

Citywest & Saggart Community National School

# Parents Association NEWSLETTER

September 2016 (6)



## A WELCOME FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL MRS O.DOHERTY

**A HUGE WELCOME** back to Citywest & Saggart CNS and a special welcome to our new families and our new students. Four years ago the school's doors opened with just 19 children. There are now 272 children filling our classrooms. We are going from strength to strength each year. Although Mr Conboy is not present with us at the moment, he is very interested in all we do whenever I speak to him. Working with Mr Conboy has

been the highlight of my teaching career and I look forward to working with him again in the future. Meanwhile in his absence the members of the staff have continued to be dedicated and passionate about their teaching and maintaining the important ethos of our school. We will continue to work with our whole school community to progress and develop a learning environment that is both inclusive, challenging and fun. Communication

with our parents forms an essential part of our school - please feel free to contact your class teacher or myself if you have any queries or suggestions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the school community for the well wishes and words of encouragement I have received. I look forward to working with you all and leading the development of our much loved school over the next year.

## A WELCOME FROM THE PA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON MRS A.CARTER

**A BIG WELCOME BACK** after what I hope was a great summer for all of our families!! On the behalf of our Parents Association I would especially like to welcome all our new parents to Citywest & Saggart CNS. I hope your children are settling in well at school. We have another exciting year of

events ahead and I look forward to meeting all of you over the coming months. Yet again our newsletter is full of great articles and information for you, with a little taster of some of our upcoming events. I hope you enjoy it and find it interesting!!  
**Happy reading & see you soon!**



## HIGHLIGHTS OF FUNDRAISING by Anthony Dunne



Fundraising is another important aspect of the Parent Association's role. We hold a series of fund raising events throughout the year with the aim of generating funds to donate to the school for vital resources and educational materials. So far every year we have successfully increased funds by 25% and we are very grateful for all your support and contributions. This year we are on target for raising over €7,000. This year's top spot goes to the Spon-

sored Walk. The event generated €2279, an increase of €229 compare to last year. In second place was the Table Quiz with €1600 just as it was last year. This was a great night out and the fun was abundant with many prizes donated by local businesses. We held a new fundraising event this year to see which classroom could collect the most 1&2 cent coins in line with the plan to phase them out as part of Ireland's rounding initiative. In total €960 was collected by all the children. Brilliant work! The annual Disco event this year raised a total of €577, an increase of 168% as compared to last year. In keeping with the growth of the school, we hope it will be fully supported again in the coming year. Recycling event generated €315 in keeping with last year, but we would hope more people would "Go Green" this year. The annual Family Fun Day is a way for the Parent Association to give a little back, allowing everyone to come together for a "Day of Fun". The funds

generated on the day covered the cost of hosting the event this year. Before the year is closed out we will be having our annual Bake Sale to add to our final fundraising kitty for FY 15/16. I would welcome everyone to donate to the event and make a purchase so we can close the year out on a high.



**OCTOBER**

14<sup>th</sup> October - Recycling Collection  
28<sup>th</sup> October - Bake Sale

**NOVEMBER**

18<sup>th</sup> November—Bingo Fundraiser  
24<sup>th</sup> November - Parents Association Annual General Meeting

by Eliza-Jane Branning

## HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR SUMMER EVENTS by Eliza-Jane Branning

**SPONSORED WALK:** The Annual Parents Association Sponsored Walk took place on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016. It was a sun kissed day and perfect for walking. The whole school population took part in the walk including teachers and a good number of parents as helpers. The route commenced from the school play ground, along Fortunestown road, through Carrigmore Residential Estate and back to the school's playground. Everyone involved in this event thoroughly enjoyed it. It was a great success. This event managed to raise the amount of €2,277 for the school.

**FAMILY FUN DAY:** We held our Summer Family Fun day and barbeque on 25<sup>th</sup> June in St. Marys GAA and it turned out to be another great day. There were many fun-filled activities for the children and their parents and family members to enjoy. These included: Pet Farm, Pony Rides, Disco and stalls with treats and games. We will like to say a big Thank You to our two main chefs on the day: Anthony and Jeff. Through their expertise we had some yummy food from the barbeque to keep our energy going for the day!!! We are already looking forward to our Summer 2017 event!



by Eliza-Jane Branning

The Parents Association held their **Annual Coffee Morning for New Parents** on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September. It was good to see some new parents and some old faces there to catch up after the summer break.

We are really looking forward to getting to know the new school children and their parents who have joined the school this year!!

# Coming Soon

## RECYCLING CAMPAIGN

by Allison Carter

Time for a clear out of the summer wardrobe?? Are there unwanted clothes, shoes or soft toys cluttering much needed space in your home??

**Well, we have the solution!!**

After the success of previous collections, the Parents Association is holding another recycling campaign to raise money for our school.

The collection will take place on **Friday 14th October** and the income raised from the collection will go towards our purchase of educational iPads for the school.

**What can you do??** Simply bag up any items that are disused and leave it in

the school lobby any day **from Monday 19th September until Thursday 13th October**. There will be an area marked for the bag drop. The list of accepted items is below. It's a Win-Win situation. You could create space in your home by clearing out unwanted clothes/textiles and our school will benefit! **Thanks in advance for your support!!**

### ACCEPTED ITEMS FOR RECYCLING

- Men's/women's/children's clothing,
- paired shoes,
- bags,
- belts,
- soft toys,
- household textiles (i.e. towels and curtains) and
- laptops and phones.



by Nicola Fitzpatrick

The Annual Citywest and Saggart CNS **Bake Sale** will be held on **Friday October the 28th**. Cakes will be on sale between 12pm and 3pm in the foyer of the school. This is a big fundraising event for the school and all your help and support is much appreciated. All donations for the Bake Sale can be handed in **on the morning of the 28th**. All baked and bought goods greatly accepted. Many thanks.



## COIN COLLECTION by Clare Cuffe

We wish to congratulate all the pupils (and generous parents) on the recent coin collecting project. It's amazing how all the small pennies add up. We raised a whopping **€960**.

Well done to all the classes on this fantastic achievement.

A big congratulations to the pupils in **room 7** who were rewarded with their medals for raising the most amount of money in the just past

academic year.

As this project has been such a big success the Parents Association will be running the Coin Collection again in the coming weeks. So please keep those 1c, 2c and 5c coming, as you can see every coin counts! Thank you.

## DESIGN A CARD by Melissa Harman

Following on from last year, we will once again be running the Design A Card project.

This is a fundraising event whereby the children illustrate a card of their own choosing i.e Christmas, Easter, Thank You, Eid, Birthday or Abstract themes! They are then professionally printed and parents have the option of purchasing packs of 6 or 12 cards as well as gift wrap and gift tags. Each child's name, class and school is printed on the back of each card.

This year, in order to ensure that parents are happy with their child's art work, we will be **inviting parents into the school to help their child illustrate their card**. For parents that will be at work, a grandparent, relative or friend of the family will be most welcome. This will probably apply to parents of children in Junior and Senior infants and will take no more than 30 minutes.

A date and time will be confirmed soon!



# AGM

Annual General Meeting

**The Annual General Meeting (AGM)** for the Parents Association will take place this year on **Thursday 24th November 2016** in the school. This is a very important meeting for new and old parents/guardians. The Parents Association raises a significant amount of money through fundraising events during the year. During the meeting the Parents Association's Treasurer will give a broad overview of the finances of the Parents Association.

In view of the school's recent purchase of first aid equipment, a member of the Parents Association will be on site to demonstrate basic first aid tips. I believe that it will be beneficial

to all those who will attend the meeting.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Parents Association there are three places available for the new members each year. We are looking for parents/guardians of all classes to make themselves available for these places on the Parents Association Committee. The Committee meets one night a month. We need a good representation of our various communities on the Committee to ensure that our outcomes are wholesome. We hope that most of the parents will attend this important meeting. Your presence will be fully appreciated.

by Gillian Doyle

# BINGO

by Adele West-Curran

As part of our schools ongoing commitment to charity and our community we are commencing a yearly fundraising event as part of the Parents Association events programme.

This will be a yearly event with all the proceeds going to a designated charity chosen by the school/Parents Association.

The inaugural event will be **A Family Bingo Night** that will be held on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November in St Mary's GAA**.

This will be a family event with all members of the family invited with lots of prizes for both parents and children alike.

The proceeds of the event this year will be donated to recently bereaved families in our school.

We hope that every family in the school will get behind us on this as we endeavour to show our charitable commitment to our community.

## EID AL-ADHA by Māra Prah

On 16<sup>th</sup> September The Citywest & Saggart CNS Muslim community organized a Coffee Morning for all parents to celebrate and learn about the meaning of Eid al-Adha. Tables in the Staff room were full with delicious food; in the air was the aroma of coffee and tea for the parents who came over.

Eid al-Adha, the Festival of Sacrifice is the second of two Muslim Holidays celebrated worldwide each year and considered the holier of the two. It honours the willingness of Ibrahim (Abraham) to sacrifice his son, as an act of submission to God's command, before God then intervened sending his angel Jibra'il (Gabriel) to inform him that his sacrifice had already been accepted.

This year the festival started on September 12. Festival lasts for four days.

The Parents Association will like to extend our gratitude to **Joanna and John Hyland** who made it possible for the printed edition. Thank you to **Nicola Fitzpatrick** for providing umbrellas to the Set-down service volunteers.