning: Pupils are very familiar with the platform Google Classroom and have learned many ICT skills. Senior classes took part in Zoom workshops with an Taisce ( Global challenges) and with PWC ( Science workshops). We purchased new iPads for the children and staff have had training to ensure we get the most from these resources. Ms Andrews did fantastic work in leading this in the school. We are also working on setting up a shared drive for all teachers to use and share resources. We are working on setting up digital portfolios for all children. Again, Ms Andrews has done great work in this area.

STEM: We have had a big focus on the teaching of STEM this year and received training from the PDST in this area. Teachers worked together to gather suitable resources to teach lessons. We also used money from the Parents Committee to purchase Lego sets which use to enhance the teaching of STEM in the school.

Local History: We put a big emphasis on the teaching of local history this year, culminating in our Local History week which we celebrated in April. All classes went on a local history walk around the village of Balrothery and took part in an art competition. The children from 3rd to 6th class also went on a historical walk of Balbriggan and had a talk with a member of the Balbriggan Historical Society.

**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 continue to develop as an outside learning space. Our benches have proved to be a great outdoor learning environment and have got great use throughout the year. Tommy Gallagher continues to make the grounds an attractive and inviting space for the school community.

During the year 2022/2023 the following improvements were affected in St. Oliver Plunkett’s NS:

Purchase of educational resources including maths/literacy resources, PE equipment, ICT devices,

• Purchase of digital educational resources to support learning through ICT.

• ICT grant was received. A new Flat Panel Board was purchased. Additional Ipads have been ordered. Laptops were purchased for teachers.

• Fire and intruder alarms maintenance completed.

• Fire extinguishers checked and maintenance carried out.

• Painting of lines to determine play areas and lining up areas were refreshed.

• Extra cleaning hours were paid for in light of Covid 19.

• Cleaners completed a deep clean.

**Parents:**

Parents are very supportive of their children’s education and actively support their child’s learning through checking and guiding homework, communicating with their child’s teachers and attending parent/teacher meetings. The parents committee is actively involved in supporting the work of the school. The committee held a number of meetings throughout the year. They organised a Santa visit with chocolate , held an Easter Egg hunt, purchased food for our annual Breakfast Morning during Friendship Week, purchased hoodies for 6th class pupils, organised a cake sale, a sponsored walk and many other events throughout the year. The chairperson of the committee along with another member spoke at the Induction meeting for new parents.

**Other Noteworthy Events**

• Ukulele lessons took place for all classes from 3rd to 6th class

• All classes had coaching sessions with Siobhan O’ Connor, Man O’ War GAA.

• 5th and 6th class had Cricket coaching with John Devane

• 3rd and 4th class had tennis lessons

• The school took part in the Discover Science and maths award programme, led by Ms McKiernan

• The school was awarded a second Amber Flag

• 6th class took part in the Children School Life Survey.

• Friendship week

• Christmas Carol Service

• Green Flag Programme continued.

• Sponsored Halloween Dress Up walk was held.

• Intercultural Day was held for pupils and parents.

• Classes took part in the Run a Mile Programme

• 6th class and 5th/6th class took part in JEP, junior entrepreneur programme.

• Yellow Flag/Student Council committee is working hard on inclusiveness and antibullying.

• 6th class graduation will be held on the 17th of June in the school. The Parents’ Committee purchased hoodies and will supply pizza and drinks for the pupils. The BOM have ordered the food and tea and coffee for the adults.

• Wild flowers were planted by children in 5th class

• Parent/teacher meetings were held in person in the school.

• Active Week was held.

• 6th class completed their passports to education.

• Mr Callaghan completed training on the Droiched Program and joins The Droichead Team (probation of new teachers).

• The School Summer Based programme for pupils with additional needs will take place in July.

• The Parents’ Association held an Easter Egg Hunt, a Halloween dress up sponsored Walk, supplied treats and Santa at Christmas.

• 6th class tour is to Bay Sports in Athlone. 3rd,4th.2nd and 1st will go to the Crystal maze in Cavan and the Infants have been to Newgrange Farm.

• Bike and scooter workshops were held by An Taisce/Active Travel to Schools programme.

• Sports Day at the Man O War GAA

• Choir at the Communion and Confirmation.

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. Board of Management of St Oliver Plunkett’s NS.