



1<sup>st</sup> September, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break. At our first meeting of the new academic year on the 18<sup>th</sup> August, we welcomed Sr Ann O'Donoghue representing the Loreto Trust and our new CEO, Dr Eilis Humphreys, who takes up her new role today, attended as a guest. The Columba Centre will be our base and the Chairperson is currently working on finalising a service level agreement. Our aptcs.ie domain becomes operational this week coinciding with Eilis' start date and our new email addresses are listed below.

Work continues on the Ethos and Vision statement and a further draft was brought to the August meeting. In light of discussions on language, practical expression and the importance of experience, it was decided to further modify the statement before it comes back to the Directors and the CEO for further refinement. However, in the final analysis, it will be the wider APTCS community involvement which will inform its final expression.

There was considerable discussion on the whole area of property and how best to serve the needs of Trustees, Patrons and Boards of Management in this regard. It will be a matter for the SSS, CEP and APTCS to plan a way forward which takes cognisance of the roles of each organisation and best serves the constituent parts. Strategic Planning will be essential and on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September the three organisations will meet in Mount St Anne's in Portlaoise to work together on planning a way forward and working together for the future of Catholic education in Ireland.

APTCS is planning a Forum for October where we will have an opportunity to come together and to focus on a number of areas of mutual interest among them the Catholic Church and the media. Further information will issue shortly when details are confirmed. Our new email addresses are as follows in blue:-

Paul Meany/Chair; Sheila McManamly/Sec; Michael Sexton/Treasurer; Eilis Humphreys/CEO

[chair@aptcs](mailto:chair@aptcs).

[treasurer@aptcs.ie](mailto:treasurer@aptcs.ie)

[secretary@aptcs.ie](mailto:secretary@aptcs.ie)

[ceo@aptcs.ie](mailto:ceo@aptcs.ie)

Slán go fóill,

*Paul Meany*

Chairperson/APTCS

*Sheila McManamly*

Company Sec/APTCS

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