

MAYNOOTH BOYS NATIONAL SCHOOL

PTA NEWSLETTER

November 2011

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held on 21st September last. There was a good turnout, and we were delighted with the interest parents had shown.

Election of Officers

At our October meeting, elections took place for the new office holders of the PTA. Those elected were:

Chairperson	Keelin Fitzgerald	Vice chair	Annette Harrington
Treasurer	Ita Smyth	Vice Treasurer	Jean Martyn
Secretary	Mary Murtagh		
PRO	Annette Harrington	Deputy PRO	Gemma Brazil

We would like to thank the outgoing committee members for all their hard work and dedication. We would especially like to thank David Walsh who chaired the PTA for the last three years. His time and dedication is greatly appreciated. We wish him well in his new role on the Board of Management at the Girl's School. A big welcome to the new committee members! We're looking forward to a fun and productive school year!

Voluntary Contributions

The 2011 Voluntary Contribution letter was sent out to parents prior to the mid-term break. A big thank you to those who have already submitted their contribution, it is greatly appreciated. The first count amounted to €4,600, which is on par with last year. However, as of now, our commitments for the year ahead already exceed €7,000. These include school equipment, such as visual equipment for the classes, material for the art programme, science equipment and a book-covering machine. Other annual commitments include our involvement in the St Patrick's day parade, the Irish dancing classes for all classes, the foreign language appreciation programme for 6th class, the bouncy castle for Sports Day and Santa's visit to the school at Christmas.

If you are in a position to contribute, it would be greatly appreciated. You can enclose your payment (cheque or cash) in an envelope with your son's name, class and teacher on it, and return it to the teacher or the school office. The contribution will remain at €50 per family. You can also set up a bill payment on your internet banking/telephone banking to the following account.

Account name: Maynooth Boys National School Parents Association
Account no: 49849009
Sort code: 98 60 95

If you find it more manageable, the electronic payments can be made in smaller installments at a frequency that suits you.

Any contribution, whatever the level, is greatly appreciated and will be used for the direct benefit of all the students.

Christmas Coffee Morning – 9 December

This year, in conjunction with the school's annual Christmas cake sale, the PTA will host a Christmas Coffee Shop on Friday 9th December, at 9:30 am. Parents can enjoy a cup of coffee/tea along with a choice of delicious home baked treats.

Christmas Card Fundraiser

We are holding our first Christmas card fundraiser this year. Every student has designed his own Christmas scene on a template. Soon, a sample card of your son's work and an order form will be sent home. Cards will come in packs of 10.

1 pack = €8

2 packs = €15

The more cards purchased, the greater the amount raised. It is a great opportunity to get Christmas cards to send to your family and friends, that are very personal to you, and at the same time contribute to much needed funds for the school.

School Jumpers

A member of the PTA recently met with the supplier of the school jumper. The poor quality of one of the brand of jumpers was highlighted to him. The supplier has agreed to replace the "below quality" jumpers. You will have received an order form in the last few days, so please remember to return this to the school, if you are affected.

Post Primary Choices

By now, everyone will be aware of the on-going discussions taking place about the future of the post-primary education in Maynooth. The Department of Education and Skills has announced that Maynooth will need a second post-primary school in 2014. Interested parties are presently putting forward their proposals, through public meetings and information leaflets. As a parents group, we would encourage all parents of both pre-school and school-going children to take an interest in this, and keep themselves informed by reading the documentation and attending the meetings. An informed choice can then be made when asked to do so. **You** will be deciding on the future of your children's education in Maynooth.

Parents Suggestions

We would like to take the opportunity to thank those parents who sent in suggestions as to what they would like the PTA to put forward for the school. All of these suggestions were raised and addressed at the recent PTA meetings. As a result, the school has now introduced the Morning Club, the "below standard" school uniform jumpers are being recalled, and the "rainy-day" procedure has been clarified. This is just an example of how your suggestions are important for the future development and running of our school.

"Donate an Hour/Skill" List

We would like to update our Donate an Hour List, to include all new parents to the school wishing to get involved. The idea of this list is that the PTA may call on you to help out at social events organised by the school or PTA. And, if you have any skills or trade, from a baker to a DJ, and are happy to donate your services, let us know.

Please complete the slip below, and return it to the school, if you are interested in getting involved.

Many thanks.

Keelin Fitzgerald

Chairperson

Donate an Hour List

I wish my name and contact details to be added to the "Donate an Hour" list.

Name: _____ Mobile Number: _____ Email: _____

Any Skills: _____ Son's Year: _____ Son's Teacher: _____.