



Present:

Sean Maher
Ailish Southall
Hugh Treacy
Amy Lubarda
Anne O'Brien
Antony (Tony) Lorenschitz
Cathy Moore
Clare Darney
Colette Wong Feng Yee
Eoin O'Connell
Karen Fox
John Trend
Margaret McCormack
Mark Naylor
Yolande Kurlatov

Apologies:

Cloda Jenkins, Aileen Almond and Jane Mathew-Byrne

1. The school priorities for this year are:

- Develop relationships between local Catholic schools. We are developing working relationships with Holy Cross and St Richard Reynolds. So far, departments from RC have met with their opposites from Holy Cross to look at Pedagogy and learning and teaching.
- Continue to look at progress and tracking at KS3.
- We are currently doing a pastoral review, as good discipline comes from good relationships.
- Continue to focus on consistent curriculum assessment.
- Embed new staff into the school.
- The theme for this year is humility.

2. In terms of Key Stage 4, we are in the top 10 non selective boys' schools in the country.

3. In terms of Key Stage 5, we are just above national average.

4. Finances:

- Things remain extremely tight with the budget.
- Luckily we won two CIF bids, one to build two new classrooms and another to remodel the front and entrance of the school.
- We have a very vibrant PTA of about 40 members, who have raised £24,000 for the school - meaning we can provide extras for the children.



- The Challoner Business Network also brings money into the school. These businesses promise to provide an excellent service in exchange for our recommendations and, in turn, they donate some of their earnings back into the school.
5. Our Alumni and friends:
 - This is growing and we have appointed a Community Outreach Worker.
 - They are helping to develop our website.
 - We have recently arranged teas for the local pensioners, which were served by our Sixth Formers.
 - They are also producing a half termly bulletin.
 6. SM asked if the parents thought the school was asking for too much money for activities and equipment for subjects such as DT, Art and FT. The parents said it seems fair and very reasonable in comparison to what other schools are requesting, but did ask if they could have more notice about possible trips and if there was an option to stagger some payments.
 7. The governors are currently developing an environmental strategy.
 8. Parenting classes on the following topics were requested:
 - Drug awareness
 - Mental Health and Stress
 - Anxiety (Gill Hines)
 - Managing gaming and screen time at home (Breck Foundation)
 - The teenage developmental years - what to expect and how to best support it
 - Training for parents on how to add parental controls and monitor activity on their iPads and phones.
 9. AOB
 - In the past, we have been able to financially support families known to be in need, with clothing, coats and uniform, but also carpeting, heating engineers and Christmas vouchers for them to buy food and presents. Some parents mentioned they wanted an option to donate money to the school that could be forwarded to support families that we knew to be in need. AS will speak to our Head of Finance.
 - On the subject of diaries, although it is recognised that the children do not use them that much, it is the only way that we can ensure parents are having that weekly conversation with their children about how they are doing, as there is not the electronic equivalent.
 - There was discussion about how to educate our children to keep them safe from knife crime (Oxygen was suggested as a resource).

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 18th March 2020 at 6.30pm.