

Newsletter

May 2019

St. Patrick's Junior School Parents' Association



WELCOME

Welcome to the May edition of our newsletter.

We have had a very busy few weeks, with lots of great events taking place, and with lots more coming up too before the end of the school year.

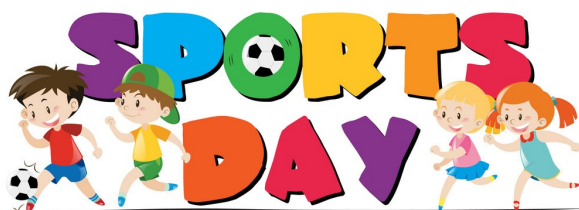
Once again, thank you to all our volunteers and helpers with all our events so far. Without your help, we would not be able to run them as smoothly and successfully.

Don't forget to follow and like our [Facebook page](#) to keep up to date on all our events and activities taking place.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the date for the following events coming up:

- First Holy Communion Breakfast— May 18th
- Food Dudes—May 21st, 22nd, 23rd
- Skippy John Workshop for Active Week—May 27th & 28th
- Sports Day—May 29th
- September 2019 Junior Infants Information Night—May 30th
- September 2019 Junior Infants Open Day—June 7th
- Fun Day—June 14th
- Big Bear Planetarium—date TBC, but will be rescheduled before the end of term



RECENT EVENTS

• *Table Quiz*

What a fun night at our annual table quiz, which took place on April 4th in Skerries GAA Club.

It was a full house, with all tickets sold and a room packed with competitive quizzers!

Thank you to our Quiz Master Gavin for volunteering his time for the night and for presenting such engaging and fun questions to the crowd. And huge thanks to Ivan Coleman, our adjudicator on the night.

There was an amazing collection of prizes for our raffle also. Thanks to members of the PA for sourcing and for all local businesses who donated. The generosity of some people is amazing to see, with some parents and supporters making donations who didn't even attend the event.

We have raised **€2280.00** from this event alone!

This money will go towards a stage for the school hall for all our budding stage kids for future concerts and events.



• *Outdoor Garden & Playground*

We hope you have all seen the amazing new play spaces in our gardens. The children have certainly been enjoying the new reading areas, stone pits and fun outdoor kitchen.

Thanks to all our volunteers and members of the Parents' Association who helped put all of this together. This project was made possible from the funds that were raised from last year's wine tasting event. Many thanks all!



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 PRINCIPAL

Easter Raffle

Thanks again this year to all parents and pupils for the fabulous response to our Easter Raffle. This year's beneficiary was Pieta House and we raised a grand total of **€1128** for this egg-cellent cause! Huge thanks to Rosemary who organised it and to the teachers who supported it by selling tickets. This money will help to support the mental health of some of our most vulnerable children and adolescents.

Amber Flag

We are delighted to announce that St. Patrick's JNS has been awarded an Amber Flag for promoting mental health & wellbeing in our school. Children in Junior and Senior Infants did Buddy Bench Training while children in 1st & 2nd class completed the PawsB programme. We had our first ever Mental Health & Wellbeing Week which included a talk for teachers and parents on mental fitness & resilience. We had lots of different health & wellbeing activities for the children culminating in a special assembly for the occasion. We will be raising our Amber Flag for the first time ever in mid June. This is a great achievement for our school and we are very proud of it. Many thanks to Ms. Daly for her huge efforts in co-ordinating the various activities and to all teachers and pupils for their enthusiastic participation.

Active Schools

Our Active Schools Week will take place from 27th—31st of May. Our Sports for All Day will take place on Wednesday the 29th of May and on that day we will need parent volunteers to help us! If you are available and want to help out please let your child's class teacher know. Many thanks!

Green Schools

As part of our work towards our Eighth Green Flag, we are running two action days on the 5th & 6th of June. Our sixth class buddies from the Senior School will be helping us. Art work will be displayed in classrooms afterwards. Thanks to Ms. Grimes & Ms. Spillane for continued leadership of this important initiative.

Road Safety

As the evenings are lengthening and children play outside for longer in the afternoons, we ask parents to remind all children about safe behaviour around traffic, when using bicycles, tricycles, scooters or flickers, and when crossing the road. We want all our pupils to be safe this spring!

First Holy Communion

The Board of Management & staff of St. Patrick's would like to extend every good wish to our second class pupils as they make their First Holy Communion. The children have been preparing for this very special day for a long time. They have all learned and achieved a lot on this journey and we are very proud of them. We hope everyone has a lovely day tomorrow and that the sun comes out for the celebrations! Sincere thanks to the teachers who led the children in school based preparation, the SNAs for their help with decorations and art work, to Ms. Wilde for all her help both in school and with the choir, and to Fr. Melvyn and Fr. James for their help with the First Holy Communion and throughout the year.