



# St. Thomas' Senior National School

## Board of Management – Annual Report June 2014



### Board of Management 2013/2014

Chairperson	–	Mary Dalton
Patron's Nominee	–	Fr. Derek Doyle
Principal	–	Eithne O Shea
Teacher Rep	–	Matthew Campbell
Parent Reps	–	Tracy K. Singleton Matthew Obamwonyi
Community Reps	–	Paul Godson Michael Murphy

The Board met six times as follows - in September, October, December, February, April and in June

### School Ethos

We are a Catholic Primary School and we take part in Catholic Schools Week every year. Pupils in 6<sup>th</sup> class make their Confirmation in May of each year. Mass in the local Church is on Saturday at 6.30p.m. and on Sunday at 11.00a.m.

### Summer Works/Buildings

We will have a lot of building works and improvements going ahead in the next few months. Funding has been secured from the Department of Education and Skills for the following: The prefabs beside the school garden will be replaced with a permanent structure; the roof of the 4<sup>th</sup> class corridor will be replaced; upgrading of sewage pipes will be undertaken.

### Staffing

We congratulate Mr Healy on his Principalship in Co.Kildare. We wish him the best. Congratulations also to Ms Haughian who will be moving to St Mary's in Blessington.

Ms Devine is returning from Career Break in September. Mr Dwan and Ms Langton will be job sharing next year. We will have 34 teachers on staff and 10 Special Needs Assistants on the staff for the next school year

Keep an eye on our website for up to date information on what is happening in the school. The school will reopen on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August

### Policy Development

The following policies were developed and/or reviewed:

Attendance Policy; Anti Bullying Policy, Code of Behaviour; Child Protection Policy; Parents Complaints Procedures; Critical Incident Policy; Job Sharing Policy

We would like to thank all the members of the school community who were involved in this work.

### Thank you

The Board would like to thank and congratulate all the staff for their hard work and dedication during the year. Thanks also to teachers and SNAs who have given up their time to facilitate before, during and after school clubs. This commitment to the school is deeply appreciated. During the year pupils took part in lots of different activities such as tag rugby, swimming, hurling, football, soccer, chess, yoga, athletics, traditional music, cookery, gymnastics, hip-hop, chess, homework clubs free of charge.

### Curricular Development

We have invested in new English Guided Reading Scheme for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> classes. The English books will be banded at the children's reading level. Pupils are tested at the beginning and end of the year. 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils will be reading class novels.

As part of our school self-evaluation we will be focussing on literacy next year and in particular the teaching of spellings and handwriting.

### Parents' Association

We would like to thank the Parents Group for their support and fundraising initiatives this year. They have raised a total of € 2,985. This money has been spent on seating, books, CD player and tablets for the library and for the purchase of new bibs for play leaders, bibs for the basketball team and sports kits for football teams. The Board would like to thank especially all the parents who help out in the school. We really do appreciate it.