



# CARRIGALINE EDUCATE TOGETHER NS

## Parent Association Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 2

*Working Together for the Best Interests of our Children*

Oct. 2009

### Annual General Meeting

*Accounts shown, new committee members elected*

**The Parent Association of CETNS held its first Annual General Meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>.**

PA treasurer, Donal O'Driscoll, reported on the Parent Association finances as follows: the PA raised a total of **€4,293** last year. Of that, a total of **€2,190** was transferred to the Board of Management and **€500** was kept to cover PA expenses for this year.

The remainder was spent on last year's PA expenses, the cost of staging our fundraising Circus and an outing for the children. Any parent who wishes to see the PA accounts is welcome to do so, just ask.

Of the funds transferred to the Board, **€1200** was spent on a photocopier for the school office, leaving a balance of **€990**. At the meeting it was agreed that the excess funds would be put towards the cost of carpeting the school.

Board of Management treasurer, Joy Campbell, then reported to the parents on the school's accounts. Joy has said that she is happy to discuss the school's accounts with any parent who wishes to see them. The PA wishes to express their thanks to the Board for their willingness to share this information with parents. We are very grateful for this relationship of trust between the Board and parent community. The Board can be contacted at [board@carrigalineeducatetogether.ie](mailto:board@carrigalineeducatetogether.ie)

The agenda then turned to the year to come. The PA's focus will be on **building our parent community, providing activities for our children and raising funds for the school.**

The meeting ended with elections to choose this year's committee. Returning for another year are: **Mary**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 9<sup>th</sup> Oct Kinderama starts 1:45pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> Oct Coffee Morning, 9:00-10:30am
- 21<sup>st</sup> Oct Info Evening for Jr. Inf. Parents 7:30pm
- 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> Oct School closed for Mid-Term break

### Welcome Deirdre!

The Parent Association is delighted to welcome CETNS' newest teacher, Deirdre O'Hagan, to the school. She comes to us from Gaelscoil An Ghoirt Alainn and is teaching the Senior Infants and 1<sup>st</sup> Class this year.

To learn more about all our teachers, look for the Our Staff page on the school website. ✍



*Photo courtesy of Val Davin*

### Calling All Junior Infant Parents!

*Do you have questions about the curriculum or the Irish school system?*

On **Wednesday October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm** Principal Mel Thornton will give an information evening for the parents of Junior Infant pupils. She will talk about the curriculum and the Irish school system. There will also be time to answer your questions.

If there is enough interest from the parents of the older children, Mel will offer a talk for them too. Please let the Parent Association know if you would like to have an information evening for your class. ✍

**Contact the PA Committee: [pa@carrigalineeducatetogether.ie](mailto:pa@carrigalineeducatetogether.ie) or 087 268 5124**

- Mary O'Mahony, Chairman • Val Davin, Secretary • Anne-Marie McIlwraith & Donal O'Driscoll, Joint Treasurers
- Jane Maher-Loughnan, Orla Palliser & Lori Scobie, Committee Members • Sue Fiessler & Toufik Messabih, Board of Management Parent Reps

See our school website: [www.carrigalineeducatetogether.ie](http://www.carrigalineeducatetogether.ie) for up-to-date school news, photographs and student artwork

**PA Fact Spot – The Parent Association Committee is elected by parents every year at the Annual General Meeting.**

**O'Mahony**, Chairman; **Val Davin**, Secretary and **Donal O'Driscoll**, Joint Treasurer. They are delighted to welcome new committee members **Anne-Marie McIlwraith**, Joint Treasurer and **Jane Maher-Loughnan**, **Orla Palliser** and **Lori Scobie**, General Committee Members. As always, the two Parent Representatives on the Board of Management, **Sue Fiessler** and **Toufik Messabih**, are automatically committee members.

The PA Committee is looking forward to another successful year of serving our parents, our children and our school. If you have any concerns, questions or suggestions please feel free to ask the PA – we are here for you! Many thanks for all your support. ✍

## Books, Swap Shop, Bulletin Board

As we all know, the government has been cutting back on education spending. As part of this program, the Department of Education has discontinued the school library grant, the money that was used to buy library books for the school. The school has asked us to **donate our old children's books**, especially books for young readers. The school also needs our old **toys, puzzles and games**- now you know what to do with all those things your kids don't play with anymore!

Thanks go to Jodi Robinson and all the parents who have covered books for the school these past few weeks. Well done everyone!

The PA will now hold a **Swap Shop** at our Coffee Mornings. Please bring in any clothes, books, etc. that you don't want and have a look – someone else's unwanted items might be just what you are looking for. If you find something you like, help yourself, but please leave a small donation. Any money we collect from the Swap Shop will go directly to the school to buy books.

Hey, check out our new **PA bulletin board** just inside the front door on the left. It's big! There is room for all our PA notices, announcements from the Principal and Board and for your news too. Feel free to put your poster in the Parents section – just put the date on it & remember to take it down when it is no longer needed. ✍

## Updated Class Contact Lists

You should have received a contact list of parents in your child's class last month. If your name isn't on the list and you'd like to be included, or if there were any mistakes in the information given, don't worry – the PA is currently making an updated version. Please email [maryomahony@hotmail.com](mailto:maryomahony@hotmail.com) if you have any updates for the new list. Thanks! ✍

## Walking Bus

*Get exercise, save petrol, get together!*

These days many of us are trying to reduce our carbon footprint as well as our waistlines. You can do both at once by walking to school. We can do it together by joining in a walking bus.

A walking bus is organised and run by parents who volunteer to supervise children walking to school together. It is a great idea, but requires a group of parents to commit to running it on a regular basis, perhaps just once a week to start.



*Photo courtesy of Val Davin*

The walking bus works a lot like a regular bus, with a timetable, pre-set route and stops. Two parent supervisors are required, one at the front and one behind. The children join the bus at their stop and walk to school under the eye of the volunteers.

There is a good deal of organising to be done at the start, but once it is up and running a walking bus is a fantastic way for children to get to school and saves time, petrol and traffic woes for the parents who participate.

If you are interested, please contact the PA and let us know. We will be getting a group together to discuss the next steps to making this a reality.

Many thanks to Jane Maher-Loughnan and Eric Hurley, who have done the start-up work on this project. ✍

## Don't Forget the Small Ads! ↓

You may have noticed the Small Ads section at the bottom of the Newsletter. This service is free for all CETNS parents. If you want to give away or sell outgrown toys, clothes, equipment, etc. or if you are looking for something, or even if you have a service, class or event you want to promote just send the information to [maryomahony@hotmail.com](mailto:maryomahony@hotmail.com) ✍

### Small Ads

**Car Boot Sale and Produce Fair**, Sun 18th Oct, Main St Car Park Carrigaline. 11am - 4pm. To book car space ring Carmel @ 0879694378

**To give away:** Well kept nice pair of black leather zip-boots by "Barratts", size 9, and well kept pair of red slippers by "Joe", Size 10. Call Sue 087 6825322

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### Cork City Aikikai



**10 week Beginner's Course starting Thurs Oct 8<sup>th</sup> at 8pm Only €60!**

**Instructor:** David O'Mahony - Nidan (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt)

**Affiliation:** Irish Aikido Federation

**Location:** 77 Douglas St, Cork City.

**Contact:** David O'Mahony @ 087 667 9403

Send your ad to [maryomahony@hotmail.com](mailto:maryomahony@hotmail.com) The next deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup>

Small Ads are free to CETNS parents, but we'd like to suggest that you make a small donation to the school book fund. Thanks!