

St. Conaire's Newsletter – December 5th, 2019

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Enrolment of new Junior Infants for September 2020: St. Conaire's NS is now accepting enrolment applications for new Juniors who wish to start school in September 2020. Application forms are available from the school office.

Farewell to Mrs. Eisenberg: This week we mark the retirement of Mrs. Marion Eisenberg from the teaching staff of St. Conaire's N.S. The Board of Management and staff would like to wish Marion long life, health and happiness as she retires from teaching. Marion was on the staff of our school for 38 years and she made a significant contribution to many pupils over that time. Marion worked as class teacher, language support teacher and special duties teacher while in St. Conaire's. She was known for integrating pupils of many different nationalities while in the school. Marion was responsible for the management of pupils with medical needs and first aid in the school. She also undertook a wide range of heritage projects, the legacy of which may be seen on display in the school today. We thank Marion for her contribution to our school.

Agreed Report from the Board of Management, December 3rd, 2019:

- New Board of Management, 2019 – 2023: The new Board of Management began its four-year term of office on December 1st, 2019. The members of the Board are: Martin Moore (Chairperson/Patron's Nominee); Ronan Hynds (Treasurer/Patron's Nominee); Michelle Justice (Parent Nominee); Declan Smyth (Parent Nominee/Recording Secretary); Anne Barnes (Community Nominee); John Morris (Community Nominee); Colm Pilkington (Teacher Nominee/Safety Officer); Peter Walsh (Principal Teacher/Secretary to BOM).
- Library for St. Conaire's: The Board is continuing to explore additional means of securing a library for the school. We have applied for a number of grants to increase our stock of books, including reading material in different languages.
- The Board has approved the visit of staff and students from Frostburg State University to take part in reading engagement work with our classes.
- Yard drainage: The Board is seeking funding from the Department of Education and Skills to alleviate some drainage issues.
- We will be making a video of the school in 2020 using a drone.
- Policy review: The Board reviewed job share, EPV and mobile phone policies.
- Safety officer: Mr. Colm Pilkington has been appointed safety officer for the Board of Management.

Summer Works Scheme 2020: The Board of Management is pleased to announce that funding has been secured for the installation of modern fire detection and emergency lighting equipment for the school. It is hoped that this work will take place over the 2020 summer holidays.

Windows replacement project: We are pleased to inform you that the windows replacement project has been completed. We would like to thank pupils, parents and staff for excellent co-operation during this major work. The school has noticed a difference in terms of comfort, warmth and security since the windows have been upgraded. We would like to acknowledge the work of Patrick McMahon Construction Ltd., Curran Aluminium Ltd., Paul

Conway (Architect) and David McLoughlin (Quantity Surveyor) for their work in delivering this essential scheme.

School Book Fair 2019: The Scholastic Book Fair was a great success this year. We thank everyone who supported it. The book fair fits in with our school improvement plan of fostering reading engagement across all class levels. One of the best gifts we can give children is the gift of reading. We would like to thank Mary Lehane and her team for organising this book fair.

Cool Kids . . . Warm Planet Event at Shannon Library: Karen Foley, Clare County Council Environmental Awareness Officer, invites pupils and their families to an environmental information session at Shannon Library on Wednesday, December 11th at 4:20 pm. Bookings may be made by calling the library on (061) 364266.

Christmas Play Schedule 2019: You will find the Christmas Play Schedule listed below:

Teacher	Date	Time
Múinteoir Olivia	December 16 th	10:15 am
Ms. Ní Mhuiris	December 16 th	11:30 am
Múinteoir Maria	December 17 th	10:00 am
Múinteoir Róisín	December 17 th	10:30 am
Ms. Gough	December 17 th	11:30 am
Ms. Moore	December 17 th	12:15 pm
Múinteoir Irene	December 18 th	10:15 am
Ms. Quinn	December 18 th	11:30 am

Christmas Holidays 2019: St. Conaire's NS will close at 12 noon on Friday, December 20th for the Christmas Holidays. The school will re-open for the new term on Monday, January 6th, 2020.

St. Conaire's Choir: The choir will be supporting Mercy on the Mall on December 6th from 1 to 2 pm and will also be involved in the Shannon Senior Citizens' Party next Thursday. We thank the choir and their teachers for all their hard work at school events this year.

The Advent Giving Tree: We will be supporting this initiative by the Shannon Chapter of St. Vincent de Paul again this year. Non-perishable and in-date food which can be shared with those in need in our community will be very welcome. More details to follow.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Walsh
Principal Teacher