**Rathnure NS Board of Management End of Year Report 2018/19**

Fr.Broaders-Chairperson

Peggy Doran-Treasurer

Úna Hayden-Staff Nominee & Reporting secretary

Taragh Nolan-Principal & Secretary

Aideen Codd-Parent nominee

John Butler-Parent nominee

Ann Barron-Community Representative

Jim Blackburn-Community Representative

**Catholic School Ethos**

* Beginning of school year mass
* Do this in memory programme for 2nd Class
* Carols by candlelight Service
* Sacrament of Reconciliation
* First Holy Communion
* School choir and altar servers for schools Masses and sacraments
* Catholic Schools Week-Grandparents Day Mass, school visit and refreshments
* End of year Mass
* A big thank you to Fr. Broaders for his interest shown to the school and pupils. We appreciate all the help and support he has given us during the year.

**Policies Reviewed during this school year:**

* Child Safeguarding statement
* Admissions & Participation (Enrolment) policy
* Code of Behaviour
* Data Protection policy
* CCTV Policy
* Administration of Medicines policy
* Class Splitting policy
* Acceptable Use policy
* RSE policy
* SEN Policy
* Access & Custody issues policy

**School Achievements**

Health Promoting school Committee

* We continued with our HPS initiatives this year:
  + Fruit & Veg Monday
  + Mindfulness Monday
  + Do you’re talking as you’re walking
  + Water filters in each classroom
  + Planting in our poly-tunnel
* Thank you to Mrs. Keogh, Ms. Doyle, Mrs. Murphy and to the entire Health Promoting School Committee for all of their hard work during the year

Green School Committee

* We have received our fifth Green Flag for Biodiversity
* The Great Plant Hunt
* Action Day for Biodiversity
* Biodiversity Pledge
* Green code for biodiversity
* Prize-winners in the Recycled Christmas Decoration Competition
* Sowed wild flowers and sunflowers
* Sowed hanging baskets and flower pots
* Planted vegetables and fruit in tunnel
* Continued recycling of stamps, phones, batteries and general recycling
* We received a plaque for recycling the most batteries in Co. Wexford.
* Thank you Mrs. Quigley and to the entire Green School Committee for all of their hard work during the year

Active School Flag Committee:

* Super Troopers
* Fit4Class lessons and activity breaks in our classes.
* Move Well Move Often Physical Literacy initiative.
* Run Around Europe 20 day challenge
* Active School Walkway marked out on the school pitch.
* Step Challenge 6th class v staff.
* Playground leaders training course
* Active Week- Active School Week in June-a fantastic week was had by all with:
  + mini discos
  + whole school burn-out
  + Fitness classes with Claire Flynn
  + Step Challenge
  + jockey taster sessions
  + dance mats
  + Penalty Shoot-out
  + Cycling lessons
  + Spin the wheel get active
  + Teddy Bears picnic
  + Walk a mile with a smile
  + Orienteering
  + Please see video <https://spark.adobe.com/video/G1XTp8pGFBfmK>
* Thank you to Ms. Doyle and to the Active School committee members for the huge amount of work they have put in this year.

**Curricular Development**

* Aistear-Curriculum (Learning through play) in Infant classes
* Literacy Lift Off-station teaching for Infants to First Class
* Literacy Hour for 2nd-6th class
* Thank to Ms. Doyle, Ms. Hayden and the class teachers for organising and co-ordinating the station teaching initiatives
* Maths School of Excellence award. Mrs. Byrne, Ms.Doyle, Mrs. Stafford & Mr. Wright worked together to achieve this.
* Living Arts
* Crafted
* Maths Week school events
* Class by class assembly-improvement in oral language and public speaking skills
* In-school in-service training for teachers on the new Primary Language Curriculum.

**Standardised test results**

**This year we made the decision to undertake the new Drumcondra Standardised tests in English & maths. As outlined by the ERC(Educational Research Centre) who designed the tests,** *“Due to the mismatch in achievement levels between the old and new reference groups, some changes in scores are expected nationally with the introduction of the new tests.”*

New Drumcondra Reading-% of pupils in our school (3rd-6th class):

* 25% scored a Sten of 8-10 (well above average). Norm is 7.3%
* 8% scored a Sten of 7 (high average) Norm is 15%
* 48% scored a Sten of 5-6 (average) Norm is 38.4%
* 11% scored a Sten of 4 (Low average) Norm is 15%
* 9% scored a Sten of 1-3 (Well below average) Norm is 15.9%

New Drumcondra Maths-% of pupils in our school (2nd-6th class):

* 28% scored a Sten of 8-10(well above average) Norm is 15.9%
* 20% scored a Sten of 7(high average) Norm is 15%
* 37% scored a Sten of 5-6 (average) Norm is 38.4%
* 8% scored a Sten of 4 (Low average) Norm is 15%
* 8% scored a Sten of 1-3 (Well below average) Norm is 15.9%

We are very happy with these results as they show that our pupils are scoring better than the norm across Ireland in both English and Maths. An average of 25% of our pupils are scoring a sten of 8-10 (well above average) in both English and Maths. An average of 8.5% of our pupils are scoring a sten of 1-3 (well below average) in both English and Maths.

**Sporting Events & Achievements**

* GAA coaching from County Board
* Rackard League Roinn A Camogie semi final
* Mini 7s Camogie Semi-final
* Cumann na mbunscoil Mini 7s Hurling Champions-3 in a row
* Award from Rackard League for being the first school ever to win 3 in a row Mini 7s hurling titles.
* Lunchtime Football and hurling Leagues kindly run by Mr. Wright.
* Thank you to Mrs. Stafford and Mr. Wright for all the time they devoted to coaching and matches and to Jim O’Connell for his help.
* Hurling 365 for Junior Infants to 2nd class run by Mr. Wright, Damian Quigley & Richie Flynn. Thanks to all who volunteered.
* Achievement of Hurling 365 and GAA 5star flags
* Pupils representing the school during the mini games during Senior Hurling League matches
* Pupil representing the school/Wexford during camogie blitz in Portlaoise
* Three pupils representing the school/Wexford during Lift & Strike hurling competition
* Primary School Sports Entrants and high jump gold and silver medalists. Thanks to Ms. Byrne for preparing pupils.
* Tag Rugby lessons for 3rd-6th class with Ross Barbour, Enniscorthy rugby club
* Swimming lessons for 1st to 6th class
* Cycling lessons 5th & 6th class
* Sports Day

**Other achievements/Developments/Events**

* Development of our new school website [www.rathnurens.ie](http://www.rathnurens.ie) which is PC and mobile friendly
* School choir singing at Masses and school events.
* 5th & 6th class trip to Dáil Éireann & the National Gallery
* Living Arts Programme 5th & 6th class
* Crafted Programme 3rd & 4th class
* Participation in the concert for the Church Restoration Fun
* 6th class St. Johns visit at Christmas
* Pupil representing the school in County Eason Spelling Bee
* Credit Union Table Quiz
* Open Night
* Carina McEvoy talk on Anxiety in children
* Zeeko Internet Safety talk for pupils and parents
* World Book Day events
* We were happy to facilitate trainee teachers on teaching practice and also a number of Transition year pupils on work experience throughout the year.
* School Tours-All pupils were commended for their excellent behaviour on their school tours.
* Celebration Day 21st June 2019

**Enrolments/Staffing**

* Whole school enrolment for 2019/20 will be 198 pupils.
* Staffing is now Administrative principal, seven mainstream class teachers, two SEN teachers (2.5hours per week allocated to Kilmuckridge NS) and 2.5 SNA posts.
* Taragh Nolan will be administrative principal from September 2019
* Dean Wright will stay on in a permanent capacity from September 2019
* Darragh Kinsella will return from career break in September 2019
* Class Allocation for 2019-20:
  + Junior Infants-Susan Stafford
  + Senior Infants-Deirdre Byrne
  + 1st-Lisa Murphy
  + 2nd-Darragh Kinsella
  + 3rd-Breda Quigley
  + 4th & 5th –Dean Wright
  + 6th-Alice Keogh
  + SEN-Úna Hayden & Sinéad Doyle
  + SNAs-Fulltime-Ann Westnott & Marion Fuller. Part-time-Karen Codd
  + Secretary-Clodagh McDonald
  + Cleaner-Bernie Smith
  + Caretaker-Seanie Murphy

**Parents’ Association**

* Thank you to Anne Butler (chairperson) and all of the Parents Association who had another wonderful year. They have been enthusiastic and easy to work with and their input has really made a difference. Full financial details will be passed on, after the AGM in October 2019.
* Readathon in December
* Carols by Candlelight DVD
* Christmas Cards
* Clothes collections
* Easter Draw
* Fruit & drinks for Sports day
* Refreshments for many school events
* Treats for choir members and altar servers for the sacraments
* Purchase of two buddy benches/picnic tables for the school
* Social Dance fundraiser in aid of the Rathnure Toddler Group & Rathnure NS
* Payment for buses to school events

**Building works/Maintenance**

* Planning work is continuing on the build of our additional classroom and accessible toilet.
* Building work will happen during the school year 2019/20
* Purchase and installation of five new wall-mounted flagpoles at the front of the school.
* Thanks to Seanie Murphy and Jim Blackburn for all of their help with the maintenance in the school.

**As we near the end of another very busy and successful school year, I would like to sincerely thank all of the parents for their continued support of our school. I cannot praise all of the staff members enough for their dedication, flexibility, professionalism, enthusiasm and kindness. We are truly blessed to have them all working with us. Thank you also to the members of the Board of Management for their advice, support and genuine interest in our school. We are so proud of our school and our pupils, who work hard and put their best effort into all of the school activities!**

Taragh Nolan-Principal & Secretary Board of Management