



## St Patricks Junior School Parents Association Newsletter June 2019

Welcome to the June addition of our newsletter, the last one until we start back again in September. What a fast academic year it has been. We have had lots of lovely events throughout the year, which we hope you and the children have all enjoyed.

We would like to take this opportunity to announce that Aisling Ellis, Co. Chairperson and Donna Heffernan, Secretary, will be stepping down and leaving the St Patricks Junior School Parents Association. We would like to offer our sincere thanks and gratitude to Aisling and Donna for all their sterling hard work over the past few years and wish them the very best.

We welcome all new members to the Parents Association. If you wish to join, please get in touch.

Thank you once again to Ms. Ní Chróinín, Leoancha, and all our teachers, parents, volunteers and helpers throughout the year for all your help and support with all our events.

Wishing you all a lovely summer break.

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### RECENT EVENTS

\* **Big Bear Planetarium** - Our children loved this event as it allowed them to learn all about space and planets in a fun and interactive way. From discovering the various universes to exploring the galaxies and stars, this event appealed to our children of all ages.



\* **Food Dudes** - Food Dudes was a great success this year, with Willie McCormack providing all the colourful and healthy fruits for our Food Dude event. The children enjoyed the array of fruits on



offer and some even were brave enough to try out fruits that they have never eaten before. We hope all our children continue to eat their fruit and vegetables throughout the summer break.

- \* **Skippy John** - Our recent visit by Skippy John was a big hit. All our children loved getting active with skipping ropes and playing skipping rope games with their friends in the yard.



- \* **Fun Day** - This is always a day in the annual calendar where the children (and adults alike) enjoy a lot, because as the title of the day itself tells you, it's a super day of fun! Face painting, tattoos, games, dancing and general all round fun was had by all. Thanks to all who helped out on the day and made it such a great day for all the children. Here is a photo of John, from the Parents Association, showing true showmanship with his face paint on the day!



- \* **First Holy Communion Breakfast** - The sun was shining bright on all the children on the morning of their First Holy Communion and it continued on during our special breakfast in the Halla. Sandwiches, cakes and sweet treats in abundance was all offered and served to parents, children and teachers who joined us for this special morning. Thank you to all our parents who baked and brought in cakes and treats and for all the volunteers who helped to make this event truly special for our First Holy Communion children. Here are some photos from the day. Thank you to the parents who gave their consent for us to share these.





### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS & CONTACT DETAILS:**

Aisling Ellis (Co-chairperson) 086 105 0556 - Fiona McGowan 087 960 0783

Lorraine McPhilips (Co-chairperson) 087 141 3458 - Alma Sherwin 086 892 4736

Catherine Griffith (Treasurer) 085 708 4762 - Maeve Chapman 087 674 6470

Donna Heffernan (Secretary) 086 198 1057 - Anne Walsh 086 852 5731

Beata Fingleton 086 823 2169 - John O'Connor 087 997 3328

Sarah Gahan 086 809 0522 - Aoife Oxley 087 991 0789

Simon O'Connor 086 336 8878 - Maeve Griffin 086 849 2651

Treasa O'Shaughnessy 089 499 0700 - Karrie Cheung Dinan 086 607 1990

Madeline Swan 086 164 6223 - Lorna Ryan - Michelle Spillane

# Notes from the Principle

## **PARENT HELPERS:**

Many thanks to the parents who accompanied classes from the school on class outings and on summer tours this year. For health and safety reasons, teachers cannot bring pupils outside the school unless they have enough helpers to give a ratio of one adult to every eight children. In this case, when we say we couldn't do it without you, we really mean it!!

## **ACTIVE WEEK:**

A very special thank you to the following parents who kindly volunteered their time and expertise during a very successful week:

- \* Saidhbh Dillon & Linda McMahon (Hockey)
- \* Andy Caribini (Rugby)
- \* James Devine & Courtney Dillon (Martial Arts)

Remember our Active School Motto and keep up the physical activity over the Summer!

Be Active Every Day, In a Fun & Healthy Way!

## **AMBER FLAG:**

Congratulations & well done to all our Kindness Ambassadors and Ms. Daly on leading work on achieving our first Amber Flag!! We had loads of activities focussed on kindness and on mental health & fitness. We hope to maintain the flag next year so look out for more activities focusing on these important areas.

## **GREEN SCHOOLS:**

Thanks to Ms. Grimes & Ms. Spillane for leading all the excellent work done by our Green Schools teams this year. We are currently working towards our eighth Green Flag and this will represent sixteen years of hard work by staff and pupils of the school focussed on improving our environment and helping to keep our world clean & healthy.

**BEACH CLEAN UP:**

Well done to pupils who attended the recent beach clean up and helped Skerries to remain a Tidy Town! Many thanks to Ms. Grimes & Ms. Spillane who were there on the day to lend a hand!

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES FEE:**

Sincere thanks to all those parents who have paid the school supplies fee. Our online facility remains open for those who have not yet paid and for those who wish to pay next year's fee early.

**PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:**

Our Parents' Association plays a very important part in the life of our school. Staff members of the school wish to thank all members of the PA, particularly the committee, who put so much effort into enhancing your children's enjoyment of school throughout the year. We wish to sincerely thank, in particular, Aisling Ellis and Donna Heffernan who are stepping away from the PA committee after all their hard work.

If you have an hour or two to spare or can help out in any way, please ring any of the committee members. Their numbers are listed above and they will be very glad to hear from you!

**BOARD OF MANAGEMENT:**

The Board of management wishes to thank parents and staff for all your hard work and co-operation this year.

Best wishes for a safe and sunny summer to all members of our school community!