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**NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2016**

**PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)**

The new Parent Teacher Association was elected at the AGM on Friday 16th September.

Outgoing Chairperson Louise O’Hanlon was replaced by Sarah Duku, outgoing Treasurer Lisa Browne was replaced by both Wendy Dudgeon-Vion and John Matthews who will co-share the role, and Sinead Pentony was re-elected as Secretary. The PTA and the Board of Management would like to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to Louise and Lisa for their hard work and commitment over the previous two years.

The following is a complete list of current PTA members. Meetings are held monthly so if you have any suggestions, queries or concerns please feel free to approach any of the members, or private mail the school Facebook page and they will do their best to help.

Chairperson: Sarah Duku (3rd Class)

Treasurers: Wendy Dudgeon-Vion (Junior Infants)

 John Matthews (Senior Infants and 1st Class)

Secretary: Sinead Pentony (Senior Infants and Coiscéim)

Members: Jenny Walker (Senior Infants and 6th Class)

 Antonia Shelley (Senior Infants/School Office)

 Sergei Bistrov (Senior Infants)

 Anna-Maria Stasiak (Junior Infants, 1st Class and 3rd Class)

 Barbara Cullen (2nd Class)

 Nicole Kerber (Junior Infants)

 Linda Lynch (Junior Infants)

 Sanobar Nomani (Junior Infants)

Teachers: Pauline Loreille

 Paul Carolan

Congratulations to teachers Ciara and Naomi on their successful PTA monthly grant application for €150 for Maths equipment.  The new games and resources have arrived and the 2nd class children are enjoying using them in the Maths stations.

**COOKBOOK UPDATE:**

The PTA is thrilled with the response to the International Cookbook Fundraiser! We received almost 90 recipes from countries all over the world which will all be published in the cookbook.

Joe Andrews from Picture Perfect Photography spent three days in school taking fantastic photos of all the children with their class groups. Huge thanks to all the parents who volunteered to come in to school to assist with the photoshoots, providing props and costumes and helping to get all the children ready. A special mention must go to Anna Maria Stasiak and Vilma Dapkeviciute who made chef’s hats and colourful aprons with less than 24 hours notice and to the parents who volunteered to type up and edit all the recipes that were submitted.

Paul is now very busy typesetting the final publication which will be launched at an International Food Day on Thursday 24th November at a cost of €10 per book. We are sure that parents will be very impressed with the end result and hope that you get good use out of it. All proceeds raised will be going towards our next exciting venture - the establishment of a school garden! A separate Garden Committee has been set up, headed by 4th Class teacher, Brian who will be working with parents on this project.

**BOARD OF MANAGEMENT PARENT REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED:**

Following the departure of Louise Mahony from the Board of Management, a new **female** Parent Representative is needed immediately. The current BOM is in situ until December 2019 and a meeting for the by election will be scheduled in coming weeks and all parents notified by text. Anyone who is interested in nominating either themselves or another parent is invited to come along.

The Board is responsible for, among other things:

* Ensuring the quality of pupil learning
* Recruitment of staff
* Ensuring the high quality of teaching
* Developing and reviewing school policies
* Dealing with child protection issues

This is a fantastic opportunity for one of our mothers or female guardians to bring a parental perspective to these issues.

**SCHOOL NEWS:**

**After School Activities:** Our after school activities programme has been a great success – offering Tennis, Basketball, Gymnastics and Dance classes to all age groups. Instructors are now taking bookings and payment for next term. Please contact them directly with any queries (all details are on the school Facebook page and website, or available from the office).

**Garda Sports Day success:** Congratulations to our 5th and 6th Classes who attended the annual Garda Sports Day on 12th October and beat off strong competition from other national schools in the area to WIN the Tom Connolly Memorial Shield! Their teachers – Des, Lisa, Paula and Orla – put a huge amount of effort into getting the children ready and certainly reaped the rewards on the day.

**Milk Scheme:** The introduction of the school milk scheme has been a great success with the 125 children who registered receiving a carton milk in school every day for just €1 a week. Many thanks to Pauline for setting this up.

**Reading Scheme:** A big thank you to our parent volunteers who are listening to the children's reading weekly in class. We currently have volunteers in First to Fourth class. The reading sessions have been very enjoyable for all involved. Any parents or guardians interested in helping out with **reading or maths** can contact Pauline. We would love to get more volunteers involved.

**CLEVER CLOGS AFTERSCHOOL SERVICE:**

Clever Clogs have introduced a new **afterschool service** in addition to the **link hour** that they offer to Junior and Senior Infants from 1.30-2.30pm every day. Parents can book their children in until 5.30pm on a daily or weekly basis at very low rates. Please contact Kerrie for more information and to book your place on 0860383903 or email: kerrielj@eircom.net

**REMINDERS:**

* Parent – Teacher meetings are scheduled for **28th November – 2nd December 2016**. Appointment times will be sent home 2 weeks beforehand.
* School fees for 2016/17 are due by Friday 2nd December. You can pay via Aladdin or with cash or card in the office. Thanks to all who have made payments so far.
* **School is closed for one week from Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November for mid term break**

Aston Village ETNS

**Thursday 27th October 2016**

Junior Infants – 1st Class Disco : **5.30pm-6.30pm**

2nd-6th Class Disco : **7pm – 8pm**

Cost: €3 per child (pay at the door)

Entry to raffle : €2 (optional)

Wear your favourite costume!



**Parent volunteers are needed to supervise so if you can spare some time on Thursday evening then please give your name and number to Antonia in the office and somebody from the PTA will be in touch with you. Children will not be permitted to leave the school without an adult so please ensure that your child is collected promptly by a parent or guardian.**