

Parents Association Meeting

Date: Monday 11th September 2017. Venue: Junior School Time: 8pm

Present: Mrs Dempsey, Suzanne Breslin, Ruth Prenderville, Ciara Perks, Debra Spillane, Sarah Ryan, Grace Garde, Aoife Mc Dermott, Marilyn Fitzsimons, Jumina Dias Cardoz, Michelle Mc Dermott, Loretto Martin, Sinead Ryle.

Apologies: Annmarie Elliott

Fundraising: St. Matthew's Church has invited us back again this year for their Christmas Bazaar. It will be held in on the 1st weekend of December to coincide with switching on the Christmas Lights in the village. If any parent has any ideas on projects that we could work on to sell at the Bazaar please let us know. If anyone in the community is interested in helping out with a project we would be very grateful.

Christmas cards will be completed in school very soon as the company we use are anxious that we start this venture as soon as possible. Templates for the junior school and free hand designs for the senior school, have been suggested.

We have been approached by other organisations in our community to consider a joint fundraising venture. "**Strictly**" has been suggested as the event. If parents are interested in getting involved who may have expertise in area such as Dance Instruction, IT, Directing, Printing, etc, please let us know of your interest. The proposal will now be taken to the board of management and a decision will be made shortly. A production of such an event will take commitment and dedication, so if there are any parents who would like to attend meetings and help out within the organising, please let us know.

Principal's Report:

Calendars: All class photos have been taken for the school calendars. It has been suggested that if you know of an event or occasion in the village and would like to add it to our calendar you can let the school know and it will be printed among our "Dates to Remember".

Computers: An I.T. Grant from the O' Brien Trust had been secured for the junior school and the ASD Centre before the summer break. A lot of work has been carried out in St. Joseph's Building to make it a safe and operational area for our ASD Classes. Painting, steel works and a sensory room were completed.

The junior school had its IT department upgraded with PC's purchased for teachers which can be operated along with smart boards.

Laminators will be purchased for the junior school and ASD Centre. Wi-Fi will have to be connected from the main building over to St. Joseph's.

All Our School Buildings are for STAFF CAR PARKING ONLY in the interests of Health & Safety.

As the 30th of September approaches the threat of losing a teacher looms over us. We URGENTLY need to secure 4 new students. We are appealing to all families in our community who may know of a new family considering moving into the area or who would want to change schools for older children to contact the school IMMEDIATELY. If we lose a teacher we will have to split a class in the junior school.

We welcome Ms Maguir & Ms. Meldon to our teaching staff. Ms Gillick is taking parental leave and her position will be covered by Ms Wellward.

Parent/Teacher meetings will be held the week before the Mid-Term in October. On WEDNESDAY from 2.00pm to 5.30pm in the Community Centre.

Other News:

Wicklow County Council will be contacted re: traffic calming measures on the road leading from Wicklow Hills to the back entrance to the junior school. It has been brought to our attention that parents and children crossing here cannot see oncoming traffic which are driving at speed. Until this matter is resolved can parents and children take care when crossing and we ask drivers to be aware that there are pedestrians (Small Children) using this crossing. Also the road leading down from the top round across from the senior school has become a danger as cars seem to speed along the road.

A review of the junior school yard will take place shortly as it has been reported that maintenance may have to be carried out on the concrete area from the area where children line up to the back door.

Green Space Clean Up: We are asking for Parents, Grandparents and the wider community to get involved on Monday 18th and the following Monday 25th for a cleanup of the gardens in the junior, senior and ASD areas. A lot of work was carried out last year and just a few good mornings would mean that maintenance will be easier to carry out through the year. If you would to meet us after school drop off at approx. 9.00am we urgently need volunteers. If you could possibly bring your own gardening tools that would be greatly appreciated as our supply is limited. If you would like to get involved you can contact Grace Garde on 087- 1477507. Thank you.

Dates to Remember:

15th September: last day for early closing for junior school and 1st class. These times may be reviewed as parents feel that two weeks is too long for closing early especially for the 1st Class children.

12th September: Swim Group 1

21st CCA Open Night

23rd September: Community Awards Night

28th Whole School Assembly. All parents welcome.

Next Meeting: on Monday 9th of October in the Junior School at 8pm. Everyone Welcome, Especially any new parents who would like to be involved.