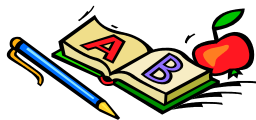


Letter From your Parents' Association..... It'll only take 2 minutes to read!!



Hello to all parents and guardians of children attending St. James', Bushypark. We're just , introducing you to this year's Parents' Association Committee and secondly letting you know what the Association does in the school and some of the events that are planned for the year ahead.

Introducing the Parents Association Committee for 2015/2016

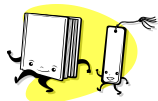
Niamh Moran (Chairperson)	Gerry Gallagher
Paula Glavin (Vice Chairperson)	Jenny Jemphrey
Christine Fiorentini (Secretary)	Aileen Ludden
Catherine Carolan (Assistant Secretary)	Grace Mannion
Anne Holland (Treasurer)	Linda Walsh
Michelle Gaffney (Assistant Treasurer)	Kathleen Lohfeld
Berta Blanch	Lucy O'Flaherty
Isabella Coffey	Evelyn O'Toole

The committee members were elected at the AGM in the school on the 22.09.15. The committee meets once a month/six weeks at 8.p.m. Check www.busyparkns.ie – Parents' Association Section for updates!

What does your Parents' Association do?



We organise Swimming Classes– This first term sees 61 children attend Leisureland every Wednesday afternoon for a 45 minute lesson. Cost of lessons for this 11 week term was € 65. Registration for Term 2 will take place in early December.



School Library –Each class has a weekly morning visit to the fabulous school library. Parents/Grandparents/Guardians run this fabulous amenity and scan the books in and out using a simple scanning system. Not all national schools are so lucky! It's a great opportunity for parents to meet their child's classmates and get involved in the school. See what days need cover by checking the timesheet in the annex off Mr. Carney's office. If you want to help out for an hour here and there on dates and days that suit you– that would be great. Paula Galvin is this year's library coordinator.



School Garden –. A new school garden will be created at the rear of the school between the junior classrooms and the astro-turf. Plans include a beautiful seating space, raised beds, pathways and interesting spaces. If you want to exercise your 'green fingers' by helping with design, planting ,bedding or assisting teachers bringing their classes out to the garden – then please let us know. It is intended to form a Gardening Committee so if you're interested in becoming involved, please fill out the volunteer sheet attached and put it in the Volunteer Box in the school Lobby or contact any committee member.



WOW Walking Bus – (*Walk on Wednesday!*) – Why not walk part of the way to school with your child on Wednesday mornings? Park your car at the Bushypark Church on the N.59 or at the entrance to the Bailey on Circular Road or in Dun Daingin on the N.59 and join the ‘walking bus’. We leave from outside the church at 8.25a.m and from the Bailey AND Dun Daingin at 8.30a.m on Wednesday mornings – weather permitting. We obviously need a few parents to walk with the children. It’s a fun way to start the day and helps the children earn the school’s annual Active School and ‘Green Flag award’!



Cash for Clobber – We organise a collection of old ‘clobber’ – usually after Easter Break. This is a great way for you to get rid of ‘Clobber’ from your house and for us to raise money for the school.



Welcome Coffee Morning - At the start of the year, we host a coffee morning in the hall to enable parents and guardians catch up and meet each other for a cuppa – while not running to or from a school pick-up! This year’s first one took place on 25/9/15.

Host occasional talks on topical issues e.g. cyber bullying, parenting skills etc., If there is a topic you’d like us to consider for the coming year – please let us know.

Annual second hand uniform and book sale – Chance to donate or buy old school uniforms at knock down prices! Takes place in June.

Other activities include: Assisting with **Healthy Eating Week & Green Schools' initiative**. Organise **party bags for the Communion and Confirmation Classes** and school choir. **City Sports** – buy the medals for the annual City Sports event held in Dangan sports ground in May/June! We’ve funded the purchase of ***PE equipment, a portable cooker, library books, musical instruments, book covering machine***. Help organise the **Book Rental Scheme** and the **Annual Book Fair** Organised the first **Post First Holy Communion Cuppa/Get – together** in Presentation NS Hall! Compile **Class Lists** for *birthday parties and playdates* – see form attached!

NEW FUNDRAISER for 2015 - - PERSONALISED CHRISTMAS CARDS

This year, as a means of fundraising, we will be arranging the professional printing and sale of personalised Christmas Cards. Your child can submit their own artwork, which will be done in class on a date to be arranged. Every child will then get a professionally printed ***sample card***. If you like the sample card, you can then ***order packs of 10*** for **€10 per pack**. Each child’s name and class detail will be on the rear of the card. Details will be sent home soon!

?? SAVE THE DATE!??

This year’s Super **Supper Table Quiz** will be held on **Thursday 26th November** in the Westwood Hotel 8p.m sharp. **€12.50** per person includes a **hot buffet meal, entry for door prize or better still** – a chance to win a FREE **HOMEWORK PASS!** It’s been great fun and a very sociable night out for the last three years so please try to come along! Any donations of raffle prizes are always gratefully accepted!

Thanks for reading this letter!

Niamh Moran – Chairperson 14.10.2015.

PARTY/PLAY DATE LISTS CLASS LISTS

I would like the Parents' Association to include my child's name on a List that is available to other parents/guardians for the purpose of arranging birthday parties/ play dates with class mates. List available from Committee members.

CIRCLE

Yes or NO

Parent/Guardian Name:

Phone Number:

Email address:

Child's Name:

Child's Class and Teacher:

VOLUNTEER SHEET

I would like to help with: *(Tick whichever interests you!)*

The Library:

The Garden:

Walking Bus:

First Holy Communion 'Cuppa' in May 2016:

Other Activities:

Just complete this form and drop it into the **Parents' Association Box** in the school foyer and someone will contact you in due course.

Thank You.

Niamh Moran 14.10.15 *(Chairperson)*