

Parents Association Meeting: Monday 20th January 2020 @ 8pm

Venue: Junior School

Present: Geraldine Keogh (Chair), Michelle McDermott (Secretary), Ciara Perks, Aoife McDermott, Ruth Prenderville, Ms Lennon

Apologies: Ann-Marie Elliott, Loretto Martin, Marilyn Fitzsimons

Meeting Minutes: Minutes from previous meetings approved

Principals Report:

- Pupil numbers currently 366
- 2020-2021 Junior Infants enrolment numbers currently 36
- We wish Ms Grainne Doyle well in her new role with Greystones Educate Together.
- We wish Ms Olivia Egan well as she leaves the school
- Jennifer Cosgrave will finish her Tús Scheme this week. Many thanks for all your help during your time with us
- A Temporary and 2 maternity leave positions have been advertised, closing date of 24th Jan. Interviews to take place week commencing 27th Jan. Outcomes expected early February
- Ms Meave Egan & Ms Sarah Nolan will commence maternity leave after the mid-term break
- Focus for January was manners. February will focus on kindness
- Music Generation, Festina Lente and Swimming have all returned after Christmas
- Play Therapy has commenced for both Junior & Senior school.
- 'Leave with Ease' programme will be run towards end of April for all 6th class pupils who will be moving on to secondary school
- A note regarding 6th class hoodies will be sent home this week
- Savings club will open for Junior school children – details to be sent home in the coming weeks
- Prefabs update: Dept of Education have advised architect to engage with a different supplier with a view to securing prefabs as soon as possible. Issue of financial viability remains
- New Build update: Moved to next phase, progressing well

Home School Liaison:

- Mr Keddy will organise a Parents Internet Safety talk if there is enough interest – parents to inform Mr Keddy if they are interested
- Staff from Google will visit the school Friday 28th Feb to meet with 4th, 5th & 6th classes to discuss internet safety
- We are continuing to work with Middletown school to run courses for parents on dealing with children with autism. These courses are open to all parents. Please contact Mr Keddy if you would like to take part on these courses
- Special Education Officer in Wicklow will visit the school to run a learn to cycle course in coming weeks
- 5 Star GAA Programme due to start in the school. One class will do 1 hour a week while all other classes will do a 6-week block of various GAA activities. If completed some pupils from the school will visit Croke Park later in the year. Counts towards Active Schools programme
- CCA continue to visit to help with Tir Na nÓg play which will take place in March.

Treasurers Report & Fundraising:

- Images Art Exhibition will commence in March. Children will be encouraged to take part. Any drawings completed by pupils will be displayed in the school and will be available to purchase – more details to follow
- Copper Friday will take place 31st January
- Christmas cards profit c€500
- Valentines Disco will take place February 8th 6-9:30. Further details will be issued closer to the date
- Clothes collection will take place on Wednesday 22nd April
- Dunnes Stores Bag Pack fundraising event to be confirmed
- Spring Draw tickets to be issued in coming weeks
- Non-Uniform day to take place 3rd April
- Sponsored walk to take place when weather improves – date to be confirmed at next meeting

NPC Report:

- Training 'Transition from Pre-School to School' available in Drogheda
- Positive first result from national evaluation of the digital learning framework in schools
- School admission policies due to change
- The number of students learning through Irish is set to double – our school continues PE as Gaeilge
- Election issues such as funding for books, 2-tier pay for teachers and school secretaries, class sizes.
- Check website for full details www.npc.ie

Next Meeting will be held on Monday 10th February at 8pm in the Junior School. We would welcome all current and future parents to attend as new faces and new ideas are always welcome