**Castletown National School Parents Association Committee**

**Minutes of General Meeting – Monday 29th January 2020 – 7.30pm**

**Location: Scoil Ghormain Naofa, Castletown, Gorey, Co Wexford**

Attendees: Margaret Tallon (Chairperson)

Caroline Dixon (Treasurer)

Emer Russell (Principal)

Ann Kavanagh

Sinead Fanning (BOM)

Siobhan Carley

Fiona Kelly

Apologies: Rochelle Kinsella

Bernard White

Concept Church

Fiona Blackwell

Kate Rolland

Esther Hope

Lisa Hempenstall

Deirdre Jordan

Eilis Kavanagh

**Agenda Items discussed**

1. **Chairpersons Welcome and Introductions (Margaret Tallon)**

Margaret Tallon kicked off the meeting by thanking the above named attendees for coming and acknowledged the parents who sent their apologies.Acknowledge that James Neville (Secretary) was appointed to the board – no secretary in place at present and cannot run a committee from a financial standpoint. Emer Russell confirmed that she would check to see if James could remain on in name only. Need to canvas to identify a replacement for the Secretary position.

1. **Update – Halloween Disco Fundraiser – October 2020 (Caroline Dixon)**

A total of circa €1,000 made on the night – 25th October 2019 – another successful fund raiser for the PA.

1. **Balance in PA Bank Account – (Caroline Dixon)**

A total of €1,155 in the account at present (as at 29/01/2020)

1. **Review of potential fundraising events and activities – Ideas and Suggestions (All)**
   1. **Pancake Tuesday** – confirmed as the **25th February 2020** – Concepta Church to organise – other helpers are most welcome – Emer Russell to send a reminder on DoJo and Margaret Tallon will send a note out to the Whats App group.
   2. **Grandparents Day** – confirmed as **6th March 2020** – Mass at 10am, followed by tea/coffee in the Parish Hall (to be confirmed). Emer Russell to send a note out on DoJo and Margaret Tallon will send a note out to the Whats App group – looking for volunteers and food donations.
   3. **Easter Egg Hunt** (potentially link to Active Flag) – The PA will donate the Eggs for the hunt – 6th Class to organise the hunt on behalf of the school.
   4. **Communions** - confirmed for **Sunday** **24th May 2020** - Emer Russell to send a note out on DoJo and Margaret Tallon will send a note out to the Whats App group – looking for volunteers and food donations. Volunteers ideally are parents from the current 1st Class – usual tradition in the school.
   5. **Confirmations** - It was acknowledged there are no confirmations during this term (2019/2020).
   6. **Croghan Walk** – **Date confirmed as 1st May 2020:**
      1. Marshalls – 4/5 required – names to be confirmed, teachers are also on hand to help on the day;
      2. High Viz Jackets – Caroline Dixon on point to organise;
      3. Fruit Pots – Cullens – Ann Kavanagh on point to organise;
      4. Sponsorship Cards - €2 per line – max 10 lines – 1 card per family – Margaret Tallon on point to organise;
      5. Megaphone – Fiona Byrne on point to organise;
   7. **Sports Day** – **Date confirmed as 19th June 2020:**
      1. BBQ – Tom/Margaret Tallon, Esther Hope, Fiona Kelly to provide BBQs – potential volunteers on the day – Tom/Margaret Tallon, Esther Hope, James Neville, Pat Purcell
      2. Food – O’Loughlins – Concepta Church to potentially organise – Burgers, Buns, Onions etc.
      3. Medals – Emer Russell to confirm how many medals are current in stock/left over from 2019 sports day;
      4. Races – Mr Breen to coordinate – Michael Kavanagh and Jack Kavanagh to assist with set up;
   8. **Paired Reading – Kate Walsh** – it was acknowledged during the meeting that Kate Walsh has done an outstanding job in organising the paired reading for this school term. Thanks to all parents and grandparents who give of their time for paired reading. Looking for Kate to organise a stand on sports day to promote with new and existing parents for 2020/2021 term.
   9. **6th Class – Graduation Gift from PA –** will fund the hoodies for the 6th Class Students again this year – Emer/Carmel to organise.
2. **Uniforms**

No update for this meeting – will discuss at next meeting.

1. **Emer Russell – Principal/School Update**

* IPADs – school received a private donation of €1,000 euro from a parent – allowed the school to purchase some IPADs.
* Bricks 4 Kids – attending the school on a weekly basis;
* Potential - Little Medical School – explore the relationship between engineering and medical innovation – potential event for the school - looking for funding from the PA for the school (circa 450 to 500 Euro needed).
* Potential – West Midlands Childrens Theatre Touring Ltd – Product: “The King of Copenhagen” – another potential event for the school.
* Green School – all actions are going really well at the moment.
* Visit of Santa Claus to the school in December 2019 – thank you to the PA for funding this visit.
* Arklow Music Festival – Week 1 – March 2020 – all classes will take part over a 1 week period.
* Music Generation – it was acknowledge that this initiative is an outstanding success – thank you to the PA for part funding this. Would look to bring in again for next term 2020/2021
* Literacy Games to support new Primary Language Curriculum will be purchased with proceeds from Christmas concert
* Christmas Concert – fantastic funding received – donated to the Womens Shelter (150 Euro)
* Rackard League – Presentation for Winners/Participants on 12/02/2020.
* Debating Teams – Co Wexford group – scheduled for 31/01/2020.
* Participation in Credit Union Quiz.
* Participation in the Spelling Bee
* Acknowledged thanks to the PA for all their participation and funding to date.

1. **Other suggestions for Events**

* Clay Mazing – afterschool activity – Fiona Kelly to come back to the group with more information.
* Junior Achievers – Elavon (Local company) have a total of 6 Castletown parents who will take part in this initiative in 2020 with each class – a wide variety of topics will be discussed with each class.
* Potential run an activity to mark – International Women’s Day – 9th March 2020.
* PA confirmed that they would buy a ticket for the Euro Millions Syndicate for the Castletown GAA club – total 50 Euro.

1. **Parking issues**

It was acknowledge by all attendees that there is a major issue with parking in the school and there is an accident waiting to happen. Emer Russell will contact the Gardai to ask if they have any ideas or suggestions on how this can be managed and tackled.

Meeting closed.

These minutes were prepared by Margaret Tallon (Chair – Parents Association)