



## *Scoil an Linbh Íosa*

### *Parents' Association Newsletter*

*Issue 2 - December 2018*

[www.killymard.com](http://www.killymard.com)



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*Welcome to our second Newsletter. We hope all of our new families have settled in well.*

*The Parents' Association would like to wish staff, students and their families a very Happy Christmas and every good wish for 2019.*

#### **Halloween Fancy Dress Party**

This year's Halloween fancy Dress Party was held again in SKY Niteclub in the Abbey Hotel from 7.00-9.00p.m. on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October last. It was a great night with a variety of spooky costumes worn by all who attended. A total profit of €965.24 was made from this event. Thank you to our sponsors on the night - Blas, Granny Mc's, Headers, Perry Protective Clothing, Brittons Pharmacy, Dunleaveys, Morna's Patch, Leon's Barber, Gift Box, The Diamond Store and McGintys Fruit and Veg. Thank you also to all families that provided spot prizes on the night and of course a huge thank you to the Abbey Hotel for the use of Sky Niteclub to host the disco. Congratulations to all the prizewinners on the night. A sincere thanks goes to all the volunteers and committee members. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to organize this event from setting up, decorations, raffle, refreshments, supervising and the big clean up at the end. A big thank you to all our families for supporting this event.

#### **Christmas Shoe Box Appeal**

A big thank you to pupils, parents and staff who supported the Team Hope Christmas Shoe Box Appeal this year. A total of 143 Christmas gift boxes were generously donated. Your gifts will make so many young children in Eastern Europe very happy this Christmas.

Log on to <https://www.teamhope.ie/> to watch a video of children receiving their Christmas gift boxes. A chance for families to see how happy your generosity and kindness makes these children.

#### **Class Plays - GP Room**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December:** Second Class at 1.30pm.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December:** Junior & Senior Infants at 1.00pm.

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** First Class 1.30pm.

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** The Spirit of Christmas: Third-Sixth Class at 7pm in the Abbey Hotel.

#### **Christmas Trip to the Cinema**

Together with the families of the school, the PA are delighted to be able to part-fund the buses for this year's trip to the cinema in Bundoran. This is a lovely treat for all the school children and their teachers who work so hard all year and in particular in the build up to Christmas with organising and practicing for school plays.

### **Charity Cup of Tea**

A morning of tea, home bakes and chat was hosted by the families of second class after 11am mass on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November last. It took place in the Old Church, Killymard. A voluntary donation was suggested in aid of Focus Ireland, a charity for the prevention of homelessness. The morning was very well attended. It was a lovely morning for all, including the children who were treated to hot chocolate, home bakes and some festive arts & crafts to make. A total of €1100 was raised. €100 donation was made to the Old Church fund and €1000 went to Focus Ireland. Sincere thanks for all donations made. Well done to Jane Flannery and all involved.

### **January Fundraiser**

The Parents Association has been looking at new ways to raise funds for our school with minimum outlay and minimum financial pressure on parents/guardians to donate. With this in mind we have invited 'Don't Bin, Cash In' clothing bank company to visit the school in early January. They will collect good quality, unwanted clothes, shoes, handbags and belts. The company will weigh the bags of clothing on site and pay by weight for the items collected. They request the items presented for collection are in good wearable condition as they will be for re-use, as opposed to recycling. This will be an ideal opportunity for families to do an early Spring clean and set aside any unwanted items, as listed above, over the Christmas period to have them ready for donation in early January. We hope all parents/guardians would encourage other family members to donate also. Further details to follow in the new year.

### **St Patrick's Day Committee**

Preparations are already underway regarding our 2019 entry to the St. Patrick's Day parade. The parade committee have already held their first meeting in early November. The 2019 theme selected is '*Killymard School Rocks*' and is centered on celebrating our *Sense of Pride in Scoil an Linbh Íosa Killymard*. The committee want to get budding participants pondering about why *Killymard School Rocks* and what makes it a such great place to be!!!! Through their chosen theme they will be turning the spotlight on past school and individual

pupil achievements as well ongoing positive initiatives and programs promoted by the school e.g. anti-bullying, inclusiveness, diversity, green school, healthy eating, etc. Further details will issue in the New Year but this will give parents/guardians an idea of what costume to be on the look-out for, here are some details hot off the press: Think '*School of Rock*' with the dress code being mock school uniform, rock chick, rock legends or a combination of school and rock.

For the past two years we have borrowed a silent generator to power our sound system. The Parents Association has now decided to purchase our own generator. The PA are currently in the process of sourcing a generator for purchase. Aside from the St. Patrick's Day Parade, we hope it will get plenty of use for other outdoor school events such as sports day, school walks, etc.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee will be holding their next meeting in early January. All help will be greatly appreciated.

### **Pre Lent Party**

Friday 15th February 2019 is the *provisional* date set for the annual Pre Lent Party next year. This date will be confirmed in the New Year with details to follow closer to the time. The children really enjoy this event so we look forward to making it bigger and better every year. All input and new ideas are welcome and much appreciated. Parents' help and support is required to run this event. We encourage all parents to help or contribute in some way this year. Thank you.

### **Car Park Safety**

We wish to remind parents/guardians dropping off and collecting at school to refresh their knowledge on the car park safety procedures set out in the front of the student's school diaries. Wintry weather brings with it poor visibility and slippery conditions so we are asking everyone using the car parking facilities to bear this in mind and to be extra vigilant. Please be mindful of the fact pupils may be walking through the car park with their hoods up and heads down in the inclement weather.

### Garda Schools Programme

Garda Joanne Doherty is the liaison officer designated to implement the Garda Schools Programme in Scoil an Linbh Íosa. We have been in touch with Garda Doherty and she will be calling into the school in the New Year to give a presentation to the pupils. We have asked her to include in her talk the topic of road safety, which will incorporate car park safety.

\*Please take note of the following & instruct grandparents, family members & friends that transport your children of the correct procedure:

- Car Park is One Way only
- There is only a SET DOWN AREA at drop off in the morning
- You must ALWAYS Reverse & Park into your space
- Spaces directly in front of chapel are for Chapel Use only
- Be aware of other children around you
- **Please refer to your child's homework diary for procedures.**

### Keep in Touch - It's Your School

If you have any ideas or news for our next newsletter, please let any one of the committee know or email to [killymardparents@gmail.com](mailto:killymardparents@gmail.com).

### Christmas Treats to Make with The Children Over the Holidays



For the festive Santa, cut a large marshmallow in half and place a banana slice between them. (If you are not going to be eating these right away, dip the banana in lemon or orange juice to avoid browning). Top with a strawberry and small marshmallow. Use a couple of chocolate sprinkles for the eyes and an M&M for the nose. Skewer on a stick for a fun and healthy fruit pop!

The tree was just some thin apple slices with a strawberry for the star, some raspberries for the ornaments and pretzel sticks for the trunk.