

St Mochta's Parents' Association

Spring Newsletter – March 2015



The Parents' Association would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported our fundraising activities during the last term, especially the Christmas Fair. This includes the eighty plus volunteers, without whom the day would not have been such a success, our sponsors and everyone who came along and supported us so generously. We are delighted to inform you that we have raised a total of €16,000.

The monies raised will be used for a variety of projects as well as our regular activities such as Communion, Confirmation and Graduation events; evening talks, Santa visiting the school at Christmas etc. No money raised through the Parent's Association activities is used to fund the deficit in the schools running costs. Funds are used to provide for specific needs which are identified by the committee members of the Parents' Association, for instance the provision of a suite of iPads for the school in 2014.

One of the main projects we are undertaking is an upgrade of the school hall. It is used daily by the students, provides a place to exhibit art and project work, and it is also frequented by members of the wider school community. As you may be aware we are hoping work will commence on the new school build in the next few years; however the current hall will remain in place until phase two of the build so the children will benefit from this investment. The upgrade of the hall will include painting and replacement of broken or missing ceiling tiles, but no major capital investment.

We are also hoping to provide additional bicycle racks within the school grounds. The

current bicycle rack is fully utilized and we hope additional racks would encourage more cycling and alleviate some of the traffic congestion.

Once again, the school is running a book fair during world book week from 2nd – 6th March and parent volunteers will help out at this event. The commission from sales at this fair allows the school to buy new books for the each classroom.

As you know the Parents' Association has activities throughout the coming year and we look forward to:

- Parent Talks: **Thursday 5th March** @7.30pm. *Healthy eating and Building Resilience in children*
- Clothing collection date tbc.
- Communion Celebrations **9th & 16th May**
- Confirmation Celebrations **19th May**
- Parent Talk: *Road Safety*, date tbc
- Graduation Celebrations
- Parent Talk: *Positive Parenting and Positive Discipline*, **Tuesday 8th September**

The Parents' Association belongs to every parent or guardian of a child in St Mochta's, so if you have any ideas for events, would like to become a committee member or would like to be included on our volunteer database, please contact us at parentsassociation@stmochtass.ie.