



Parents' Association Newsletter Autumn 2018



Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to all our students including all those that are new to the schools, we are delighted you chose us!! Also, a big welcome to all the new teachers. Another term up and running, those long warm sunny days are now but a distant memory and we are already getting storm warnings on the TV and radio. The kids have all taken such a stretch over the summer and it's hard to believe they are going into a higher class. Where does the time go?

With over 900 students in the schools, the role of the Parents Association in raising funds for the school is all the more important so we look forward to your support over the coming academic year.

Junior Infants Coffee Morning

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped settle the junior infants' parents on the first day of school, we have all been there. There was a great turn out of volunteers and parents on the day.



New Parents Coffee Morning

Friday 12th October at the Sunflower Café @ 10:00am



There are lots of new children joining the school throughout the new year not only into infants but to the higher classes too. We all know the difference it makes to have a friendly face in your child's class and how important it is to make friends when you move to a new area. We will be hosting our first coffee morning inviting new parents and any parents who are free to join us for a coffee and a chat. We are hoping to make this a regular event. The venue is the Sunflower Café at Riverside. We will be negotiating with them to see if we can strike a good deal for you for tea and a scone☺ If you think you can attend you could text Eimear on 0868196112 as we need an idea of numbers. See you there!!

Sponsored Beach Walk 2018 - Sunday 21st October 2:00pm

We are looking for a renewed effort as this is the schools biggest fundraising event of the year. It is a super event, great fun and is always well attended. However, this year we are asking for as much support as possible with the aim of raising lots of money which will go towards our children's education and well-being at school. We are hoping to give sizeable contributions to the boys' school for a second handball wall, Aistear equipment, a ¼ mile painted running track in the yard and some garden equipment to ensure that the beautiful garden is maintained. For the girls' school we hope to donate funds to enhance their magnificent library facilities by adding new furniture, seating, couches and shelving which will benefit all the students. A new sound system and blinds for the hall are also on the wish list.

Keep an eye out for the sponsorship cards coming home soon. We would ask that where possible you do not bring money to the beach on the day. If all the sponsorship forms and money can be given to the class teacher on or before 20th October that would be great (although there will be no deadline for handing back forms and money). Just think if each boy and girl were to raise €10 each that would be an incredible **€9000** for our schools!! So, come on don't be shy bring your friends, aunts, uncles, grannies and grandads and let's make this a memorable and fun event with the aim of raising as much money as possible.

We do appreciate the boys and girls taking time and asking for sponsorship so this year we will have a €20 Cool Beanz voucher for the boy and girl who raises the most money in each school. There will also be a homework pass for **all** participants



including those who hand in a sponsorship form but may not be able to make it on the day -we all know how precious a homework pass is and how difficult they are to get ☺

In the interest of the safety of our children we would ask that children especially the younger children are accompanied by an adult while out collecting sponsorship.

We will meet on the beach at Bettystown at 2pm sharp for a school photo and will walk to Laytown where there will be a refreshment stop with some treats for the kids and a chat for the parents as this is the half way point. We will then return to Bettystown. The walk itself will take approx 1 hr so please spare an hour out of your day to support our schools in this wonderful fundraising and social event. We will look forward to seeing you all there!!

We will need volunteers on the day to hand out goodies and certificates. If you can help please text Eimear on 086 8196112 and you will be added to the What's App group.

Christmas Jumper or Socks Day - Friday 14th December



Our second fundraising event will be on 14th Dec and we are encouraging all the children to wear their Christmas jumper or Christmas socks or hat etc. to school on that day. At a cost of €2 per child this is cheap at half the price to give the jumpers and novelty Christmas socks (or both) their annual outing! We will send out a reminder nearer the time.



Attention 1st & 3rd Class Parents - Communion Party

It is the role of 1st & 3rd Class Parents to support and run the First Holy Communion parties in May each year. (Paying it forward and back!!!) This takes place on Saturday 11th May 2019.

After each of the ceremonial masses the children and their families are invited back to the School Hall for tea and treats. It involves room setup, making and serving tea and coffee, washing and tidying up afterwards. Donations and volunteer numbers have been falling off in the last few years and so the future of the celebration could be in jeopardy. Two teams are needed:

- Girls: 10.00 – 12.30
- Boys 12.00 - 2.00

Please let Gillian know on 087 8217284 if you will be available on the day to be added to the What's App group.



How can I get involved or help?

We are always looking for volunteers to support the events and initiatives. This might be taking registration for the Annual Beach Walk or helping with the teas for the Communion parties. Maybe you have IT skills, a venue we could use, provide raffle prizes, have access to discounts or amazing baking skills!! Maybe you are just brimming with ideas but need some support to bring them to life – then the PA group welcomes you!!!



The AGM of the Parents Association will be held in November, date to be confirmed. The current secretary will be stepping down after their 3 years' service. Anybody wishing to put their name forward for the position, please contact Eimear on 086 8196112.

Next Parents Association Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 10th October at 8pm** in the Girls School Staff Room. All welcome. Best regards, Eimear, Ruth and Michelle.