



St. Munchin's College Parents' Council
7.30-8.30pm on Monday 09th May 2022
College Boardroom
Minutes of Meeting

Attendance:

Present: Kathleen Daffy , Carmel Naughton, Mariajean Geary, Valeria Fahy, Cynthia Hassett, Marian Keane, Anna Butler, David Quilter (Principal)

Apologies: Ian Moore, Michael O'Reagan, John Moloney, Jennifer McGrath, Sinead Nolan, Orla O'Sullivan

Minutes of last Meeting:

Kathleen Daffy(Chair) opened the meeting and queried any matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting. A query was raised as to the setting up of the WhatApps group for the Parents' Council

Follow up Action: David Quilter to send contact list to Kathleen Daffy

Principal's Update

David Quilter gave the following updates to the meeting.

Thank You

The Principal thanked all the members of our Parent's Council for their work and dedication to the College over the course of, what has been another very busy & demanding year once again. He paid tribute to all parents for their positive engagement, energy and time that they put into their sons and into the school.

COVID 19 Safety Updates

The Principal advised that following the Government's easing of infection prevention control measures and restrictions in school settings in late February, it took some time to transition from what we accepted for two years. There were no radical changes in relation to how the school operated except for the optional non- wearing of face coverings, reopening the school to visitors and the reintroduction to school co-curricular & extra-curricular activities. He also outlined that It is worth noting that certain Covid-19 restrictions & innovations have proven popular in schools- amid the raft of unwelcome pandemic restrictions. Here are some innovations that have proven popular:

- Huge advancements in Online Learning
- Remote Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Stay home when sick
- Staggered lunch breaks
- Better hygiene, and fresh air!
- Online Professional Development
- Reform of the Leaving Certificate Exams
- Emergence of Students Voice

Fundraising

Both the school and the Parents Council co-ordinated a whole school fundraiser for the Ukrainian Appeal Fund. A breakdown is as follows:

Colours Day = €3,500

Geo Club Bookmarks = €140

Koppers for Kiev = €400

PA Clothes Collection = €344

Total = €4,384

Booklists

The booklist lists for all incoming 1st, 2nd years and 5th years will be communicated to parents in mid-June and will also be available on our Website.

Wellbeing Team Update

The Principal advised that as you all know we've just completed our first ever Wellbeing Week for the entire school community. Wellbeing is fostering an awareness of our mental, emotional, physical health. He outlined that the school created an awareness of this throughout the different year groups in the school incorporating many different video clips, games, activities and guest speakers.

He advised that the school were delighted with having such a successful Wellbeing Week throughout the school community and that we are very grateful to our Wellbeing Team lead by Ms. Moloney.

Green School Update

The Principal congratulated Ms. McGeer and her Green Schools Committee on attaining our 4th Green Flag on Travel. A lot of planning, surveys, work and time was required throughout the year to complete the application which has seen a doubling up of the number of boys now travelling to school each day by bicycle, reduction in parents dropping students to school by car, development of a new students covered bike rack, Safe Cycle Training and participation with SMART TRAVEL to look at the development of new cycle paths and drop-off zones.

TY Update

The Principal wished best of luck to all Students & Staff involved in organising, producing and co-ordinating this year's TY Musical, "Can't Stop the Music" which takes place on Fri 20th May in TUS – morning & evening show.

TY Awards & BBQ takes place from mid-day on Tuesday 24th May in the College. The school wish to convey its thanks & appreciation to the 2 TY Co-ordinators, Paul Whelan & Alan Coleman on another terrific year in difficult circumstances.

School Calendar 2022-23

A copy of next year's Calendar was handed out to all members of the committee. This will be place on our Website and also a copy will be in each student's Journal.

Admissions 2022-2023

In relation to incoming 1st years, the Principal advised that the school have registered a total of 112 applicants. Numbers overall for next year are very good. Incoming Assessments Tests (CAT4 & NGRT Assessments) of our incoming students takes place next Saturday 14th May to access their abilities and attainment as well as their reading & comprehension levels. This will allow the school to plan for 4 mixed ability classes.

ICT Grant

Under the Digital Strategy for Schools 2021-30, further investment will be given to schools for the purchase of additional IT Infrastructure, Devices, Projectors, Network Equipment, Cloud Based Tools. Software, etc. The grant will be worth around €35,000 each year to this school

6th Year Graduation

Takes place on Wednesday 25th May at 7.30pm in Westbury and will be celebrated by Bishop Brendan Leahy. This year, for the first time, the school will be organising a Graduation Breakfast from 9.15-10.45am on the morning of the 25th. Each 6th year student will be presented with a special designed Graduation Tie, a copy of the Torch and their Class Photo.

The Principal wished everyone a happy, safe and fun filled summer break.

Transition Year

TY Home/Cooking classes from local Hotel Chef

The PA queried the involvement of a local chef to teach the boys cooking skills in TY. The Principal advised that as part of the TY program the boys attend at Scoil Mhuire for Home Economics. This did not happen over the last couple of years due to COVID but will re-commence with this year's TY students.

TY Program for work experience – local business participation/interaction

The PA also queried the involvement of local businesses in the TY program. The Principal advised that there is no partnership with local businesses. The school has found that most boys obtain work experience and the few that have difficulty, the school arrange work experience for them.

AOB

No additional items raised.

Date of next meeting

No date set - last meeting for school year 2021/20222