**Board of Management**

**End of Year**

**2012-2013**

***Report to Parents***

***Introduction from the Chairperson***

Dear Parents / Guardians,

This newsletter from the Management Board is to further enhance the communication between school and parents. This end of year report reflects some of the happenings and events that have taken place over the last year, along with the financial report. On behalf of the Board I want to thank all our staff for their work during that year. We say farewell to the sixth class pupils as they begin another phase in his life in secondary education. We wish you well and be proud of the place you received your primary education. You are well prepared for the future. To our junior infants, we welcome you and hope you will have a happy experience while learning in this school.

I thank my fellow Board members for their time and commitment to the management of the school and to all who in any way, contribute to the life of the school. We look forward to another year and together we will continue as a school community to go from strength to strength.

 Good wishes and blessings.

Fr. Ray.

Chairperson B.O.M.

**Our Board members for 2011-15 are as follows:**

* **Fr. Ray Milton- Chairperson**
* **Mrs. Ruth Costello- Recording Secretary**
* **Ms. Marian Harlow/Emer Duignan- Staff Nominee**
* **Mrs. Jennifer Moran- Treasurer**
* **Mr. Seamus Molloy- Parents Nominee**
* **Mr. Padraig Geraghty- Community Nominee**
* **Mrs. Mary Murray- Community Nominee**
* **Mr. Tom Carney- Patron’s Representative**

**End of Year**

**Treasurers Report 2012-13**

**True Balances in individual accounts on 31st August, 2013**

 **School Account €24,468.61**

**Total in all accounts €24,468.61**

 **End of Year Report 2012-13**

**Report for Parents**

* 1 new enrolments for 2012-13
* 32 on roll for 2012-13
* 14 Principal release days taken during 2012-13
* Mrs. Costello and Jennifer Moran attended CPSMA BOM training on Tuesday evening 16th October 2012 in Athlone between 7:30-10pm.
* School closed at 2pm on Thursday 25th October to facilitate a staff meeting. This was half in, half out of school hours finishing at 4pm.
* School closed at 3pm for the Mid-Term break on Friday 26th October.
* 5th & 6th classes participated in a hurling blitz in St. Dominic’s on Tuesday 23rd October 2012. Mrs Costello and Rory supervised whilst Ms. Malone taught the remaining 3rd and 4th classes.
* Ms. Harlow took 2 family illness days in October 2012. There was full substitute cover for these days. Elaine Connolly and Gina Gilleran were the subs on the days.
* Michael Tyrrell built a garden fence to create a “biodiversity wild garden”.
* The SCI (Safer Cycling Initiative) visited our school on Friday 9th November 2012 to carry out cycle training with pupils in 2nd-6th classes. The cost was €20 per pupil however Roscommon county council paid €10 towards the cost per pupil. The price per pupil was then €10. This was in conjunction with our Green Flag and revisiting our theme for travel.
* Rebecca Dobson from the NPWS visited the school on Tuesday 4th December 2012 to teach us about biodiversity and assist us with our biodiversity Green flag.
* The school was used as a polling station on Saturday 10th 2012 November for the referendum.
* The Cameron Christmas show visited the school on Monday 10th December 2012. The Cameron show was a 45 minute, multi-media, colourful show for children that explored the real reason for Christmas celebration using puppets, drama, illusion and music. The BOM covered the cost of show as a Christmas treat.
* Bridgeen Regan led an Advent prayer service in Rahara NS on 13th December 2013.
* Mrs Costello returned the class standardised tests results of 2nd, 4th & 6th from 2012 to the DES, as requested.
* A mass took place in Rahara Church on 21st December 2012 to celebrate Marian Harlow’s retirement. Refreshments were served in the school after mass. Mrs Costello presented Marian with a €200 gift voucher and flowers from the BOM. A buffet lunch was held in the school between 1-3 for all the teachers of the parish to celebrate Marian’s retirement. Slice of Life provided the food and all surplus food was donated to the soup kitchen in Athlone.
* Emer Duignan and Gwen Malone attended Aistear infant education training in Knockcroghery NS on 15th and 22nd January between 4-6pm.
* All staff attended a School Self-Evaluation meeting with inspector, Maire Ní Mhairtín, in Glanduff NS 23rd January 2013 between 3-5:30.
* A staff meeting took place on 31st January 2013. The school closed at 2pm to facilitate same.
* School closed on 14th and 15th February 2013 for Mid-Term break.
* The senior room attended ski school in Kilternan, Co. Dublin on the 21st February 2013 for their school tour. The cost of the tour was €18 pp. The BOM paid the €280 for the bus.
* Swimming lessons took place over 7 weeks in February/March 2013.
* We celebrated Safer Internet Day in our school on 5th February 2013.
* Senior pupils participated in their first debating competition in Gaelscoil Ide on 8th February 2013.
* Maths week took place in Rahara NS in October 2012. The senior room had amazing success. They featured as daily winners and overall leaders in Ireland until Friday. We finished in second place overall with 4000 points. Fantastic achievement girls and boys!
* Our school website is up and running since September 2012.
* Patricia Finneran, our school secretary, has had her hours increased from 4 to 5 hours per week since 10th October 2012.
* Gaelic, Hurling and soccer training resumed since mid-September 2012. There were a few issues regarding attendance of the soccer trainers and Mrs Costello contacted the Fas coordinator. Our new trainers are Mark and Jimmy Darcy.
* All classes visited Roscommon library on Friday 12th October 2012. Non-members joined the library on the day and all pupils rented books. The bus cost €100 return.
* EPV- Mrs Costello took 3 EPV days in 2012-13. This was in lieu of a completed summer course.
* The senior room attended the ski school in Kilternan, Co. Dublin on 21st February 2013 for their school tour. The BOM kindly subsidised the €280 for cost of bus transportation.
* A staff meeting took place on 11th April for all staff. The school closed at 2pm to facilitate the same. The meeting lasted 2 hrs.
* Pupils from 6th class travelled to a Confirmation retreat in Knock on 14th March 2013.
* A Commitment ceremony took place on Tuesday 19th March 2013 in St. John’s Church at 6pm
* Confirmation took place on Wed 10th April 2013 at 11am in Knockcroghery Church.
* First Confession took place on 13th March 7:30pm in Rahara Church.
* We successfully completed the Green Schools programme for Biodiversity. Marian Parker, An Taisce inspector visited our school on the 20th March. This is our fifth Green flag over the past 12 years. The pupils and staff, under the supervision of co-ordinator, Marian Harlow/Emer Duignan, worked very hard to achieve this result. Well done to all pupils and staff on this wonderful achievement.
* Our Green Flag ceremony took place on Friday 14th June at 11am. The army band entertained the crowd and light refreshments were served to all parents, families, BOM members and army band following the ceremony. The ice-cream van provided treats for the pupils. Members of the winning St. Bridgid’s team were our special guests on the day.
* School closed on Tue 7th May 2013 & Tue 4th June 2013, as 2 of our discretionary days.
* A fundraising raffle was held to raise monies for the school. Hi-Line Motors sponsored the Easter hamper worth €100 and Splash Graphics designed the tickets *free gratis.* The raffle was a huge success and raised €930 for the school.
* Pupils in 5th & 6th attended an engineering workshop in AIT in conjunction with Engineers week on 1st March 2013. Ms Malone organised the visit and attended the event with the pupils. The BOM paid for the bus on the day.
* We were successful in our Award for Excellence in the Discover Primary Science project under the leadership of Ms. Malone. This is our 6th year to achieve this award. Well done to all pupils and staff.
* The Junior tour took place on Friday 7th June 2013. Pupils visited ‘Jump for Joy’ and took a trip on the Viking Ship. The tour cost €27 pp including lunch and bus. The BOM has agreed to subsidise €9 pp to keep the cost of tour at the same price as senior tour, €18pp.
* After School Clubs have started in Rahara NS in Term 3. The clubs ran on Mondays from 3-4pm and were supervised by 2 members of staff per club. Our clubs included baking, French, science and soccer. We have had all pupils attending from 1-6th classes. The cost was €2 per class. This money was used to fund resources for clubs.
* Maire Ahern, SENO, visited our school on Mon 29th April to assess the needs of a SEN pupil transferring to post primary school. She visited Mrs. Costello’s classroom and observed the pupil during the lesson.
* Mrs. Costello met with Shelia Molloy, Catholic Schools Partnership (CSP) parent’s representative, on Wed 1st May 2013 to proceed with Step 2 of the CSP process.
* Rahara NS girl’s soccer team played in the final of the FAI 2 teacher schools county final in Lecarrow. We lost in a penalty shoot-out but received runners-up county medals.
* First Holy Communion took place on Sunday 5th May 2013 at 10am in Rahara Church. Well done to Ms. Duignan who prepared the pupils so well for their sacrament.
* An Open Night for new entrants took place in Rahara NS on the 16th May between 6-7pm.
* Standardised Tests in literacy and numeracy began at end of May 2013. Reports were completed in June and sent to parents with standardised test results before term 3 ended.
* School closed on Fri 28th June 2013 for the Summer holidays.
* All teaching staff attended two Oral Language courses on Mon 4th March & Mon 11th March between 7-9:30pm.
* A literacy facilitator from the PDST, Orla Finnegan visited our school on 30th May 2013 to assist us with our development of oral language for our School Self-Evaluation report.
* SSE Couse- Mrs Costello attended a course in Data Collection and Presentation for SSE on Wed 10th April between 4-6pm in Athlone Education centre.
* Emer Duignan, Mrs. Costello, Mary Murray and Fr.Milton attended a meal and meeting in Abbey Hotel with Bishop Jones on Monday night 29th April 2013.
* A new projector was fitted in the senior room on 12th March. 2013.
* Seachtaine na Gaeilge took place in school during the week of the 11-15th March. An Irish assembly was held and pupils sang Irish songs and poems.
* Teresa Melia, Diocesan Advisor, visited our school on Mon 11th February 2013.
* Two pupils transferred from Rahara NS to Lismoyle NS on 27th February 2013.
* School Self-Evaluation- the staff have been busy collecting evidence and have completed a draft School Improvement Plan and School Self-Evaluation Report. We are focusing on improving vocabulary and oral language in 2013 school year. Next year we will gather evidence in the area of numeracy.
* 36 Croke Park Hours- We have completed over and above the required 36 Croke Park hours in the 2012-13 school year. Rory completed his 72 Croke Park Hours.

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