**SCOIL N. PHÁDRAIG NAOFA, AVOCA 2021-22**

# SCHOOL OVERVIEW

**Enrolment Numbers:** 178 Pupils

**Teachers:** 10 including Principal, 3 Resource Teachers/ Learning Support Teachers (2 Full time/1 part time

## Special Needs Assistants: 2.5

**Ancillary Staff:** 1 part-time Secretary and Caretaker**OV**

# SCHOOL ETHOS

* The policies, practices and attitudes of the school are inspired by Gospel values, by belief in God and Jesus Christ.
* The school aims to promote the development of all aspects of the person of each pupil, his/her relationship with God, with other people, with the environment and with the place we live in.
* Religious education is provided in accordance with the doctrine and practices of the Catholic Church. Prayer is a feature of each school day. Preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation is provided in close co-operation with Father McKittrick.
* A wider sense of community is fostered embracing management, teachers, parents, pupils and the parish community. A spirit of mutual respect is promoted. Example and teaching give pupils an appreciation and real respect for persons from different social, national and religious backgrounds.
* Parental involvement in both curricular and extra-curricular activity is actively encouraged. Parents and teachers support and collaborate with one another as partners in guiding pupils to reach their full potential at the different stages.
* All staff members are held in high esteem and with equal respect. Personal and professional development is encouraged. Teamwork is our hallmark.

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| **BOARD OF MANAGEMENT** |  |
| **Board of Management Members:-**  Chairperson: | Valerie Twomey |
| Principal: | Mary Cahill |
| Patron’s Nominee: | Henry Alexander |
| Representative of Wider Community | Dora Tinsley |
| Representative of Wider Community | Pat Cronin |
| Teachers’ Nominee | Kathy van Eesbeck |
| Parent Nominee | Alma Dickenson |
| Parent Nominee  **Dates of Board of Management Meetings:**  28th September,2021  10th November,2021  12th of January,2022  16th February, 2022  6th of April, 2022  11th of May,2022  15th of June,2022 | Jamie Dowling |
| **SCHOOL INITIATIVES/EVENTS** |  |

## Sacramental Ceremonies (in collaboration with the Parish)

Children were prepared for the reception of the following sacraments:

* First Confession
* First Holy Communion
* Confirmation

All staff and children participated in prayer services throughout the school year, in particular marking important religious dates in the church calendar.

## Literacy

* Book Week- October 2021 We had a visiting storyteller, produced a school magazine and had a book cover and dress up as a character competition
* Sustained School Support-Training for Primary Language Curriculum

**Numeracy .**

Maths week was held in October 2021. Children took part in trails and quizzes

Standardised tests were completed in May. General improvement overall from last year.

## School Choir

* The School Choir under the direction of Mrs Ciara McGrath and Ms Kathy van Eesbeck provided music for all of the school functions.
* The choir participated in the sacramental ceremonies that took place in May and June.

## Sport

* **Football** – The school team competed in the school’s 5th and 6th class interschool blitz.
* **Rugby-** The school had a rugby coach come in this year.
* All children in the school had access to a GAA coach and a fitness coach this year.

## Junior Entrepreneur

All of the classes participated in this programme which is a joint venture with Evalon a local company

**Transition Workshop**

This was completed by the 6th class moving on to secondary school.

## School Garden.

Our school planters have been planted. The children are looking after these and hope to harvest the contents in the near future

**Outdoor Classroom**

Our outdoor classroom was completed this year with the help of the Mens’ Shed

**Sensory Corridor**

The sensory corridor was installed before Christmas

**Buddy system**

Sixth class have been working with their buddies in Junior Infants once a week throughout the year.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

A lot of the usual activities were suspended in the first half of the academic year due to Covid 19 restrictions

# SCHOOL POLICIES

The following school policies and procedures were reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management at their meetings throughout the year.-

* Anti-Bullying Policy
* Attendance Policy
* Child Protection Policy
* Discretionary Leave Policy
* Administration of Medicines
* Critical Incident Policy
* Statement of Admissions
* Emergency Closures
* SSE- Wellbeing
* Fire Drill
* Staff meetings

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# SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION (September 21-22) -Wellbeing

Reviews have taken place in respect of the:

School Self Evaluation for the academic year 21-22

Copies are available on the school website.

# BOARD OF MANAGEMENT/SCHOOL OBLIGATIONS

The Board of Management has met its obligations in respect of Child Protection and Anti-Bullying

Procedures – Department of Education and Skills Circular

The Board of Management has reviewed Pupil Attendance returns during the course of the school year.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Board of Management would like to acknowledge the commitment of staff, the support of the parents/guardians and the enthusiastic co-operation of the pupils who work together to make the school a centre of excellence in Catholic primary education.