



St. Munchin's College Parents' Council
7.30-8.30pm on Monday 14th March 2022
Via Zoom
Minutes of Meeting

Attendance:

Present: Carmel Naughton, Mariajean Geary, Anna Butler, Valeria Fahy, Cynthia Hassett, Orla O'Sullivan, Marian Keane, Ian Moore, Michael O'Regan David Quilter (Principal)

Apologies: Kathleen Daffy, Trevor Brewer, Ioannis Zabetakis, Karen Kiely, Jamie O'Sullivan

Minutes of last Meeting:

In Kathleen Daffy's (Chair) absence Cynthia Hassett opened the meeting and queried if there were any matters arising from the last meeting. No matters arising.

Principal's Update

David Quilter gave the following updates to the meeting.

Transition Year Musical

With the relaxing of COVID restrictions, the school are delighted to announce that the date and venue has been set for the TY musical. The musical will be held on 17th May and will be held in the Millennium theatre with two shows instead of the usual four. There are currently 28 boys practicing Thursdays, Fridays and at weekends. All parents will be emailed with information on the TY musical.

Parent Teacher Meetings

The remaining 3 Parent Teacher meetings for 5th, 2nd and 1st Year students will be held after the St Patrick's weekend.

- 5th Year Parent Teacher meetings will be held Thursday week, 24th March and will be held online.
- 2nd Year Parent Teacher meetings will be the following week with 1st year following on after that. It has been decided that these meeting will take place face to face in the school as parents and teachers have not had the opportunity to meet before now due to COVID restrictions.

School Retreats

School Retreats will take place for all 2nd, 3rd and Transition Years Students. Also on the last Friday (20th May) before the 6th year students finish, they will take part in a climb of Croagh Patrick.

Well Being Week & Annual Sports Day

The school usually hosts an annual sports day for 1st, 2nd and 3rd year pupils but this year there will be a wellbeing week with Tutor time being used for videos and talks. The sports day will probably take place during this week on the Wednesday co-ordinated by the TY students. The Well Being week will most likely be after the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Fundraising

The Sports Raffle is doing well with fundraising going towards expenses incurred in the Sports Department. The ongoing Used Clothes Collection is also doing very well.

6th Years Orals

The 6th Year Orals will be conducted over the Easter break commencing the 1st week of the Easter holidays with Irish, French and German taking place. Due to the timing of these exams there will probably be no Supervised Study Revision Week over the Easter break this year.

Storm Warnings/School Closures

A query was raised in relation to school closures when a red weather alert is issued for an adjacent county.

Specifically the issue was raised in relation to the school closure on the last Friday before mid-term when a red weather alert was issued for County Clare which impacted on areas such as Westbury, Shannon Banks, Adnacrusa, Clonlara and Parteen. The Principal agreed that ideally it would be better if these warnings referenced Limerick City and Environs but as it is, Met Eireann issue their warnings by county. Therefore from a Health and Safety perspective the Principal cannot instruct pupils to attend school who live in these areas. The Red warning has two effects on the school.

- 63% of pupils attending school come from County Clare
- 20/52 of the teaching staff live in County Clare.

In this particular instance the Principal also contacted other schools in a similar situation, Ard Scoil Ris and Thomond College, who also advised that they would be closing.

School Canteen

The Parent's Council queried what the situation was with the school canteen. The Principal advised that the canteen is run by the school with the staff currently redeployed to help with the school cleaning in relation to COVID. He advised that all furniture has been returned to the canteen which currently has increased microwaves from 2 to 8 to facilitate the boys for their lunches. Staff will be returned to the Canteen for next year. A discussion took place around the canteen with the Parent's Council querying if the school would lease the canteen to a company that could provide school lunches and the Principal advised the school were very open to this. The Principal also advised that he would make contact Parteen National School in relation to the lunches they arrange. Micheal O'Regan advised that he will submit some contact details and Mariejean Geary advised that she would send on contact details for the Lunch Bag company.

Fundraiser for Ukraine

The Parent's Council queried the possibility of having a fund raiser for Ukraine, possibly a Colours Day. The Principal advised that currently some staff are partaking in the Climb for Charlie fundraiser for MND. He proposed doing a colours day or a Munster Jersey Raffle for Ukraine with the funds going to an organisation called SCOOP who have commenced a Ukrainian Children's appeal, a Kids for Kids initiative. They are currently involved in looking after 42 orphans in Poland from Ukraine and envisage having to look after a total of 100,000. The Principal also proposed that whatever monies raised from the PA's Used Clothes Collection Fundraiser could also be directed here.

AOB

School closure

The Principal advised that the school is closed next Monday 21st March as the school has 3 floating days to be spread throughout the school year. The school calendar had previously listed the school closure for Friday 18th but with the additional bank holiday this year, the day has been moved to the Monday.

Funding

The Parent's Council queried if the school ever applied for funding under the National Lotto for example an Astra Turf Pitch. The Principal advised no but that the school will look to apply for sport grants.

Date of next meeting

The date for the next meeting is provisionally booked for **Monday 09th May** with a blended approach(held at the college and remotely)