



## **Meeting of Parents Association 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

A meeting of the Parents Association took place in the school on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

**Attendance:** Fiona Herbst, Mary Johnston, Michelle Callaghan, Grace Shiels, Margaret Black, Helen Hayes Sweeney.

John Lynch- Staff Member

**Apologies:** Patricia Orsi, Emma Mc Ginley, Noreen Mills, Noelle Mc Laughlin, Aoife Allison, Jane Mc Gettigan, Helen Cannon, Eileen Lockhart

**Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were distributed. All minutes are available on the school website.

### **Matters Arising:**

In her absence, Margaret O Connor, Principal, sent updates re the following:

-her sincere thanks to all members of the Parents Association for their help & support during the school musical.

- study skills workshop has been organised for January 2018 & an evening session will be open to all parents. A study week to be held in the school will focus on 'how to study' rather than on the content of a subject. John Lynch also told the meeting that teachers of First Years were advising students re the best study methods for the various subjects. Members of the Senior Leadership Team have undertaken to survey last year's Leaving Certs re useful study habits.

-all parents have been sent a information leaflet re the Junior Cert.

John Lynch informed the meeting that a date for workshops on Cyber Safety was being arranged.

### **Correspondence:**

A letter from the school's Gaelbhreach Committee had been received by & replied to by the secretary. The Parents Association promised any support the committee needed.

It was decided that it was not worthwhile joining the National Parents Council or the Parents Association of Community/Secondary.

Re Mobile Cardiac Screening for pupils – it was decided to consult Dr. David, cardiologist at Letterkenny University Hospital, re the effectiveness of ECG testing in regard to the prevention of Sudden Adult Death, before making a decision.

A thank you card was received from the production team involved in the School Musical.

### **School Musical:**

The Chairperson thanked all who had helped in any way during the musical. It was agreed to donate 1067.45, the profit made from 'The Tuck' to the school.

### **Craft Fair:**

Members of the Parents Association would be required to provide tea/coffee & hot chocolate at the Christmas Fair on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 6-9pm.

### **Any Other Business:**

- It was brought to the attention of the meeting that all parents are not receiving all correspondence – either by email or letter. Some parents were receiving no correspondence while others received some emails/letters but not others.
- The text sent out to assess the seriousness of this was misinterpreted by many parents who assumed it was a message for Junior Cert parents only.
- A message for parents of 2<sup>nd</sup> year pupils was not received by some of the relevant parents but was received by parents who had children in other years.
- The majority of parents who apologised that they were unable to attend the meeting, had only received notification on the day by text & Facebook. Concern was expressed at these communication difficulties & their potential impact on parental awareness & involvement.
- John Lynch mentioned that discussions would take place with students shortly re the appropriate use of email by students when they are contacting a teacher. It was not advisable to use these emails to convey any matters of a confidential nature & the language & tone used must be respectful & reflect the student/teacher relationship. Students should be reminded to log out of the system when a class ends. Parents are reminded to use [admin@loretomilford.net](mailto:admin@loretomilford.net) unless they are contacting a Year Head.

The next meeting of the Parents Association will take place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm.