

## **Parents Association Meeting: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018 @8pm**

Venue: Junior School

Present: Geraldine Keogh (Vice Chair), Michelle McDermott (Secretary), Mrs Keyes, Anne Marie Elliott, Ciara Perks, Ruth Prenderville, Catherine Forde, Loretto Martin (Treasurer), Marilyn Fitzsimons, Aoife McDermott (NPC), Debra Spillane (Events Co-ordinator), Gemma Ledwidge, Marina McGinn

Apologies: Sarah Ryan (Chair)

Minutes from previous meeting agreed

### **Principles Report:**

Well done to the Parents Association on the successful Halloween Disco.

### **Fundraising Report:**

Halloween Disco - Well done to all on a very successful and enjoyable Halloween Disco. Final profit for the night was €526.41.

Sponsored Walk is taking place for all classes on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November. Please return all sponsorship money to the school as soon as possible.

Bag Pack in Dunnes Stores has been confirmed for Friday 14<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Volunteers are being sought to help out for 2 hour slots across each day. Further details will be issued in the coming weeks. Please contact the school or any member of the Parents Association committee if anyone would like to help out on either day.

Christmas Hamper Raffle will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December. Donations of food items for the hampers are being asked to be dropped at the school no later than 6<sup>th</sup> December.

There will be no Cake Sale in December as previously indicated. This was to be held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December. This will be a non-uniform day for the children with donations of €2.

It is proposed that a further disco be held for the children over the Christmas break, dependent on interest and availability of a DJ. Further details will be issued in due course.

### **Child Protection Video:**

The Parents Association members will view the Tusla Child Protection eLearning video over the coming weeks. This video is approximately 1 hour and 20 mins long but can be viewed in sections across a period of time. The video is available for anyone to view. An account is required to be created to view the video. There is a short test of 10 questions at the end of the video with a certificate provided upon successful completion at the end. The committee have agreed to undertake this video and test in full however it is not mandatory for all parents. It is recommended that any parent or guardian that is regularly involved with childrens events should complete the video. The video can be found on the Tusla website ([www.tusla.ie](http://www.tusla.ie)) under the Universal E-Learning section.

<https://www.tusla.ie/children-first/children-first-e-learning-programme/>

### **Parking:**

Can all parents/grandparents/guardians please obey the school parking rules and in particular not drive on or across pathways.

Please ensure that all parties that may drop and collect children are informed of these rules and strictly adhere to them at all times.

The car park at the community centre is the designated parking area for people who need to park to drop off and collect children. The area at the top of the road by the senior school is a drop down area and parking areas at each school is strictly for teachers and school staff only.

If anyone requires the use of a disabled parking space, please let the school know and arrangements can be made for the child/children to be escorted to the car.

Can everyone please reduce speed when coming around the bend at the top of the road, from the Wicklow Hills roundabout and please refrain from parking on the bend at the top of the road as it is causing difficulties in terms of manoeuvring around the bend and also visibility at times.

Also can everyone using the road please be mindful of the pedestrian crossing. This is primarily used for the junior school and drivers should be mindful that there are many younger kids using this crossing.

Children from 3<sup>rd</sup> class upwards are permitted to walk home provided a note has been provided by a parent/guardian. This should be encouraged where possible so as to avoid unnecessary traffic.

**Health & Safety:**

There is currently a crack in the path surface in the junior school yard under the class room windows which is a trip hazard. It is to be inspected the week of 11th November with a view to getting it repaired as soon as possible. There is also a silver man-hole cover which is extremely slippery in wet conditions. We would ask that both children and adults be mindful of these areas when walking around/through the junior school yard area.

**Christmas Dates to Remember:**

Santa is hoping to make a visit to the school to see all the good boys and girls on 17<sup>th</sup> December. Christmas plays are due to take place on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> of December. Further details for each class times will be issued in due course.

Assembly for December will take place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December - all are welcome to attend.

School will close for the Christmas holidays on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

**Aladdin Payment System:**

A request for the school to move to the full Aladdin Payment System has been made so that parents/guardians can use the accompanying app to pay for school books, swimming lessons etc. as well as completing consent forms, receiving report cards. This option is to be investigated further by the school with a view to rolling out the full system in 2019.

**Homework Club:**

The committee had previously suggested running an after school homework club for a small fee for children to attend for 1-2 hours Monday to Thursday as required. There will be a requirement for 1 teacher to be present along with the required number of supervising adults, depending on the number of children looking to avail of this service. Discussions have been held with the school on this matter and are to be raised again with Mrs Dempsey in the coming days. A progress report on this matter will be provided at the next Parents Association meeting.

The next meeting is on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm in the Junior School - all are welcome to attend.