**Board of Management Scoil Mhichíl**

**End of Year Report – Sept 2016 to June 2017**

**Introduction**

Scoil Mhichíl had a very successful year with many highlights to remember. Chief among these were the visit from the Coast Guard, our Christmas Musical ‘Wizard of Oz’ , our ‘‘Crazy Hair Day’ , our Heritage in School Day – ‘Traditional Music through the Ages’ and our Sean Nós Singing workshop.

Academically the staff had a special emphasis on Oral Language this year as part of the School Improvement Plan. Presently there are 41 children enrolled with 4 children leaving and 9 new students enrolled for September. The staff comprises Principal and three teachers as well as a S.N.A and school secretary. Our Board of Management comprises:

*Declan Nolan- Chairperson*

*Teresa Mc Mahon- Patron’s Nominee*

*Martin Keane – Principal*

*Mona Lineen – Teacher’s Nominee*

*Renae Downes- Parent’s Nominee*

*Kevin Copeland – Parent’s Nominee*

*Kathleen Crowley, Jackie Mc Grath – Community representatives.*

**SCHOOL ETHOS**

Scoil Mhichíl exists to provide a challenging and supportive environment to stimulate, develop and maintain a lively enquiring mind in students. We aim to encourage all pupils to reach their full potential and eventually become independent learners who value learning with and from others.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide a learning and teaching environment conducive to the holistic development of each student to enable them to reach their full potential and to assist in the co-operation with their family units in the formation of right attitudes and Christian values.

**INITIATIVES/CELEBRATIONS/CEREMONIES**

* 10 week programme of swimming completed by students.
* ‘Safe Internet Evening’ – talk for parents
* Monster Bingo Fundraiser 19th November
* Children contributed to Team Hope’s Christmas Shoebox Appeal
* Super Troopers Initiative
* Feile na hInse
* Food Dudes
* Healthy Eating
* Crazy Hair Day Fundraising for Guide Dogs for the Blind
* Traditional Singing Workshop – funded by Clare County Arts Office
* Heritage in School Expert – ‘Musical Instruments through the Ages’
* Football coaching skills course in cooperation with GAA Club completed.
* Gymnastic course of lessons completed by visiting gym teacher.
* School Photographer - by request
* Confirmation was celebrated on 1st April.
* First Holy Communion was celebrated on 20th May.

1. **School musical** – Wizard in Oz
2. **Charitable Status Approval** – Charity Number RCN 20111298
3. **Courses-** the following courses were attended by staff this year:

* Oral Language Workshop for Whole School Staff
* Friends for Life Course completed in Sept
* Team teaching in Literacy Mona /Yvonne
* Primary Planning Tool Course attended by Marie
* Food Dudes Training Day
* Alive O Training Day
* Special Education Model Course (Limerick) – Yvonne

1. **Policies** – reviewed and ratified this year include:

* English
* Science
* Gaeilge
* Drama
* Visitors Policy
* P.E
* Secretarial Contract – reviewed
* Gaeilge – reviewed
* History – reviewed
* Geography- reviewed
* Maths – reviewed

1. **School Self Evaluation**  – The staff continued to implement initiatives under the School Improvement Plan for the first two areas chosen in Maths and English i.e Mata sa Rang and Oral Language.

The I.N.T.O has directed members not to engage with formal S.S.E process until further notice. Consequently while a third area for improvement had been discussed, no further work has been completed on same.

1. **Child Protection**- The Board of Management confirms that they have fulfilled their obligations in respect of Child Protection and Anti – bullying Procedures.
2. **Standardised Test Results-** The Board of Management has reviewed its Standardised Test Results and have made the appropriate returns as required to the Department of Education. All school reports were posted to parents on 14th June.
3. **School Accounts**- The Board of Management has reviewed the school accounts and these have been certified by the accountant.
4. **Attendance**- The Board of Management and staff are strongly of the view that the single greatest factor affecting school attendance is parental attitude to same. We are fortunate that 95% of parents in our school place a very high level of importance on regular school attendance. Children were presented with Attendance Certificates to reward excellent attendance , for full attendance, absent for 1 and 2 days . Annual Attendance Report has been sent to Tusla – Child Family Agency.

**Issue of term time holidays-** it is noted that the Principal is not in a position to give ‘permission for holiday absences’ during school time. Parents will be reminded of the educational implications of removing children during term time.

**Curriculum** – Scoil Mhichíl teaches the curriculum prescribed by the Department of Education with due account being taken of individual level of ability of students. Classroom teachers differentiate their teaching expectations and instructional practice to take account of individual difference.

**School Opening/Closing Times are as follows:**

Formal Instruction 9.10 a.m -2.50 p.m ( 1st class to 6th class)

9.10 a.m – 1.50 p.m (Infants)

School is open at 8.50 a.m and children are not insured to be on the premises before that time.

**New Entrants/School Leavers:** We have 8 new junior infants in and 4 sixth class leaving.

**School closes** on Tues 27th June for the Summer holidays and re –opens on Friday 1st September.

Finally, the Board of Management wished to acknowledge the commitment of the teaching and support staff, the great support given by parents and guardians and the co-operation of students, all of whom work together to make Scoil Mhichíl a place where the uniqueness of each individual is acknowledged as a contributor to the success of the school.