

Ardscoil Mhuire Parents Committee meeting

18th September 2023

Present: Committee members - Mary Cuddy (Chair), Marie Monaghan, Terri Farrell, Joanne Trappe, Anne Yore (minutes)

Pauric Hanlon (Principal), Ludhir Upadhayay, Auriene Nascimento, Joan Garvey.

Agenda	Discussion	Action
New parents welcome	Welcome to the new parents and brief overview of meetings	
Principal's Report	Pauric provided report for Parent's Association. Key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The 86 new students in 1st year have settled well.• Coffee morning with guest speakers planned for parents/guardians of 1st years – 29th Sept• Full staff in place despite challenging recruitment times• Resource sharing with Garbally college is offering students a broader range of subjects• Consultation process regarding future of secondary education in Ballinasloe is completed. School will be requesting a statement from the two patrons, CEIST and Bishop of Clonfert, in terms of the outcome and plan moving forward.• School choir will be participating in an RTE televised mass next Sunday (24th Sept) to celebrate Mercy Day and also performing at a CEIST conference next week• Current Board of Management will be changing with gratitude to the out-going two parents on the Board.	

Proposed dates for four open meetings of Parents Association	<p>Mon 18th September 2023 Mon 20th November 2023 Mon 22nd January 2024 Mon 25th March 2024 These are on the school calendar on the website</p>	
Date for AGM	<p>Mon 20th November</p>	
Upcoming Coffee morning for 1st year parents/guardians	<p>School have arranged three short presentations for parent’s coffee morning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker with a focus on Importance of Sleep and research behind this • Home School Community Liaison Service • Information for parents on subject choice <p>Pauric said that the Parents Association committee were also welcome to talk at this. Agreed that a leaflet handed out at the coffee morning might be best approach – giving a brief outline of the function of the association, welcoming parent participation and providing dates of AGM and meetings ahead.</p>	<p>Pauric offered to draft some short info regarding the Parents Association for a handout</p>
Card Game	<p>Progressive 25 card game has been used as a way of raising awareness of the school within the community while also raising some funds. Agreed to run this again this year on Sunday 28th January.</p>	<p>Parents Association committee to organise the card game.</p>
Guest Speakers	<p>Pauric outlined some guest speakers planned for the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Bully For You’ – anti-bullying workshops for the students and an online workshop for Parents/Guardians. This is supported by Galway Rural Development funding. • Study Skills – Sean Lally. Workshops for 3rd year and 6th year students. Also talk for parents/guardians planned. <p>Also suggested is a guest speaker on Coco’s Law which is very important for students and parents to be aware of the implications of this law. Aim for this in the springtime.</p>	<p>The Parents Association are happy to provide some financial support for a guest</p>

<p>Presentation to 6th year Student</p> <p>AOB</p>	<p>Pauric also highlighted the increasing prevalence of vaping among young people in the community. May consider a talk on the dangers of vaping next year.</p> <p>It is tradition that the Parents Association make a presentation to the student with the highest leaving certificate points. Marie has arranged a personalised handcrafted gift by a local artist. The student will also be presented with the perpetual Centenary cup and her name will be added to this. Presentation will occur on Mon 25th Sept. The top students had only a single point between them. Appeals may change the order or put students on par with each other but this won't be known before the presentation. If there is a change, the Parent's Association will consider a second personalised gift.</p> <p>Discussion re a proposal of a new reward from the Parent's Association for the highest achiever on the LCA course in addition to the existing highest Leaving Cert award. Everyone was in favour of this inclusive approach. A rep from the Parent's Association will attend the awards – Mary or Marie.</p> <p>The Child Safeguarding Statement was updated on 22/08/23</p>	<p>speaker on Coco's Law. Pauric will seek some further information on this.</p> <p>Marie will check possibility of getting a personalised gift for the LCA highest achiever award. Pauric will get a costing for a perpetual LCA Achiever/Recognition Cup. Parent's Association will fund this.</p>
---	---	--