

## **Parents Association Meeting: Monday 13th September 2018 @8pm**

Venue: Junior School

Present: Sarah Ryan (Chair), Debra Spillane, Aoife McDermott, Ciara Perks, Ann-Marie Elliott, Geraldine Keogh, Loretto Martin, Niculoe Iuliana, Malgorzata Rozbicka, Joanna Janiszewska, Michelle McDermott, Marilyn Fitzsimons, Ruth Prenderville and Carmel Dempsey

Apologies: None

### **Committee Appointments:**

Chair - Nominated & Seconded - Sarah Ryan

Secretary - Nominated & Seconded - Michelle McDermott

Treasurer - Nominated & Seconded – Loretto Martin

Fundraising Co-ordinator - Nominated & Seconded - Debra Spillane

Assistant Chair - Nominated & Seconded - Geraldine Keogh

Assistant Secretary - Nominated & Seconded - Aoife McDermott

NPC Representative - Aoife McDermott

### **National Parents Council (NPC) Report:**

Online safety – Details on website regarding how to be more informed regarding continued usage of websites, online games etc.

Schools are encouraged to operate in line with the EU funded Healthy Eating scheme.

Junior Entrepreneur Programme winners announced, which included a school in Arklow. 5th Classes currently working on ideas for this years programme.

Training Courses available:

- Internet Safety
- Board of Management Training
- Parents Association Parental Involvement Training

Child Protection material available. Parents Association to watch Tusla information video at next meeting. Information and booklets available online.

Garda Vetting – A reminder that Garda vetting is essential for anyone who wishes to become involved in any activities regarding the children. Forms can be obtained from the school. Note that there is currently a backlog on recent applications.

### **Fundraising:**

Cycle Cinema (Suggestion) - Night for the kids to watch a film powered solely by teams of adults continuously pedalling. Further details re costs and dates to be obtained for next meeting.

Halloween Disco – Halloween disco booked for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October. Likely to have separate times for younger and older kids. Expression of Interest re dates, times and possible attendance to be issued in advance in order to confirm details.

Sports Day (Suggestion) – Day of races (three legged race, egg and spoon race etc.), obstacle courses, games etc. to be held for the community. This would replace the Fun Run held in previous years. Further details to be discussed at next meeting.

Bingo hampers will take place again this year on Friday 07<sup>th</sup> December.

Sponsored Walk – Walk to take place in early November. Sponsor cards to be issued two weeks in advance of the walk.

Clothing Collection – Due to the success of the clothing collection last year we have arranged for another collection of clothes for the morning of 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. Bags will be sent home in the coming weeks with advice on what can be included in the bags. It is expected that a further collection date may be held in early 2019.

Hell & Back (Suggestion) – The committee is looking in to the possibility of having some parent and child teams take part in the Junior Hell & Back event, usually held in June. Further details will be provided once received.

Bag Pack – Dunnes Stores have kindly agreed for the school to run a bag pack event on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. Volunteers will be required to take a 2 hour shift from 10 until 6. 4 people will be needed to cover the tills for each shift. Anyone who wishes to help out, please contact the school or the Parents Association. Thanks to Ciara Perks for organising this.

Christmas Cards – It has been decided not to produce Christmas cards this year. Alternative suggestions (e.g. tea towels) have been put forward with the committee to investigate further and revert with details once obtained.

### **Confirmation & Communion:**

Registration is required by the end of September. Details of dates and requirements will be issued to relevant classes in due course.

Communion meeting to take place 14th Oct.

Confirmation meeting to take place early November - Date to be confirmed

### **Parish Meeting Update:**

A meeting took place over the summer, hosted by Parish Priest Father Daly, for relevant parents groups from the local schools to discuss the provision of sacramental services across the parish.

Issues had previously been raised regarding the possibility of Newtown Primary no longer being able to hold the sacrament services in St Josephs church. The proposal was to have Newtown Primary combined with Kilcoole primary school and a joint service(s) to take place in Kilcoole church. It was expected that similar situations would take place for other schools within the parish.

Fr Daly advised that it is likely that in 3-4 years the sacraments will take place outside of school.

It has been agreed for this coming academic year that each school will be given a set date for the sacraments and the school could choose the location where the service will be held.

Dates for the sacramental services for Newtown Primary have yet to be confirmed. Details will be provided in due course. Communion and Confirmation are expected to take place in St Josephs church.

The Service of Light ceremony is expected to take place in Kilcoole, with Kilcoole primary. Details yet to be confirmed.

### **Principals Report:**

Welcome back to all staff and pupils and a warm welcome to all new pupils to the school.

Well done and thanks to all the staff and pupils who represented the school at the Fun & Run event held over the summer in Croke Park, which coincided with a visit from the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. The school has been invited back to Croke Park for a larger Fun & Run event. Details to be provided.

Class meetings for relevant classes will take place over the coming weeks in the evening to discuss homework expectations etc. Details will be issued when confirmed.

Parent Teacher Meetings are scheduled for 24th Oct from 2-5:30. All parents are encouraged to attend.

(Parents Association to discuss providing a supervision service in a room in the Community Centre for children while parents/guardians meet with teachers - details to be agreed)

A suggestion for an afternoon homework club to be set up for pupils to attend and complete homework for a small fee. Further discussions required. The committee to liaise with Home School Liaison Officer Ms Lennon and Carol in the playschool.

A request for a party to be held after the Communion service has been made to the school with a number of 3rd class parents offering to arrange this event for the pupils. Further discussions to be held on this matter with details to follow.

The Annual Report is nearing completion and will be issued in due course.

The Community Awards are taking place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Nomination forms can be returned to the school.

Non uniform day will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> December with a suggestion that a Christmas themed cake sale to also take place that day.

Green Flag – focus on Global Citizenship

The school is to be registered on School days.ie

User details and passwords for the Aladdin payment system to be re-issued.

The next meeting will take place on 8th October. All welcome.

