

PTA Meeting, September 2024

Present: Raymond, Aideen, Kevin, Pauline, Susanna, Claire, Liz, Sally, Nicky, Lucy, Deborah, Grace, Siobhan.

Apologies: Joanne

Previous Minutes: Proposed by Claire, seconded by Susanna.

Financial Update:

Starting balance €7011 – not including funds raised at harvest day. Susanna is owed money for gardening supplies. It was agreed that this can be taken from the money raised on harvest day. Sara and Elaine to be authorised signatures on account. Card machine for the PTA to be discussed with bank when signatures are being changed.

Parent Rep Group:

The coffee morning for junior infant parents was a great success. Information was given and there were a lot of parents interested in getting involved. A form was made available for parents to join the infant's class Whatsapp groups. These class groups have been working well and there are reps in place for both infant classes. 2 parents have made contact about setting up Whatsapp group chats for the special classes.

Gardening:

Harvest day was a great success. There was a lot of interest and a good turn out on the day. The tuck shop was 100% homemade goods. There was €423.35 raised.

Gardening will be commencing in October – dates to follow. All classes will be out individually. Won't be taking place on Fridays anymore. Parents are welcome to join, for their own child's classes or for as long as they want during the day. The school has agreed to fund half the cost, the PTA will fund the other half.

Mobile Phone Policy:

The results of the poll was - 143 agreed to not give smart mobile phones until secondary school and 21 families did not wish to take part. Children would be allowed to have phones that can be used for texting and calling. New parents to the school will be asked to take part in the poll.

Homework Policy:

Results from the poll and updates will be posted on Aladdin.

Next step is to speak with staff again, maybe eliminate homework for juniors. Policy will continue as is but will change later in the term.

Infant Welcome Event:

Scavenger hunt for junior and senior infants to take place on 22nd of September. Grace and Sally have offered to assist with planning this event.

Creagh Lane:

Ongoing reports of Creagh College students littering and vaping in the laneway beside the school. Creagh to visit the 6th class pupils in GETNS over the next few weeks. Raymond will discuss these matters with them then.

Bus Engines:

Some buses have older engines so need to be warmed prior to starting.

Autumn Disco:

Proposed date - 18th of October. Raymond will contact DJ to check availability. Check with Olive regarding popcorn machine. Send a reminder to families regarding drink containers.

Christmas Raffle:

Raymond will organise a letter. Have an option on Aladdin to pay for tickets.

AOB:

- Bike Buddies – Helps children to learn road safety and proficiency. Aideen will make an enquiry with company.
- Whatsapp Policy for groups – Joanne is working on this
- Times allocated for break – Raymond will send reminder to all teachers.
- Fit for Class – Raymond will take a look at the information provided.
- Christmas cards or school calendar as potential fundraiser options.

Next Meeting:

AGM/PTA meeting, Thursday, 10th of October.