

RETNS Board of Management Meeting, 5th May, 2017 - Report to the School Community

Teacher Retirements: Two RETNS stalwarts, Geralyn Flood and Margaret Barron, have both decided to retire before the start of the new school year. Aside from their roles in the overall development and success of the school, the contributions of both Geralyn and Margaret to the education, care and nurturing of so many children over the years cannot be overstated. The BoM will discuss at a later date how to mark their departures appropriately and wished both Geralyn and Margaret very long and happy retirements.

Front of School: Emergency work on the surface at the front of the school was completed over the spring break after the BoM was instructed by its insurance providers to repair it or cordon it off. The area has been transformed and the work has been very positively received. The BoM noted the significant improvement in driver and parking behaviour since the work was completed and is keen for this improvement to be maintained. The area is now much safer for the children and users of the community centre to which the BoM also expressed its appreciation for its significant financial contribution towards the work. The second payment is due to the contractor before the summer and the BoM is anxious that upcoming fundraising events to cover the cost of the work are well supported.

Income Generation: The recent bag pack in Tesco, in Nutgrove, was very successful and raised a tremendous €2,700, which will be put towards the surface work. The BoM expressed its thanks to the many parents/guardians and children who helped out over the two days and also to Anthony Kavanagh of Rubber Print Design who donated RETNS branded t-shirts for participants. The next two events are the comedy night on Wednesday, 24 May in the Goat Grill and the women's mini-marathon on the Monday of the June bank holiday weekend, plans for which were discussed. The BoM expressed its hope that these events will be successful in helping to raise vital funds for our school. The ongoing work of the Development Committee and the preparation of a school development plan were also discussed.

Website: A group has been formed to review the RETNS website and it is considering what changes are necessary both to the aesthetics of the website and its contents to make it more, responsive, mobile friendly and accessible. The BoM expressed its thanks to the parents and staff who are participating in the group. It is hoped that the review and update will be completed by the start of the new school year.

Policies and Plans: The BoM approved the new policy on the Management of Critical Incidents. The staff will now review the policy's associated procedures before their ratification. Work is under way on the preparation of a policy on data protection. The BoM also approved teaching plans relating to history, geography and SESE integration.

The BoM also considered some routine matters, which for reasons of confidentiality are not included in this report.

RETNS Board of Management (bom@retns.ie).