



St. Mary's Secondary School, Charleville

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St Mary's Secondary School Agreed Report of the Board of Management 24th Sept 2018

- Sincere thanks to the teachers and staff of St Marys for all of their hard work in securing excellent results in the Leaving Certificate and Junior cycle examinations. We have once again completely out-performed National Averages, most notably with 27% of Leaving Certs achieving 500+ points.
- The following policies were re-ratified for the new school year– Admissions, Behaviour, Child Safeguarding, and Anti-Bullying.
- The board was briefed on the establishment of a Teaching & Learning Committee amongst staff. The group will meet regularly to develop and discuss strategies for enhancing student performance through innovative methodologies and best practice.
- The Principal briefed the board on the school's Digital Learning Strategy and how this has rolled out over the last two years, beginning with improving the infrastructure eg Servers and Wifi, through to development of EBook usage, Google Classroom and Edmodo as teaching tools, and culminating this year in major investment in classroom devices, at no cost to parents.
- Faith life of the School – Mercy Day & Beginning of School Year Mass was held on Friday 21st September. Thank you to Fr Anthony who officiated.
- Building maintenance issues were discussed, most notably the various grant applications for various works which will be submitted this year.
- A Fire Safety Inspection was carried out last week and Certification for the year issued.
- The board welcomed the huge turnout of parents at the Tea/Coffee Morning run for parents on the occasion of their daughter starting secondary school. It was a very positive event which will now become an annual tradition.
- Parent Information Evenings on Social Media and Anxiety in Young People will run again this year, as will the annual 'Meet the Team' night for 1st Year parents.
- Open Night is scheduled for Wednesday 26th September at 6pm. The Principal received excellent feedback from Principals and students when visiting the Primary Schools in the area. We are currently experiencing a big increase in attendance from schools such as Effin and Bruree, which is a very positive development and is based on parents looking for an academic and quiet school, with a strong Camogie heritage.
- The Principal made a presentation to the Board on the 2016 publication 'Looking at our Schools' and School Self Evaluation.
- The board looked at the school's Draft Data Protection Policy with a view to possible ratification in the next meeting. Board members were directed to www.GDPR4schools.ie

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