

Ballynacally Parents Association.

Working together for the benefit of all our children

Date: June 2012

Newsletter 4 Edition

www.ballynacallypa.com



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The Chairpersons Address

Hi all, a big thank you to all committee members, teachers, parents and children for yet another successful and busy year. Thank you to everyone who supported our various fundraisers during the year the proceeds of which went towards activities for the children.

This year we had events ranging from the annual Hallowe'en Party and scariest mask competition, cinema in the school (complete with popcorn), to science and history shows.

We look forward to your continued support next year and would encourage many more parents to get involved in the association in anyway possible.

We extend our good wishes for a great holiday to the teachers, staff and Board of Management and we look forward to supporting you all in the coming academic year. A big thank you to Marion, school secretary for her help and courtesy at all times.

Finally, we wish all of you and the children a safe and happy summer holiday

Ta suil againn go mbainfidh sibh taineamh mor as na laethanta Saoire.

Best wishes on behalf of the committee

Caroline & Edel (co-chairs)

Our Mission Statement

To support and empower Parents to be active in the best interest of their children's educational lives.

Our Objectives

We work in partnership with the Principal, Board of Management and the whole school community for the betterment of the children in the school.

We organise extra-curricular activities, educational and fun events for the children.

Email

info@ballynacallypa.com

Secretary ... 086 6095166

Our Committee:

Officers

Caroline Coffey	Co-Chairperson
Edel Donellan	Co-Chairperson
Patricia Meaney	Secretary
Ritva Ui Cheallaigh	Treasurer
Ann Mc Mahon	P.R. Officer.
John Curtin	Asst. Secretary
Dorothea Madden	Asst. Treasurer
Mike Mc Mahon	Asst. P.R. Officer

Committee Members:

Nuala Cahill	Con O' Muineachain
Anne Kelly	Pauline Reidy
Dolores Meaney	Carmel Sheehan
	Mary Sheehan

The Parents Association present end of school year (2 day event)

Monday 25th June

History live

Shows includes

The Vikings
The Titanic



Tuesday 26th June

1. School Mass @10am in the church
2. Back to base afterwards for:
 - Presentation of Sports Day medals
 - BootCamp activity with Darren
 - "Pizza & Pops" Party !!



Why not consider joining us next term, you are invited to our AGM in September

AGM

In October 2011 we held our AGM. Unfortunately, no new members joined us this year. Maybe on reading our newsletter & seeing just what we do, you may consider coming on board and attending our monthly meetings.

Hallowe'en

This Hallowe'en we ran a competition to design and make your own mask using recycled material found at home. The competition was judged by a local art teacher, Carmel Moroney, who said that the standard of entries was very high. The winners received a prize of cinema tickets.

Well done and Congratulations to the following:

Juniors: Kelsey O' Donoghue

Seniors: Robyn Cottam

1st Class: Dylan Ginnane

2nd Class: Orlaith NiCheallaigh

3rd Class: Oisin Griffin

4th Class: Paula Cusack

5th Class: Maire Donnellan

6th Class: Colin Mc Neillis

(View photos with their masks on our website: Ballynacallypa.com)



Hallowe'en Disco

All children were encouraged to wear their masks to our Annual scary Hallowe'en Disco which was held in the Community Centre on Sunday 30th October. This was very well attended again and all enjoyed the games, treats and of course the dancing.

Design your own Christmas Card.

This year we asked all children to design their very own Christmas cards, these designs were then printed and purchased by family members. The children really enjoyed it and it was a great fundraiser. We hope to do the same again next year.

Switching on the Christmas lights.



Each Christmas the Parents Association celebrates the start of the festive season by switching on the Christmas lights in the fairgreen. There was music and HOT chocolate with marshmallows and tasty home cooking, sweets etc. Gary Brennan, our Intermediate team Captain switched on the lights. Thank you Gary.

Christmas carols were sung around the Christmas tree. Thanks to our local Fas group for all their help and to all who turned up despite the poor weather earlier in the day, we hope you enjoyed it.

Christmas Gamble

In December 2011 we ran our 3rd annual Christmas Gamble in King's bar. This year thankfully the weather was more favourable and the night was yet again a great success. We would like to thank all who supported it and a special thank you again to Mary & Paul Donnelly & Paul King for all their help.



Christmas Movie madness.

We showed a movie of 'Beethoven's Christmas' and a special edition of 'Ice age' on the big screen in the school and to give that cinema feel we also gave the children popcorn and a drink.

Board game raffle

We also raffled board games on the "cinema" day. 2 games per class room were raffled and the winners were as follows:

Ms Eustace room: Kiera Ginnane & Robyn Cottam

Mrs Garry's room: Adam Kelly & Emma Mc Mahon.

Mr Lynch's room: Oisin Griffin & James Kelly.

Mr Greene's room: Sarah Maher & Brid Garry.



"Education is not received its achieved"

"Education is no burden"

Confirmation

We congratulate the boys and girls of 6th class on receiving their Confirmation from Bishop Willie Walsh in Christ the King church, Ballycorick on February 10th.



- Joseph Conlon
- Gerard Fitzgerald
- Brid Garry
- Morgan Garry
- Adrian King
- Lucy McGuinness
- Shane McMahon
- Colin McNelis
- Aine Murphy
- Lee O'Hare
- Brian O'Reilly
- Aidan Sheehan
- Ciara Sheehan

Well done Mr. Greene

New classroom Sound System

The Parents association in partnership with the board of management is funding a sound field system for Mrs Garry's classroom. A system is already in place in Miss Eustace's room. This system has many benefits for both the children and the teacher and enhances the learning environment for all. We are delighted to be in a position to sponsor this system without any extra fundraising thanks to your support during the year.



French & German classes

Once again this year, we ran our introduction to German & French culture, language and lifestyle to our 3rd 4th 5th & 6th classes. Our teachers this year were Pascale Gavin and Rosaleen Griffin.

The classes were very well attended and the kids benefitted greatly from them. The 6th class pupils find them very useful when making a decision on which language to choose in secondary school.

St. Patrick's Day Cake Sale



Annual St Patricks day cake sale

Our annual cake sale took place after Mass on St. Patricks day. There is nothing like home baking. Thank you so much if you are one of the parents who baked for the sale, it is one of our reliable fund raisers that allows us to carry out all the other events during the year.

A special word of thanks to Marion O' Loughlin for all her help throughout the year



First Holy Communion

The Parents association acknowledges the work the teachers put in prior to Holy Communion each year. On Holy Communion day we do our bit with great help from the 1st class parents by providing refreshments after mass as parents and families mingle while having photo's taken.



Tea/coffee and biscuits served after the ceremony

Making their "first" holy communion with Fr Tom O'Dea this year in Ballynacally NS were:

- Luke Ayres, Oisin Cahill, Ciara Clohessy, Louise Coffey, Sorcha Donnellan, Cillian Gavin, Annie Kelly Hassett, Michael Meaney, Alannah Murphy, Katie Moloney, Orlaith Ni Cheallaigh, Caoimhe O' Connor, Hannah O' Brien, Cormac O' Mhuineachain, Chloe O' Shea, Caitlin Quinlivan, Aileen Reidy, Paul Sheehan, Sarah Sheehan, Ciara Tighe.



2nd c class making their communion

"Education replaces an empty mind with an open one"

"Education is the passport to the future"

Junior Infants class of 2012



Junior infant's class

Stephanie Doolaghty, Miss Eustace, Meadhbh Ni Mhuineachean, Kitty Hassett, Mark Reidy, Jack Moloney, Lily McGuinness, Kelsey O'Donoghue.

Young Scientists

We invited past pupils Alison Garry & Lisa Maher now attending St. John Bosco's in Kildysart to explain the concept behind their recent success in the young scientist exhibition. The project investigated current perceptions relating to online personal information security and highlighted how easy it is for your social media information to be harvested.

Church Gate Collection

Sincere thanks once more for your support in our fund raising efforts. We do as much work as we can by voluntary means but for some things we need money and we appreciate your help when it comes to raising funds especially in these tougher times. Our statement of accounts is available at our AGM held shortly after the new school year begins. All monies are spent strictly on events for the school children or in support of a school project.

Easter Science show



Professor Boloney & his wacky science show

The wacky science day came to Ballynacally NS in March. A qualified physicist provided an educationally fun show using the excitement of physics in a series of interactive experiments. Supporting the national science curriculum, the show focused on teaching topics based on force, heat, energy and the gasses. The children helped out by becoming mad scientists themselves, learning and laughing at the same time.

History Live

We invited Irish History live an interactive travelling museum. Unlike a normal museum, with all the artifacts behind glass, the Irish history live show allows students to touch and use the historical replicas. Taking history away from the black print in our history books provides a more tactile way to discover and learn history in a way that all students enjoy. The history show will include themes on the titanic and the Vikings.

Pre/After school care

Stephanie's pre & after school child care will re-commence in September. For further info you can contact Stephanie on 086-3188317

6th Class are Moving on

After eight "short" years in the school the time has come for this years sixth class to move on.

We wish them a heartfelt farewell on their continuing journey in education and good luck wherever they choose to go. Some are heading to schools in Ennis and others to Kildysart. Decisions made over the next few years will shape their future careers. Perhaps they will pop back to see us at the sports day next year as seems to be the tradition.



The very very best of luck we will really miss you.....

Not alone are we saying goodbye to our sixth class pupils but some of their parents are also finished their primary years !!

Good luck to:

Rose & Francis King, Bernie & Brian Mc Neillis, Brid & Seamus O' Reilly, Mary & Joe Sheehan.

A special word of thanks to Mary for her contribution to the Parents Association down through the years.



Mary pictured "cutting a farewell cake" at her last P.A. meeting recently.

School days are the best days of your life....."

"The roots of education are bitter, but the fruits are sweet"