

Minutes  
December 5, 2017

Present  
Eric Hurley  
Michael Eckersle  
Christine Eckersle  
Darragh O'Riordan  
Clair McSweeney  
Jon Ishaque  
Louise Favier  
David Cole Vice Principal

7pm  
David Cole Vice Principal gave a presentation on how to read school reports, and how the January Parent/Teacher meetings will be organized.

### ***SCHOOL REPORTS***

The first School Report for the 2017/18 year will be issued in mid December.

The school report will contain a lot of information on how your student is doing, on tests, and homework, and classroom participation, and projects. The school report is not sent home with your student, or mailed to your house. Instead, it is available on VSWare after each trimester has completed.

(At anytime of the year, Schoology offers an ongoing opportunity to dig deep into reports about how your student is doing. Schoology is updated weekly and contains information on homework, classroom participation, project work, and tests.)

In mid December, a text message will be sent to the phone number that you have registered with the school for VSWare, letting you know that your child's school report is now available on VSWare and that you can save, download, and print the school report.

Looking at the school report on VSWare can be hard to decipher. But when you download and print, it is much easier to read.

You are advised to use Chrome when you are utilizing VSWare.

When you open up VSWare you will see your students name and a photo of your child and the child's schedule. On the left hand side, is a term report button. This is where you click through and have the opportunity to see the report, and print and save.

There is a VSWare tutorial available on the homepage of your VSWare account that you can click through and get advice on how to access information. If you cannot access your students data, email David Cole at DColed@CETSL.ie

The school report has a number of columns. The most important column is called OVERALL. Overall indicates the overall level your student has achieved.

The other columns are  
Tests which are 40% of overall grade,  
Classwork which is 20% of overall grade,  
Homework which is 20% of overall grade, and  
Projects and Classroom participation which are 20% of overall grade.

When you press print, you will get an additional page which describes and defines all the terms by which the areas are accessed: levels of excellence, meeting standards etc.

Your students report card also has a column for comments. Most of the time this column will be empty, as the other columns provide an accurate picture of how your student is progressing.

### ***PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS***

There will be a parent/teacher afternoon or evening in mid January.

Parents will be given the opportunity to sign up for timed appointments to meet teachers. To facilitate as many parents as possible, appointment slots will be 5 minutes each, and will not run longer.

Parents will be given advanced notice of when the online signups will be available.

Do not sign up for back to back 5 minute slots, in case the classrooms are in different parts of the school. And make sure you don't sign up for the same time slot twice. The new system being piloted this year does not have the capacity to notice if you double book! When you have filled in your information online, and chosen your slots, you will press Submit and will later receive an email indicating the times you have chosen.

Appointments will run on time, so allow time in between. Parents are requested to sign up to talk to up to five teachers. Have your students printed term report with you when you go online to book slots, so you know what teachers you wish to sign up to meet.

To get the most value from each short time slot, the School advises that you come to the Parent/Teacher meeting with Targeted Questions for each teacher, or with a request for Targeted Information from the teacher.

Secondary School Parent/Teacher meetings are very different from the relaxed chatty pace of Primary School conferences. Each teacher in Secondary School may have 100 students, so they will move through each meeting quickly, to maximize the amount of parents they see.

### ***SPRING FAIR***

The Parents Council is planning on having a CETSS First Annual Spring Fair, possibly on Sunday, April 15th, to celebrate our school community with food and music and stalls with biscuits and cakes, and plants and crafts, and books for sale. More information to follow.

### ***Next Parent Council Meeting:***

Wednesday, January 17th at 7pm (unless it ends up conflicting with Parent/Teacher conferences). Confirmation of the date will follow in the New Year.

## ***SOCIAL EVENT***

This Thursday, at 8pm, in South County Pub in Douglas, come meet other parents in our school community for a social hour.

## ***MOVING TO NEMO IN DOUGLAS***

Eric Hurley reported that the application for planning permission for the temporary school building is being submitted December 6th. It is hoped that the temporary building will be completed by the summer, ready to be occupied in August 2018.

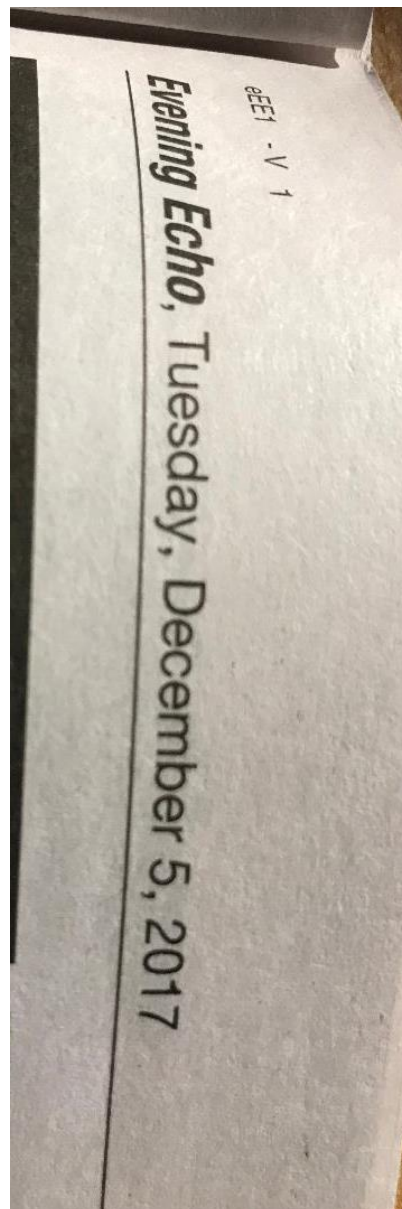
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**Cork City Council:** We, Educate Together, intend to apply for permission for the erection of a new two storey temporary prefabricated post primary school building comprising 8 no. classrooms, 4 no. specialist rooms, 4 no. learning support rooms, general purpose room, staff room, 3 no. offices, toilet facilities, storage areas, boiler room and circulation space together with all associated site works including alterations to the road markings within the site (to provide set down area, pedestrian crossing and vehicular access), footways, access ramps, steps, railings, utility connections and fencing at Nemo Rangers Hurling and Football Club, Trabeg, South Douglas Road, Cork, T12 R2PC. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority, City Hall, Cork, during its public opening hours, i.e. 9.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee of €20 within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the planning authority of the application.

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Thank you to David Cole for giving generously of his time and expertise.

8:30: meeting finished.

Louise Favier