1. **Introduction and Overview**

St Fiaccs NS is a co-educational urban catholic school serving the Graiguecullen community. The school’ s enrolment presently stands at 601 pupils. It has 31 teachers comprising of an administrative Principal, 22 class teachers and 8 Special Educational Needs teachers. It shares 20 SET hours with Ballylinan NS, Askea Girls NS and Rathoe NS respectively. Mr John Brennan is the Principal of St Fiacc’s, Miss Mary Fleming is Deputy Principal and Mr Pauric Bolton is Assistant Principal. In addition the school has four Special Duties Assistant Post Holders. St Fiacc’s has three Special Needs Assistants; a caretaker, three cleaners and a secretary.

Three permanent appointments were made this school year: Miss Vanessa Luby; Miss Lisa Delaney and Miss Stephanie Ivory.

1. **Mission Statement**

Our school embodies Christian, Catholic values which emphasises compassion, care, good work ethos, striving for excellence and respect for all, irrespective of race, religion or social status.

*Fírinne le Misneach* is our school motto. It is written in Irish and translates as*‘Truth with Courage’*

1. **Board Members & Number of Meetings**

John Brennan (Principal & Secretary), Fiona Payne (Teachers’ Nominee), Liam Dooley (Chairperson and Safety Officer), Fr John Dunphy (Patron’s Nominee), Terry Smith (Treasurer & Community Nominee), \*Joanne Morrissey (Parent Nominee); Aodhan O Suilleabhain (Parent Nominee) , Lillian Fogarty (Community Nominee)

\*Joanne Morrissey will be replaced by in September 2018.

The Board met eight times this year. The Board building sub-committee Chairperson; Treasurer & Principal) met once.

*John Brennan attended Board training for Selection Boards and Posts of responsibility.*

1. **Initiatives supported by the Board**

Educational Projects

* Curriculum requisites purchased: New Active Panel; teacher laptops, I Pads (ICT Grant); Digital School Status awarded;
* New model for SEN allocation implemented at St. Fiacc’s NS
* Pupils were offered a daily snack funded by Department of Social Protection.

Whole Staff CPD:

* Inservice on Primary Language curriculum on April 24th 2018.
* Staff attended two half day trainings on Child Protection in February and June respectively.
* TUSLA e learning on Child Protection completed by all staff
* Staff training on manual handling on 10/01/2018
* 3rd/4th teachers attended Grow in Love Training

Extra curricular activities and School Celebrations

The pupils of St. Fiacc’s are involved in a range of extra curricular activities included: Gaelic Football; Camogie; Soccer; Basketball; athletics; Debating; Student Council; Greenschools; Trath na gCeist; Active schools; Scratch Programming; Choir; Irish Dancing; Guitar; Drama; Tag Rugby

Other memorable occasions for St Fiacc’s included Peace Proms; St Fiacc’s Got Talent; Christmas concert; Science/Maths Week; Active School’s Week; Grandparents Day; La Glas; Digital Flag Raising and Book fair.

Religious ceremonies

Mr Pauric Bolton is responsible for Coordinating Religious Instruction Policy at St. Fiacc’s and assisting with school mass preparation. Next year the School will redraft its Religious Education Policy.

Fr Dunphy, our school Chaplin, visited the school regularly and Christmas was celebrated with a Christmas Pageant in the Church. Pupils celebrated Communion, Confession and confirmation this year. Prayer is a feature of school life both in class and at Friday Assemblies where designated classes lead the school in prayer and arrange thematic displays monthly in our school reception. The Liturgical seasons were marked with a Special Advent mass of giving; a school mass for the Epiphany; Catholic School’s Week; distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday. St Fiacc’s also held a Start of Year school mass and end of year school mass and a Graduation mass. 3rd/4th teachers attended Grow In Love Inservice this year.

Improvements to facilities

* Velux Windows replaced in PE Hall.
* Lino on corridors and classrooms sealed.
* CCTV upgraded
* Display cabinet installed
* Exterior walls painted.
* A single classroom extension was completed in March 2018.
* Two new prefabs have been allocated to St. Fiacc’s this year to accommodate increased enrolment.
* St Fiacc’s has been approved a €750,000 four classroom extension to begin this academic year.

1. **Policies and procedures reviewed and ratified by the Board**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Child Protection | 26/10/2017 |
| Acceptable Use Policy | 26/10/2017 |
| Administration of Medication Policy | 26/10/2017 |
| Data Protection Policy | 26/10/2017 |
| Statement of Strategy for School Attendance | 26/102017 |
| Child Safeguarding Statement | 17/01/2018 |
| Admissions & Participation Policy | 17/01/2018 |
| Supervision Policy | 17/01/2018 |
| Assessment Policy | 17/01/2018 |
| Intimate Care Plan | 14/03/2018 |
| Work Experience Policy | 14/03/2018 |
| Managing Challenging Behaviour Action Plan | 14/03/2018 |
| Safety Statement | 14/03/2018 |
| CCTV Policy | 16/05/2018 |
|  |  |

Policies to review next year:

* Circ 60/2009
* English
* Gaeilge
* Inclusion
* Dignity in the Workplace
* Disclosures Policy

1. **School Self Evaluation**

St. Fiacc’s has re-engaged with the School Self Evaluation Process and is presently at the Gathering Evidence Stage.

In May and June the ISM team gathered samples of Report Writing from Tracker pupils and analysed the samples from 2nd - 6th using a Rubric. The ISM team will report back the findings to the whole staff in September benchmark findings against exemplars of good practice and draft a simple Action Plan.

**Table 1: REPORT OF AGGREGATE STANDARDISED TEST RESULTS in ENGLISH READING**

Number of students whose **scores** on a standardised test of English reading fall within the following ranges in respect of tests undertaken in May 2018:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Class** | **STen 1** | **STen 2** | **STen 3** | **STen 4** | **STen 5** | **STen 6** | **STen 7** | **STen 8** | **STen 9** | **STen 10** | **Numbers**  **of pupils**  **excluded**  **from test** | **Total**  **enrolment**  **in class** |
| First  class | **0** | **2** | **9** | **16** | **12** | **14** | **2** | **10** | **7** | **1** | **0** | **73** |
| Second class | **3** | **8** | **9** | **13** | **15** | **14** | **10** | **8** | **5** | **1** | **0** | **86** |
| Third  class | **1** | **10** | **3** | **17** | **12** | **11** | **11** | **4** | **7** | **3** | **0** | **79** |
| Fourth class | **0** | **1** | **8** | **18** | **16** | **16** | **13** | **3** | **3** | **2** | **0** | **80** |
| Fifth  class | **0** | **1** | **6** | **21** | **10** | **13** | **7** | **8** | **3** | **3** | **0** | **72** |
| Sixth class | **0** | **2** | **12** | **11** | **11** | **5** | **5** | **6** | **2** | **1** | **2** | **57** |

Test administered: Drumcondra Reading Test

**Table 2: REPORT OF AGGREGATE STANDARDISED TEST RESULTS in MATHEMATICS**

Number of students whose **scores** on a standardised test of Mathematics fall within the following ranges in respect of tests undertaken in May 2018

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Class** | **STen 1** | **STen 2** | **STen 3** | **STen 4** | **STen 5** | **STen 6** | **STen 7** | **STen 8** | **STen 9** | **STen 10** | **Numbers**  **of pupils**  **excluded**  **from test** | **Total**  **enrolment**  **in class** |
| First  class | **1** | **2** | **12** | **15** | **10** | **11** | **5** | **12** | **4** | **1** |  | **73** |
| Second class | **3** | **5** | **9** | **10** | **15** | **26** | **6** | **7** | **2** | **3** |  | **86** |
| Third  class | **1** | **7** | **10** | **22** | **10** | **9** | **11** | **3** | **6** | **0** |  | **79** |
| Fourth class | **0** | **3** | **11** | **16** | **12** | **12** | **16** | **4** | **3** | **3** |  | **80** |
| Fifth  class | **0** | **3** | **11** | **16** | **15** | **10** | **7** | **6** | **2** | **2** |  | **72** |
| Sixth class | **4** | **4** | **7** | **7** | **10** | **8** | **10** | **3** | **1** | **0** | **3** | **57** |

Test administered: Sigma-T Maths

**DATA ANALYSIS 2018**

English

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Comp < 50th | Vocab < 50th |  |
| 56% | 57% | 2017 |
| **59%** | **55%** | **2018** |

English Year group Breakdown

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Overall < 50th | Vocab < 50th | Comp < 50th |  |
| 65% | 66% | 58% | **6th** |
| 55% | 48% | 60% | **5th** |
| 59% | 53% | 63% | **4th** |
| 54% | 55% | 59% | **3rd** |
| 58% | 59% | 58% | **2nd** |
| 54% | 55% | 52% | **1st** |
| 57% | 55% | 59% | **1st - 6th** |

**Data Analysis 2018**

Maths

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Overall < 50th |  |
| 54% | 2017 |
| **58%** | **2018** |

Maths Year Group Breakdown

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Overall < 50th |  |
| 62% | **6th** |
| 62% | **5th** |
| 52% | **4th** |
| 63% | **3rd** |
| 57% | **2nd** |
| 54% | **1st** |

1. **Confirmation**

The Board has met its obligations in respect of Child Protection & Anti-Bullying procedures. John Brennan was ratified as Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Miss Mary Fleming as Deputy DLP on 26/10/2017. The Board has reviewed Standardised Test Results and Pupil attendance returns during the course of the year.

Our attendance rate last year was 92.5% while 127 pupils missed over twenty days. The school accounts have been certified.

1. **Conclusion**

The Board wishes to acknowledge the commitment of staff, the support of the parents/guardians and the enthusiastic cooperation of the pupils who strive to make the school a centre of excellence in Catholic primary education.

Appendix

**Summer Courses Undertaken by Staff for EPV Days in 2018**

|  |
| --- |
| Course Title |
| ICT in the Primary Classroom |
| The Jolly Phonics Revolution |
| Aistear - Play, Literacy and Numeracy (Infants) |
| STEM Champion |
| Tin Whistle and The Music Curriculum |
| Exploring Creative Craft Skills to enhance the delivery of visual arts curric |
| Using the Primary Language Curriculum |
| Leadership in Education |
| Religious Education: Grow in Love |
| First and Second Class Education |
| Visual Arts in the Classroom |
| Using Assessment Effectively in Literacy |
| Food for thought - special food for special children |
| Emotional & Mental Health Fitness for Well-being in the classroom |
| Jolly Music |
| Calm Bootcamp |
| Well being, Self Care and Mindfulness for the Primary Teacher |
| Music and Drama in the Classroom |
| Oral Language in the Primary Classroom: Let’s Get talking - 2018 |
| Writing for Teachers |
| Creating & Using ICT Resources for Literacy & Numeracy |
| Enhancing Well-being in the classroom |
| Mindfulness and SPHE |
| Leadership and Managing Conflict and Stress |
| Introducing Restorative Practices to your classroom and School |
| Stress Management and mindfulness |
| Calm Bootcamp |
| Looking & Responding - a springboard for creativity |
| Stress Management & Mindfulness |
| Practical Guide for Differentiating for children with additional Ed Needs |
| Using Assessment Effectively in Literacy |
| Infant Education: Literacy across the Curriculum |
| Maths for Infants |
| 101 Behavioural Transformers for ALL Classes |
| Writing for Teachers |
| Autism: Promoting Social Communication Skills |
| Scratch |

**Professional Development undertaken by staff throughout 2017-18 school year**

|  |
| --- |
| Course |
| ILSA Conference |
| Social Drama for Children and Young People with A.S.D- ( I.A.T.S.E.) |
| Managing the transition to the new model of Special Education- I. N.T.O. |
| Team Teaching for Mathematics (PDST) |
| IPPN Network Meeting |
| Deputy Principals’ Meeting |
| RSE Course PDST |
| Using FMS in Athletics |
| FMS- Move Well Move Often |
| INTO Education Conference  ICT in Education |
| Behavioral Support with Jan Kennedy (NCSE) In school |
| Managing challenging conversations  The School Plan |
| Anti-Bullying Seminar |
| Training for Selection Boards, Riverside Park Hotel |
| Managing the transition to the new model of Special Education- I. N.T.O. |
| EAL training with Oonagh Foley of SESS (in school) |
| Mata Sa Rang |
| PDST Training on the Primary Language Curriculum (in school) |
| Introduction to Children First (ELearning Programme) |
| Practical Strategies to help Primary School Children Learn and develop Self Regulation Skills. KK Ed Centre |
| Special Needs Assisting QQI Level 5 |
| NEPs, Effective Interventions for Struggling Readers  KK Ed Centre |
| Inclusive teaching & Learning for primary school teachers  Laois Ed Centre |
| Learning Centred Schools; Leading & Managing Priorities; KK Ed Centre |
| Children First Act Briefing Seminars (IPPN) |
| Assessment & Planning for pupils with SEN KK Ed Centre |
| Team Teaching for Literacy: The Next Steps; KK Ed Centre |
| Session with Catherine Merrigan of NCSE on Selective Mutism. |
| Training for Interviewing for Posts of Responsibility; (CPSMA & INTO); Seven Oaks Hotel |
| Child Protection Guidelines; (PDST online) Course 1 DLPs & DDLps & Course 2 All school personnel |
| IPPN Training on Child Protection (Maria Doyle) in Kilkenny |
| Grow in Love Training for 3rd/4th teachers. Parish Centre |
| Teaching students with Dyslexia & Reading Difficulties. KK Ed Centre SESS |
| Irish Primary PE Association Conference- NUIG, Galway |
| Dodging using FMS skills in Athletics- St Fiacc’s N.S |
| Managing Aggression & Violence in Schools  Cara Training Consultancy KK Ed Centre |
| Developing Language and Communication for Pupils with S.E.N. |
| Dyspraxia |
| School Self Evaluation; PDST Limerick Ed Centre |
| Challenging Behaviour & Social Skills NCSE KK EDC |
| Inquiry Based Learning to Measures |
| Developing Language & Communication for SEN pupils |
| Primary Language Curriculum  Day 4 Training Reading & Writing. Talbot Hotel |
| Ready, Set, Go Maths - Laois Ed Centre |
| Health & Safety Legislation Briefing Session . Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny |
| Child Protection Training for DLP & DDLP KK Ed Centre, PDST |