



Board of Management meeting

Report to the School Community

Tuesday, 19th May 2015

- 1) Opening Prayer – read by Brenda Cooper for students preparing for exams.
- 2) Matters Arising:
 - a) Lead in drinking water tap – it was reported that a test carried out by the council shows no lead content.
- 3) Correspondence
 - a) Letter re. Public Access to Law competition – the Board approved the trip to New York but decided that no fundraising could be carried out by the school or in the name of the school.
 - b) Department of Education & Skills – circular 26/2015 – the serious implications of the Vetting Act were outlined
 - c) J.M.B. Bulletins: 44 – 47 were summarised.
- 4) Special Needs Class and Admissions Policy Proposal – the following amendment to the policy was agreed whereby the first criterion for enrolment would be:

Girls assessed as having a Moderate General Learning Difficulty, subject to the overall limit of eight students in the special class. In the event of demand for places in the special class exceeding the number of available places, offers will be made on the basis of the criteria below. Please note also that applicants under this category will also be asked if they wish to be considered for a mainstream place in the event of not securing a place in the special class.
- 5) Building Programme
 - a) Assembly Hall – a draft business plan was presented to the Board. It was reported that the Loreto Education Trust finance officer indicated that if projections could show an adequate surplus to make repayments that approval from the Board would be likely. It was agreed that these projections would be developed.
 - b) Special Needs Unit – designs being prepared for planning permission submission.
 - c) Summer Works – school granted c€24,000 for work to boundary wall – the Board that finance committee would appoint builder/consultant
- 6) Open Day/Percent for Art – the day was deemed to be a great success with thanks to Brenda Cooper, Kathryn Nolan and Marie Therese Gallagher in particular.
- 7) Principal's report
 - a) Suspensions: None since our last meeting.
 - b) Events – a summary of school events was given as was a report on hockey activities for the year.

- 8) eBooks
 - a) 1st Years 2015 – it was reported that information had been sent to parents.
 - b) Survey results – results showing no link between the use of tablets and eyesight were presented.

- 9) Kolkata Guidelines
 - a) Inclusivity – the Board discussed the issue and concluded that there was a strong sense that Loreto was an inclusive school. It was agreed also that the development of the special class was an excellent expression of this.

- 10) Parents Association Report – a report on the fun run was given. It was also reported that a donation of €8,500 to the school library had been made. The Board wished that its gratitude to the Parents' Association would be expressed.

- 11) Health & Safety
 - a) It was reported that this term's fire drill was satisfactory

- 12) School Development Planning
 - i) Numeracy plan – it was reported that a draft plan would be finalised for June.
 - ii) Continuation of setting priorities for planning – committees up-and-running.

- 13) Finance - report from the finance committee was given and in light of the up-to-date reconciled bank statements, it was agreed that the accounts were satisfactory and in line with the budget. The next priority was to finalise the budget for 2015/2016 and to complete a three-year projection.

- 14) There being no other business, the report was agreed and the meeting concluded.