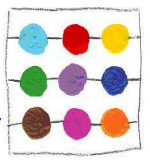


CARRIGALINE EDUCATE TOGETHER NS

Parent Association Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 9 Working Together for the Best Interests of our Children June 2010

Wow! We Did Great!!

Thanks to all for a very successful financial year

Fundraisers: €8781.84

Swap Shop: €137.09 (Library Fund)

Private Donation: €380.00 (Piano)

Total raised this year: €9298.95

What a phenomenal achievement for a school with only 50 families! Copies of the end of year PA accounts will be given out this month. PA accounts are available for parents to view in the school office throughout the year.

The majority of this money was spent on the upgrading of the yard, with the remainder spent on interactive whiteboards, class outings, PA expenses, electronic piano and library fund. Thanks go to every family in the school – **well done everyone!**

The **Swap Shop** will be open on **International Day** – check out the large selection of books on offer & help put the Library Fund over €150 for the year. ☺



Christine's Class show off their circus skills in a display at St. Mary's NS this week. CETNS and St. Mary's shared a term of circus training from Cork Circus Street Theatre Company under Cork County Council's Artists in Schools program.

Photo: Val Davin

What Do You Think?

Come to the whole school PA meeting & let us know!

All parents are invited to an **Open Parent Association Meeting** on **Wednesday 16th June** at 8pm in the school.

On the agenda will be a demonstration of the new interactive whiteboards, a look at the PA year-end financial accounts, a review of the work of the PA this year and a discussion of what we should focus on in 2010/2011.

We need your feedback. What do you want from the PA next year? In addition to continuing our current programs, suggestions for new projects include:

- School Bus Transport Scheme
- Reducing the cost of school tours
- PA Class Representatives
- Assistant Chairman & Assistant Secretary positions
- Class coffee mornings
- All notes to go home one day/week in special folder
- Suggestion box
- Whole school events
- Walk to school day
- New fundraising goals

Please come and tell us what you think! ✍

CETNS Family Gives Gift of Music

The Parent Association wishes to extend a very special **Thank You** to the **Badrul Hisham family** (Imrann, Sr. Infants & Zara, 3rd Class) for very kindly donating the entire cost to the school of the electronic piano. All our children will benefit from their generosity.

Electronic pianos have specially weighted keys that feel the same as the keys on a traditional wooden piano. This makes them suitable for learning to play the piano. These pianos do not need tuning and are virtually maintenance free. The new piano will arrive before the end of the school year. We look forward to enjoying piano music as part of our school life. ✍

UPCOMING EVENTS

4 th June	International Day, 10:00-12:00 School closes at 12:00 for staff meeting
7 th – 9 th June	School closed for June bank holiday
12 th June	NPC Annual Education Conference
16 th June	End-of-Year PA Open Meeting, 8pm
30 th June	6 th Class Graduation & End of Year Display School closes at 12:00 for the summer!!☺

Contact the PA Committee: 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 & Eric Hurley, Board of Management Parent Reps

See our school website: www.carrigalineeducatetogether.ie for up-to-date school news, photographs and student artwork

PA factspot: Every primary school is managed by an 8 member voluntary board. These are: Chairman, Principal, 1 Faculty Representative, 1 Patron Representative, 2 Community Representatives and 2 Parent Representatives (1 father & 1 mother).



Artist Naomi Fein leading the Junior Infants in a puppet-making workshop sponsored by the Parent Association. The PA paid for 77% of the cost of educational outings for the three classes, with parents paying just €3 per child.

Photo: Mary O'Mahony

Final Fundraiser Success

Great turnout & fantastic result from Dunnes Backpack ☺

Working together over the May Bank Holiday weekend we raised a total of **€2,254.67!**

This represents an hourly rate of **€35.23** per person over a total of **64** hours. We had a **34%** participation rate from the parent body, which is brilliant. Many thanks to all parents and staff who gave their time to this fundraiser. ✍

Welcome to New BoM Member

The PA is delighted to welcome Jez Ward to the CETNS Board of Management. He has taken the Community Representative position that became free when Joy Campbell stepped into the Chairman role in January of this year.

Every primary school board of management has two Community Representatives. They are chosen from the local community by the Board and bring their skills and perspectives to serve the school on behalf of the patron body (in our case this is Educate Together). ✍

After School Activities 2010/11

The Parent Association will organise the After School Program again next year. We will offer the following clubs again: Kinderama, Relax Kids, Animation, Cork City Music College (Music Theory & Instrumental Classes), Le French Club and Science Club.

We are also looking for new activities, with a continued emphasis on the arts and sciences. If you have any ideas or suggestions for after-school clubs that you would like to see offered, please contact the PA at any time over the summer, contact details on page 1. ✍

Interactive Whiteboards

Raising the level of IT equipment in our school

Interactive whiteboards are the teaching tool of the future. A complete interactive whiteboard system has three parts: **laptop, projector and electronic whiteboard.**

The Department of Education and Science has recommended that primary schools should have a minimum system of **just laptop and projector** in each classroom. This makes the regular whiteboards partly interactive. Once every classroom has this partial system, they can be upgraded at further cost with the addition of the electronic whiteboards.

The school received a grant from the DES to pay for partial interactive whiteboard systems for the school, however this was based on our September 2008 enrolment, which was only 20 children, and therefore only covers a small part of what we need.

The PA is committed to raising the money to provide this important IT equipment for our children. This year PA funds have supplemented the grant to buy two systems. Excess funds will go towards next year's goal of equipping the remaining classrooms. ✍

News in Brief:

- Don't forget to bring something in to our **International Day on June 4th**. All families are invited to share food, music, etc. from their home cultures (including Irish, of course!) to share with the school community. Contact Lori or Sue at the PA.
- Congratulations to school staff on a very successful **Charity Fun Day**. More than €600 was raised for Crumlin Children's Hospital and Haitian Earthquake Relief. By law, parent associations can only raise money for their own school and not for any other charity, so the PA is delighted that the staff took it on themselves to raise money for these very worthy causes. ✍
- Rob will be doing some **carpeting** in the school over the summer. He might need a hand so if you are willing to help please let the PA know. We will contact volunteers when/if needed. Thanks! ✍
- Unfortunately, a number of **mobile phones** have disappeared from the Jack & Jill Foundation box downstairs. Donated phones are now kept locked up in the office. Please give your old unwanted mobiles to your child's class teacher in future. Thanks! ✍
- **The National Parents' Council Education Conference 2010** will take place in Dublin on **June 12th**. This year's theme is 'Supporting Your Child's Literacy Journey'. Guest speakers include the Minister for Education, Mary Coughlan, and experts on teaching children to read. More information from info@npc.ie or call Michelle on 01 8874488. ✍

Small Ads

Kids' Garden Club - Together we'll design the garden, plant, and make garden crafts. **Max 6 children.** Weather dependent. Sundays 11am-1pm all summer at Thompson's Farm (Fountainstown Rd) Call Naomi Fein on 086 374 3132 to book a space. €10/session.

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Cork City Aikikai 合気道

Instructor: David O'Mahony - Nidan (2nd Degree Black Belt)
Affiliation: Irish Aikido Federation **Location:** 77 Douglas St, Cork City.
Contact: David O'Mahony @ 087 667 9403