



Dear Parents and Guardians,

07th February 2025

As you know we are in the process of

- A. Building a permanent Autism class consisting of 2 classrooms, 4 SET rooms, an activity space, a sensory room attached to both classes and a sensory garden. And,
- B. Repurposing one of our classrooms for an Autism class.

Where are we now in the process?

I have gone through all the tenderers (financial and structural elements) who would like to apply to construct the permanent building. This consists of getting a Design team together consisting of an Architect, Civil Engineer, Quantity Surveyor and Mechanical and Electrical company.

Next I will form a subcommittee from the Board of Management, and meet with a representative from JMB (Joint Managerial Body) to mark the tenders once, then a second round of marking takes place and then we decide who to offer the contract to. We will also decide the best site location for the building. At this stage the subcommittee consisting of Colette Fitzgerald - Chairperson of the Board of Management, Paddy Reynolds - Teachers' Representative on the Board of Management will make a final choice on who will be successful.

Once the Design team is in place, we will ask them to quote for the repurposing of the classroom and this will begin before the permanent building as it will not take as long to reconfigure.

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*Finalist in the LAMA Community & Council Awards 2014
Best Educational Building Category*

There will be some meetings with the Department re the Design, ground works to be completed, the site to get ready and then construction can start.

As you can see it is a lengthy process but I have been working on it since September and we are making good, if slow, progress.

In total it will take up to 5 years to complete the Permanent building, which will be so worthwhile as we will be able to serve the children of the Swords area and our school for years and decades to come.

Exciting times for Thornleigh ETNS. I will keep you update as we progress through this project.

Kind regards

Paula Carolan - Príomhoide.