

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) SCOIL BHRIDE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Tuesday September 13th 2022 19:30-21:30

The meeting was held in Scoil Bhride School Hall. Parents were notified via message on Aladdin and a post on the school website

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the last AGM
2. Chairperson's Report
3. Secretary's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Presentation of cheque to Ms Hennessey
6. Principal Address
7. Election of New PA Committee
8. Guest Speaker – Community Garda Shane Smyth

1. Minutes of September 2021 AGM

Question was put to the committee and parents present, if there were any points to discuss from the September 2021 AGM minutes.

There were none and it was proposed by Ailish Sheehan and seconded by Cara Ronan

2. Chairperson's Report

Colette O'Byrne welcomed everyone to our first face to face Parents Association AGM in 3 years and noted a real sense of normality returning for the children as they are settling back into school at this stage. Colette has been Chairperson of the PA for the past 3 years and a new Chairperson was elected at the AGM for the coming 3-year term.

Colette has been a member of the PA Committee for the past 7 years and was thanked for her great work with the PA over the last 3 years.

The purpose of the AGM is to update the parent body on the activities and events that the PA committee have been involved in during the past year, to account for the money we have fundraised and spent on activities and events for the children and the school. We also use this meeting to elect new members to the PA, to re-elect any existing members who wish to remain on the committee and to elect some committee members into officer roles for the coming year. Each year committee members stand down and if they so choose put themselves forward for re-election. We currently have 15 people who will continue in the committee from last year. Under our constitution we can have a max of 22 in our committee, so we have space for 7 new members.

Colette thanked all Committee members for their work last year and gave a special thanks to the 3 members of last year's Committee for their contribution to the Committee last year but who are leaving the Committee for the coming year- Noel Delaney (previous Treasurer), Evelyn Andrews Vice Minutes Secretary) and Susanne Moyles.

Colette also thanked Louise Johnston – the current teacher’s rep who has agreed to stay on as teacher’s rep for the coming year. Louise has been an excellent Teachers Representative for the PA over the past few years highlighting and supporting PA activities . Last year Louise had kindly agreed to help with the production of a video on the PA’s role and activities for parents in an effort to promote the work of the PA Committee and the Parents’ Association. For a variety of reasons, not Louise’s fault, this project didn’t get this off the ground last year but at next month’s meeting, this could be one of the goals for the new PA Committee in the coming year if members are in agreement?

Colette also thanked all the teachers, the Principal Ms Hennessey, Deputy Principal Ms Heneghan and the Board of Management, all of whom, together with the Parents' Association (PA) work together for the benefit of the children in the school.

A brief section of the Parents Association Constitution was read for the benefit of those new to the school or to these meetings. Further discussion on the Parents Association constitution will be left to the October 2022 meeting. A copy of it can be found on the PA section of the school website which explains what the PA is and does.

3. Secretary’s Report

Caoimhe Gaine noted this was another different year for Parents' Association Committee due to the pandemic, but we did see the return of some of our events which we greatly welcomed. Our monthly meetings were held online but this appeared to work well and saw good numbers in attendance. We had great support from everyone on the Committee, including new members who joined this time last year.

Fundraising:

There were two main fundraising streams this year:

We had two ‘no uniform’ days in November and February and these were both extremely successful in raising funds to support school activities.

We were delighted to see the return of our main annual fundraiser - the sponsored walk in Donadea Forest in May. Our walk this year was very successful so a sincere thanks to everyone who supported these events and a special thank you to all the local businesses for their very generous donations to our sponsored walk raffle. A list of the local businesses who very kindly supported us this year is on our website.

Various events:

As always, the PA committee organise various other events during the year which benefit all the girls in the school:

In December we were delighted to be able to organise Christmas entertainment for all the classes. A special thanks to Santa who paid an individual visit to each classroom in the school. It was great to continue with this tradition despite Covid restrictions.

This year each child received a tub of sweets, causing great excitement and Christmas cheer.

The Confirmation and First Communion took place in March and May. The flowers in the church for both these ceremonies were funded by the Parents Associations of both Scoil Bhríde and Scoil

Phádraig. We were delighted to see the return of the Communion party and the PA hosted it for Scoil Bhríde after their communion, which proved a lovely celebration for the children and all their families.

In June, the parent's association organised the supply of cooked goods from Super Valu for tea break for the staff as a token of appreciation and this was well received.

The 6th class graduation ceremony also takes place towards the end of June to mark the end of 8 years in primary school. This was a fabulous evening where the girls and their parents were treated to a Graduation party after the celebration Mass in the school. We also produced a yearbook for the occasion, which was presented to each girl and is a lovely keepsake of their time in Scoil Bhríde.

The school website aims to update parents on various issues such as, dates of school holidays, various pa activities, children's achievements, school policies, school photographs, school events, National parent council events etc.

Also, Marina uploads the school newsletter each term. A huge thank you to Marina for all her hard work, on keeping the website up to date keeping us all well informed on all school info and activities. So please check it out.

- Treasurer's Report

Income/Expenditure Statement 2021/22	
Income	
Winter Woollies	€ 975.00
Valentines NU Day	€ 705.00
Sponsored Walk	€ 9,788.10
Total Income	€ 11,468.10
Expenditure	
Communion Party(Flowers, refreshments, decorations)	€ 1,046.04
Graduation Expenses(refreshments, Booklets)	€ 1,019.39
Christmas Activities	€ 536.00
Annual walk Expenses(refreshments & raffle prizes)	€ 448.91
Icecream Van	€ 300.00
PA Insurance	€ 215.00
Staff & Committee Gifts	€ 160.00
NPC Membership/Training	€ 100.00
Bank Charges	€ 6.00
Total Expenditure	€ 3,831.34
Income less Expenditure	€ 7,636.76

Statement of Account	
Opening Balance 1 September 2021	€ 563.00
Total Income 2021/2022	€ 11,468.10
Total Expenditure 2021/2022	-€ 3,831.34
Closing Balance 31 August 2022	€ 8,199.76

It was acknowledged that it had been a very good year for fund raising, with the ability to host the sponsored walk in Donadea Forest and the non-uniform days.

With the good response from the fundraising the PA Committee were in a position to donate €5,000 to Scoil Bhríde as noted below.

- Presentation of Cheque to Ms Hennessy

A Cheque was present to Principal Eimear Hennessy for 5,000 Euro by Colette O'Byrne, on behalf of the PA Committee and Parents Association. These funds were secured from the highly successful PA Sponsored Walk in Donadea which took place last May.

- **Principal's Address**

Ms Hennessy thanked the Parents Association for all their work over the past year.

She thanked the PA for the donation of the €5,000 and explained how it would be used.

With everything opening up the school have started back with swimming lessons. Due to increased cost, Ms Hennessy is using €1000 of the PA donation to subsidise the cost of swimming lessons for parents in an effort to keep the costs reasonable for parents in these difficult economic times.

There we 524 Pupils enrolled this year in the school.

21 class teachers are employed also.

Registration for communion is 1st of October and Communion will be held on the 14th of May

The communion classes will join with the Communion classes from the boys school this year, which was the tradition pre Covid.

Registration for the confirmation opens on the 8th of October.

Parent Teacher night will be held on two dates.

1. Date One TBC
2. Date Two TBC

The school will offer option of in person and/or online.

Student council election TBC.

The school library has been a great success, there has been a lot of book donations.

The school were successful in receiving a Government Grant and with all the books, they are looking to invest in new shelving.

There is a great book loan system, and it is operated via the Aladdin app.

The School Musical is back and will be held between the 12th – 15th of December.

Funathon will be held on 28th of October

- Election of Officer Roles & PA Committee

Officer Roles		Proposed (1st/2nd)
Chair Person	Avril Dickson	Caoimhe Gaine
		Paul Edwards
Vice Chair	Vacant	n/a
		n/a
Secretary	Ciara Carole	Caoimhe Gaine
		Ailish Sheehan
Vice Secretary	Vacant	n/a
		n/a
Treasurer	Sharon Rourke	Colette O'Byrne
		Leonie Wilson
Vice Treasurer	Leonie Wilson	Sharon O'Rourke
		Cara Ronan
Minutes	Mags Lennon	Ailish Sheehan
		Avril Dickson
Vice Minutes	Vacant	n/a
		n/a

Parents Elected to the PA Committee 2022/2023

1. Ciara Carroll
2. Mandy Connolly
3. Avril Dixon
4. Niamh Doolan
5. Paul Edwards
6. Caoimhe Gaine
7. Marina Jordan
8. Mags Lennon
9. Jenny Mousely
10. Colette O'Byrne
11. Sharon O'Rourke
12. Triona Quinlan
13. Cara Ronan
14. Ailish Sheehan
15. Leonie Wilson

Note that all members of the PA Committee require Garda Vetting.

Summary of Positions:

- **Chair Person Role:** Oversees the goals of the PA Association and prepares the meetings
- **Secretary Role:** prepares all the communication and messages to the PA Committee
- **Minutes Role:** Prepares all minutes from the meetings and circulates them to the PA Committee and Principle
- **Treasurer Role:** Records all finance expenditure & receipts

- **Guest Speaker: Community Garda Shane Smyth**

Spoke with all in attendance about the new programme “Garda Primary Schools Programme” starting in Scoil Bhride and the Clane sub-District, with the aim to help build trust with the children and Garda.

The topics being cover by the programme are:

- Role of the Gardaí
- Personal Safety
- Halloween Safety
- Helping Neighbours
- Vandalism
- Investigating Crime
- Impact of my Behaviour on Others
- Internet Safety
- Road Safety
- Cyber Bulling

There will be an active week and the committee officers will carry out bike safety with the 3rd & 4th years in the GAA.

On the 28th of September an Open Day will be held to rein act the first Gardaí in Clane Village. It will be an interactive day and the 5th / 6th years will take part.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm with tea/coffee for everyone afterwards.