

3rd term Primary School Council 02/06/2020

18h00-19h15 VIA TEAMS

- Chair: Jérôme Bel (primary school headmaster)
- Parents: (PS/MS-HB/CR) Mw Lambe, Mr Medot, (MS/GS-SPSW) Ms Waksman, (CP) Ms Wirth, (CP/CE2-PB) Ms Delpech, (CP/CE2-BF) Ms Bievre, (CE1 EL) Ms Vitols, (CE2 MW) Ms Reneaud, (CM1 EN) Ms Michelon, Mr Ouazzani Touami.
- Class teachers: Christine Reboul, Hélène Bertin, Sophie Ryan, Sylvaine Wright, Salma Khattab, Sophie Cronin, Laurence Guegan, Blandine Farrugia, Marie Woll, Erika Nolier, Valérie Molette, Béatrice Cayet-Fernandez, Pierre Benech, Beth O'Donnell, Frances Caffrey, Danielle Dolliou, Stéphanie Adamson and Hélène O'Meara (infant class assistants)
- Observers: Nicolas Bourgeois (principal), Christelle Cuq (Administration).
- Excuses: Ms Fournier Dulac (IEN).
- Minutes: Ms Waksman (parent) and Ms Farrugia (teacher).

Mr Bourgeois took the floor to thank the teachers, administrative staff, parents and pupils for the quality of the remote learning offered by LFI.

Mr Bourgeois thanked those who are leaving for all their work since they started at LFI: Erika Nolier, Hélène Bertin, Faiza Bel and Jérôme Bel are leaving LFI at the end of the school year for new horizons....

A) 3rd TERM REVIEW:

*** Distance learning:**

SOME DATA :

- Began on Friday 13th March (the day after the government announced school closures)
- Teachers, pupils and parents have been involved in this teaching for more than 11 weeks.
- Improvements to the system since 13th March:
 - work sent by email
 - Padlet and unique class blog,
 - audio then video podcasts,
 - after the Easter holidays a TEAMS account was set up for each pupil
 - Video call several times a week...

COMMUNICATION:

→ Teachers and administration stayed accessible.

- There was a daily communication from the teachers
- Bi-weekly from the school (Wednesday and Friday)
- Meetings several times a week between administration and the teachers and between the administration and AEFÉ schools + the French educational inspector...
- Organisation of class meetings, meetings with some parents when necessary
- Communication between the Board of Management and parents...

ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO FAMILIES:

- Loan of the school's digital equipment (iPads) to some families to facilitate distance learning.
- Technical support for some parents: use of TEAMS, installing software...
- Assistance to non-French-speaking parents regarding distance learning.

- Individual responses given in case of difficulties.

PARENTS' SURVEY:

The survey of parents carried out showed a high satisfaction rating with the work given and with communications from the school and the Board, but also with the improvements made during the the early weeks...

VERY POSITIVE EDUCATIONAL OUTCOME:

- Continuing teaching with a strand for the 'basics': French, maths and English.
- Two to three hours work a day in accordance with the AEFÉ recommendations
- Almost 95% of pupils are still present every day for the video calls and send work
- Distance learning is not easy in the infant classes because parents have to be heavily involved. Nevertheless the teachers offered video calls, hand-on activities, audio and video podcasts...
- Involvement of all LFI staff: library blog, audio and video podcasts by the infant class assistants, help for non-francophone pupils from Caroline Tosi (FLSco, Padlet bringing together various educational resources
- The pupils worked differently but have developed skills not usually used in...
- This teaching required enormous motivation, perseverance and autonomy from each pupil...
- Everyone continued with what they had started to learn in September 2019
- Two distinct periods:
- Before the Easter holidays (three weeks) → revision + setting up new work tools
- After the Easter holidays → new ground, new skills and following the school programme (in the main subjects: maths French and English)

SKILLS EVALUATION:

All pupils advanced and worked during this period:

- **Third term report** will be individually completed. A general assessment will be given with regard to the pupils' work, their involvement in the video calls and the work sent in, their attitude during exchanges with the teachers.... Some skills that could be evaluated will also be shown for some classes.
- **Parent-teacher meetings** still happening on Wednesday 10th June. Advance booking via Teams.

- **Current projects**

Non-exhaustive list: 'Grande Lessive' project on the theme of 'Flourishing Together' in which all LFI classes participated, 'dance' project with schools from the AEFÉ network, Green Schools project for the last three years on the theme of biodiversity, 'Les Incorruptibles' project with a children's write (with two prizewinning CM1 pupils...), maths projects (kangourou des maths, Numbers Race), project to create a Kamishibai in CM2 and CE2...

B) Teachin organisation for 2020-2021

*** Pupil numbers and teaching team**

- Pupil numbers:

Constantly changing since January 2020

Changes to the structural organisation for 2020-21 :

- 13 classes: 5 infant classes + 8 junior classes with 300 to 305 pupils.

ON02/06 :

PS – MS – MS – GS – GS

CP – CP/CE2 – CP/CE2 – CE1 – CE1/CE2 –

CM1/CM2 – CM1/CM2 – CM1/CM2

→ Class allocations in teachers council (August 2020) depending on numbers

- Teaching team:

Can you tell me which teachers are leaving the LFI Dublin at the end of this school year?

Why is Erika Nolier leaving after just one year of teaching in the LFI?

Leaving:

Helène Bertin (teacher)

Erika Nolier (teacher).

Faiza Bel (librarian)

Jerome Bel (headmaster)

N.B : Ms Nolier was made available by her teaching board for just one year. Unfortunately, her teaching board did not authorise her to teach a second year in our school..

Arriving:

Catherine Fronsacq (headmistress)

Christine Reboul (teacher)

Laurence Guegan (teacher)

Claire Notelaers (French teacher in Hollypark + replacement teacher)

Laurent Richard (teacher)

Changes :

Emmanuelle Lièvre is coming back fulltime after her maternity leave

Stéphanie Pouleau (teacher) and Caroline Motte (librarian) will work fulltime

- **Back to school 2020**

Is the date for the start of the school year still valid?

- ▶ Pupils back: **Monday 31st August** at 8.25

Except for PS → Tuesday 1st September at 8.25.

- ▶ **Staggered start in PS:** (recommendations of Minister for Education + IEN)

First day → Tuesday 01/09 from 8.25 to 11.30 (no lunch, activities or after-school care)

Wednesday 02/09 from 8.25 to 12.35 (no lunch, activities or after-school care)

- ▶ **MS start:**

- Monday 31/08: 8.15 to 14.40 NO AFTER-SCHOOL CARE OR ACTIVITIES

The children can finish at 11.30 if their parents wish.

The class lists will be posted on 31st August at about 8.15.

No school materials required.

Pupils in the infant classes will need a few things: paper handkerchiefs, blanket, photos (list to be sent shortly) **IMPORTANT:** These things should be brought in from the first day.

No requirement to buy English/Irish books. The school will cover these costs.

Class meeting for parents in the first few days back.

Re-enrolment on EDUKA.

C) Building and other work

Work planned during the summer:

- Cleaning of the premises,
- Installation of hygiene equipment in accordance with government directives (COVID 19)

As every year, minor maintenance work will be carried out in the classrooms.

Questions from parents and teachers about after-school.

I have a question concerning the collection of children's stuff from school and returning of books. Could the school not organise in such a way that the parents collect all the children 's stuff at the same time? In reduces multiple contacts/exposure and also it is time efficient for everyone. What does the school propose for both parents who are working and cannot be there at the precise dedicated moment?

For obvious safety reasons, it is not possible to have a large number of parents in the same place. The Irish regulations authorise up to 10 people in the same place (from 08/06).

Parents will be authorised to come in groups of about eight.

There are two possible solutions for parents who can't make it to the school:

- Wait until September
- Ask someone to collect their things for them...

When children come to the school next week to pick up their belongings do children need to bring completed work which has been done especially for English and Irish?

It is of course possible to bring work done in English at that time.

It will be given to the teacher as soon as possible.

Will there be a period of revision for each class at the start of the school year? Parents would be reassured to know if, for example, there is a catch-up plan for the first weeks for example? What is the teaching staff's plan for evaluating those who have fallen behind?

Back to school 2020 :

During the last eleven weeks, the teachers have focussed teaching on 'the basics' and have taken care not to lose any pupils. Their level is therefore absolutely as it should be at the end of this school year.

- Diagnostic evaluations will be carried out in each class to establish everyone's level and focus on what needs to be consolidated or gone over again...
- In CP and CE1, French national evaluations are planned for the start of the year.
- There will be various assistance programmes: PAP, PPRE, FLSco...
- APCs (skills-based approach) for pupils who need it.

Will the children go to school every second day as the government recommends? If so, how can you expect parents to pay full school fees when the children are only in school part-time? Will school at home continue in this scenario?

We are still waiting for an announcement from the Irish government.

We will follow the Irish directives.

Nevertheless, we are hoping to be welcome back all our pupils and offer after-school care.

We are working on various scenarios.

Our choices will be guided by sanitary measures and whatever the Irish government announces.

Is there a social distancing plan for going back to school?

We are working on different scenarios.

A number of French schools opened several weeks ago. These schools have shared their protocols for reopening with us and this has given us a basis to plan for going back in LFI Dublin.

When we have more details from the government, a reopening protocol will be discussed and voted on by the teachers, the parents, the French Embassy and the AEFÉ.

Would the teachers agree to prepare a few weeks' activity as we receive each week?

It remains the teachers' responsibility to propose autonomous activities.

The end of the school year is planned for 12th June.

Nevertheless, some teachers will propose additional activities to be done alone, lists of books to read during the summer holidays...

On the other hand, there will be no interaction between the pupils and the teachers (no connection, no video...)

Otherwise, some tools will stay accessible:

- Padlet and class blog
- LFI Padlet bringing together educational resources
- Library blog

When will you introduce the new headmistress? When will she be starting work?

Catherine Fronsacq will be present at the start of the school year.

She will start in August 2020.

She is currently in post in the Lycée Français in Zagreb.

Why are there no split classes planned in the infant classes?

Next year's numbers allow us to have single level classes. The possibility of have split level classes was not discussed in the Teachers Council. As numbers are still changing, split level classes in the infant classes can't be completely excluded.

What is planned for the after-school activities (football, Irish dancing...) for next year?

We're still waiting for an announcement from the Irish government regarding back to school 2020.

We will follow the recommendations of the Irish authorities. However, we anticipate several possibilities. The after-school instructors (judo, football...) are working on protocols for accepting pupils based on sanitary measures in class (social distancing).

We subscribe to the Ecole des Loisirs. When will my child get the books?

With the current situation, deliveries from France are delayed. The book for April has arrived and will be given to parents next week. The books for May and June will be handed out when we come back or sent to families who have left the school.

Several questions about school fees were asked. These financial questions cannot be discussed at the Primary School Council. The Board of Management has given several responses recently and parents who want more details should contact the Board of Management directly by email.

These minutes are available on the school website.