

Cloonakilla N.S. Parents' Association Newsletter

www.cloonakillans.com/parents-assoc/

October 2016

Welcome

Welcome to Cloonakilla N.S. Parents Association Newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to make you - the parents/guardians—aware of the activities of the Parents' Association. We hope you enjoy the read!

What is the Parents' Association?

The Parents' Association is the means by which parent/guardians in the school can work together with the school for the benefit of all our children. The association is made up of all parents and guardians of pupils attending Cloonakilla N.S. with an elected committee taking responsibility for the day to day work of the association.

The committee's aim is to work closely and effectively with the school principal and staff and to support and initiate activities that benefit our children's education, development and well-being. The committee meets regularly to organise its activities.

Recent activities of the Parents' Association

- Fundraising activities (see across)
- Contribution of funding made to the school's Literacy Lift Off Programme
- Purchase of 16 ipads for school use
- Hosting of party after First Holy Communion
- Paying for: Inflatables for sports day; Ice Cream van visit; Christmas selection boxes etc.
- Reviewing and offering comment on various school policies
- Submission made to Athlone Boundary Review Commission

At a glance... Funds raised over the last year

• Dunnes Stores Bag Pack (Oct '15)	€901
• Tesco Bag Pack (Dec '15)	€1,217
• Collections at School Christmas Concerts (Dec '15)	€960
• Copper collection in each classroom (April '16)	€637
• Sponsorship from local businesses (Spring '16)	€1,200
• Tesco Community Fund—Blue Tokens (Spring '16)	€250
• Tesco Bag Pack (Sept '16)	€823
• Pupil Annual Personal Insurance Scheme (Sept '16)	€606



Bag packing at Tesco

Fundraising

Although the Parents Association is active in many aspects of school life, we are probably most conspicuous by our fundraising activities. Through fundraising, financial support is provided for many activities and resources in the school for which no other funding exists.

Recent fundraising efforts allowed the Parents' Association to make a €3,000 contribution to the Literacy Lift Off Programme which commenced in Cloonakilla this September. This contribution was required in order for the programme to go ahead. The funding was used primarily for the purchase of graded readers and other materials which will benefit all children in the school. Funds were also used for some of the other activities listed above.

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Thank you

A big thank you to all the parents and guardians who have volunteered their time over the last year at bag packing events, Christmas concerts, Communion party etc. ***The activities of the Parents' Association relies solely on parents/guardians volunteering their help!***

Many thanks also to the school's Board of Management; Principal Mary O'Rourke and all the school staff for their ongoing support to the Parents' Association.

Also many thanks to the following local businesses who have recently contributed sponsorship to the Literacy Lift Off Programme at Cloonakilla:

Grovelands Childcare, Corrán Riada	€500
Kennedy's Service Station	€200
Alkermes	€150
Hazel's Beauty Salon	€100

Other sponsors included Savoury Fare; Barber Bobs; Jump for Joy; Brian Melinn and Glendeer Pet Farm. We are very grateful for these local businesses support of this worthwhile programme.



Committee members counting funds raised

Upcoming Super-Valu Bag Pack

Friday 25th and Saturday 26th November.

Can you help out for an hour or two?
Please contact Brenda on 087 195 3084



MYCalendar – a personalised 2017 calendar designed by your child. Part of PA fundraising plans. More details coming soon....

AGM

Wednesday 9th November 2016

8.30 pm

In old school building

Your attendance is most welcome!

How can you help the work of the Parents' Association?

- Come along to the AGM on 9th November
- Join the committee (A great way to meet other parents!)
- Volunteer to help out with various events
- Offer your views or ideas to any of the committee members on future projects, fundraisers, public talks, social events or any ideas that you feel may be of benefit to the school community



Feel free to contact any of the current committee: John Brennan (Co Treasurer); Hazel Brennan; Lisa Byrne; Catherine Cooney; Emma Cooney; Jolene Cummins; Anne Fallon; Susanne Kelleher; John Meares (Treasurer); Brenda Molloy (Vice Secretary) Tel.(087) 1953084; Kevin Murray (Vice Chairperson) Tel.(087) 6179791; Sinead Nolan (Secretary) Tel. (087)1126 596; Joe Hurley; Steve O'Donohue (Chairperson) Tel. (085) 711 9602; Dolores Waldron; Fiona Walshe