

RAMSGRANGE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

NEW ROSS

 Home School Community Liaison Coordination

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 Board of Management  **January Report 2019**

**The new parent centre ….. The cabin**

The cabin has undergone some structural changes during the Christmas period.

The dividing wall was removed with the result that the cabin is now one room with a kitchenette at one end. It is more spacious allowing more flexibility while retaining the homely welcoming feel.

The heating system is fully operational as is the dishwasher. The cabin is a very welcome addition to the school community and is being put to good use.

**Assessment day………Primary School visits**

I am presently visiting all our feeder schools, meeting the students enrolled at RCS re the assessment day. They are also receiving notification of our Easter camp, April 15th for all our enrolled sixth class students.

**One to one contact with parents.**

This is a very crucial part of the work.

I have met with parents in their homes while some have chosen to meet me in the school.

The home visits of first year parents and of our target families will remain my priority.

**Community Arts**

 WWETB have funded art classes from now to May.

The group meets every Monday in the Cabin for two and half hours.

There are ten participants at present. We are now in a position to offer two more places due to the larger space in the cabin.

**Parents in the classroom**

Having completed our maths for fun programme with all first years we are now fully engaged with our reading programme, facilitated by our parent volunteers.

We are working our way through two books, The Storm keepers’ Island and Holes.

The arrangement where the students relax on cushions and bean bags while wrapping themselves in blankets is proving to be a great success.

The relaxed atmosphere in the library enhances the whole experience of reading with the students fully engaged in the process.

Students volunteer to read aloud in the circle and it’s noticeable that the numbers reading in the circle increase week on week.

**French tuition**

One of our volunteers continues to provide French tuition to small groups of third year students and fifth years.

**Garden group**

The garden group had a very enjoyable first term with the new WWETB tutor.

They made Christmas wreaths from reeds and all natural materials.

They celebrated Christmas together with everyone contributing to the feast.

They are back at work in the garden and we are awaiting confirmation of the approval of the WWETB funding which will allow us to provide tuition until May.

The group is deeply appreciated of this wonderful opportunity afforded them by the school and WWETB.

**Parent plus Programme**

We are delighted to be able to offer our parents the opportunity to avail of this 8 week programme.

We commenced last week with a cohort of 9 parents.

It runs from 10.00 to 12.30 every Thursday in the cabin.

Its aim is to support parents in building good relationships with their teenage children while also being firm and influential in their lives. The goal is to help parents discover ways of communicating with their teenagers that are positive and which in turn help teenagers to change positively and to reach their full potential.

 Ann Cadogan 1/10/2018