Pelletstown Educate Together N.S.

Caitríona Ní Cheallaigh, Principal
Gerry Mc Kevitt, School Manager

27th May 2015
Introduction to Principal

Loreto College
St. Stephen's Green, Dublin
About the Principal....

- I’d like to welcome you all and formally introduce myself to you, especially for those of you who may have missed the registration morning or those who I might have missed on the day.
- I’m Caitríona Ní Cheallaigh and I’m the principal of the school.
- I’m local to the area, having gone to primary school on the Navan Road and then to secondary school in the city centre. I then went to St. Patrick’s College in Drumcondra where I qualified as a primary school teacher. Throughout my teaching career I undertook many others courses – A Postgraduate Diploma in Intercultural Education on Marino, a Masters of Education in Trinity College and most recently a Diploma in Educational Leadership and Management in UCD. I have spent the last 7 years teaching in Castaheany Educate Together National School in Dublin 15 and also spent a year career break lecturing in teacher education in Lira, Northern Uganda. I am, this week, finishing up my 7 years in Castaheany Educate Together. Castaheany was a new, developing school when I first started working there, and so I will be bringing my knowledge and experience of this to Pelletstown. While I will miss working in Castaheany, I am very much looking forward to developing this new school in Pelletstown.
About the School

- Opening in September 2015
- One of 4 new Educate Together National Schools opening this year (Castlebar, Tuam, New Ross & Pelletstown)
- Enrolment and Registration still ongoing
- 3 small Junior Infant classes (dependent on registration numbers)
- Learning/Language support available for those in need of extra support
- Educate Together Ethos: Co-educational, Child-centred, Multi-denominational, Democratically Run
- Welcoming environment of inclusivity and celebration of difference
- Children developed as independent, critical thinkers through creative expression and collaborative and active learning
Junior Infants Curriculum

12 Subjects:
- 3 core subjects: English, Irish, Maths
- SESE subjects: History, Geography, Science
- Arts subjects: Music, Art, Drama
- Other subjects: SPHE, PE, Ethical Education

Additional Learning Areas:
- Aistear (Learning through Play)
- ICT
### Subject Time Allocation (D.E.S.)

- **English** ................................................................. 4hrs
- **Gaeilge** ............................................................... 2hrs 30mins
- **Mathematics** ...................................................... 3hrs 25mins
- **SESE** ................................................................. 2hrs 15mins
- **SPHE** ................................................................. 30mins
- **PE** ...................................................................... 1hr
- **Arts education** ..................................................... 2hrs 30mins
- **Discretionary curriculum time** ........... 1hr
- **Learn Together** .................................................... 2hrs 30mins
- **Assembly time** ..................................................... 1hr 40mins
- **Roll call** .............................................................. 50mins
- **Breaks** ............................................................... 50mins
- **Recreation** .......................................................... 2hrs 30mins
Ethical Education/Learn Together Curriculum

4 Strands:
1. Belief Systems
2. Morality & Spirituality
3. Ethics and the Environment
4. Equality & Justice
Supporting your (soon to be) Junior Infant child

- Oral Language
- Numeracy Awareness
- Reading/Stories
- Writing in various contexts, in various forms
- Colouring
- Cutting and Pasting
- Márla
- Activities to promote independence
- NCCA website
Parental Involvement

- Attending meetings
- Participation in/involvement with school committees/associations such as BOM, PTA
- Sharing expertise in a particular subject area
- Classroom and school-based activities
- Participation in school policy development
- Open Communication
- Preparation of the school building
- Look out for updates on ET website
- Garda Vetting for Child Protection

*Partnership is a working relationship that is characterised by a shared sense of purpose, mutual respect and a willingness to negotiate.*
General Updates

- Booklist
- School Calendar
- School Hours
- Lunches
- School Bags (Homework Bags)

- Outstanding registration documentation
- After-School care/Breakfast Club
- School Governance
- School Logo
Vision for the Future

- Developing School – Will eventually have up to 6th class
- Centre for excellence of teaching and learning in an environment of inclusivity and mutual respect
- Children developed to reach their full potential by nurturing their uniqueness and individuality
- School at the heart of the local community – liaise with local clubs, organisations etc
- Democratically Run – policy development, PTA, BOM, Student Council
Questions

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