

Parent's Association AGM

Chairperson's Report 2021

This year's AGM is being held as a committee only meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions. A message went out to parents via Aladdin asking for new volunteers and any questions that parents may have.

What is the parents' association?

The parents' association is made up of all parents and guardians of each child in the school. Once your child is enrolled in the school, you are automatically a member. The aim of the parents' association is to promote the interests of the students in co-operation with the principal, teachers, students and board of management. The parents' association is overseen by a committee of around 12 parents/guardians. 2 members of the committee also represent the board of management at the meetings. Meetings are usually held every first Tuesday of each month. None committee members are welcome to the meeting by informing the Chairperson prior to the meeting that they wish to attend and the reason for their attendance. None committee members will be asked to leave once their query has been answered. If none committee members have a query but, do not wish, or are unable to attend the meeting, then they are welcome to present their query to any member of the committee to bring up at the meeting.

Recap of this years' events.

This year's events were limited due to the Covid-19 restrictions. All profits made from the fundraisers are set out in the treasurer's report.

Halloween Day & Raffle – This event was to replace our usual Toy & Cake sale. The children paid €2 each to come to school dressed in their Halloween costumes. There was also a raffle in each classroom with prizes kindly donated by some of the PA committee and one overall school prize.

Crazy hair day – This was the second year doing this event. The children paid €2 each to come to school with mad hair styles. Thank you to all the children who came to school with their crazy hair, there really were some fabulous styles.

Christmas cards – These are the cards that your children design each year for you to purchase. Thank you to the children for all their fabulous drawings, to the teachers for allowing the children to partake in this during school time and also to the parents who purchase them. These funds are vital to allow the parents' association to provide the school with the extra support they need.

Wish tree cards – These cards are sold around the town and then a mention is read out on Christmas Eve at mass. Thank you to everyone who helped in distributing the cards to the shops and for collecting them back up again.

Calendars – This was a new fund raiser for us this year. Although it did make quite a lot of money this was mainly due to donations for the advertising. Actual calendar sales were slow due to not being able to sell them in very many places due to Covid restrictions. Thank you to the photographers who kindly donated their pictures for this calendar and to the local shops that put the calendars on sale for us.

Tree of lights – Unfortunately we were unable to hold our annual Tree of Lights ceremony due again to Covid restrictions but, the tree was erected and decorated. Thank you to all who helped with this.

Hot Chocolate Day – Ms Drinan asked if we were able to provide hot chocolate and biscuits for all the children as a Christmas treat. Although this wasn't a fund raiser, the children loved it and it was really nice treat for them. Thank you to Lynda Whelton for helping me on the day with this.

Santa visit – As it was the year to hold the Christmas Nativities/concerts and had to be cancelled we organised for Santa Claus himself to visit the children in school and give out some presents. Thank you to Santa for giving up his time at this busy time of year and to Angelique for organising the costume.

Fun run – This was held virtually this year. Thank you to Laurie for setting up the 'Go Fund Me' page so everyone could donate.

Purchases

This year the parents' association has raised money to buy new new readers for 1st and 2nd class, Cycle sense for 6th class pupils, gifts from Santa, hot chocolate and biscuits, Ice creams in the summer, a retirement gift for Mrs Roycroft and Hoodies for the 6th class graduation. Thank you to Angelique Power for designing and printing the 6th class hoodies. All purchases are set out in the Treasurer's report.

Thank yous

I would just like to thank the current committee for their constant hard work over the last 12 months. It has not been easy with not being able to hold meetings and trying to arrange everything through text. Hopefully this year will be better and more events can be organised.

Thank you to Danny Logan, Miriam Pyburn and Lynda Whelton for their continuous support, help and commitment to the PA over many years.

Thank you to the parents and the pupils for supporting all the events.

Thank you to the local businesses for letting us advertise and for their generous donations of raffle prizes.

Finally a massive thank you to Ms. Drinan, Paula and to all the staff at the school for allowing us to run as we do, support us in our events and for putting up with my constant phone calls and messages.

There have been so many people involved in organising each and every event this year and I sincerely apologise if I have missed anyone from my thank yous. Please know that I am very grateful for all the help and support everyone has given me and I hope to carry on again this year.