

**St. Mary's BNS, Maynooth**  
**Parent Teacher Association November Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2014

**1.0 Approval of Minutes**

1.1 The minutes were proposed and seconded.

**2.0 Financial Update**

2.1 Opening balance was €6,565.47, with €4,018.40 already committed to (including recurring costs). Available balance is therefore €2,547.07.

**3.0 School Requests**

3.1 Sports equipment = €34.69

Sand for Sand Trays (14 bags) = €70.00

Maths Materials = €113.65

Irish books and posters = €129

It was also advised that the school will be purchasing science equipment boxes (€300 - €400).

The school is planning to purchase iPads, and the €1100 raised from the Tesco Bag Pack will go towards this. It was asked whether it was worth looking into purchasing reconditioned iPads. The school had investigated this possibility, but would need to get all the same models due to software etc, therefore it would be best to purchase new ones.

It was mentioned that 'Irish Autism Action' have an iPad scheme in exchange for mobile phones.

**4.0 November / December Calendar**

4.1 Christmas Card Project:

The Christmas card templates were sent home with the boys today, and parents have been asked to return within 5 days. The school should email to remind parents that Monday is the last day for orders.

Advised that on Wednesday morning 12<sup>th</sup> November a team of approx. 18-20 people will be needed to process the orders. 9 people have already volunteered to help, so she will send out an email to the volunteer list to see who else is available.

The completed orders will be back by end of November for distribution.

4.2 School Cake Sale  
Confirmed this will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> December. The group discussed whether they could hold the PTA coffee shop on the same day, and where the location could be, due to the old afterschool room now being used as a classroom, and the new one probably too small. It was asked if a section of the hall could be sectioned off. It was unsure if there would be room in the hall, going by previous years. It was agreed that this would be decided upon at the next meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

4.3 Santa Visit  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December would be the preferred date for the school. Otherwise Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December or Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December were other possibilities.  
PTA will check that the Fire Engine / Santa is available on the 12<sup>th</sup> December.

## 5.0 Committee Positions

5.1 IS and KM are unchanged as Chairperson and Secretary.  
BG was elected as Vice-Treasurer. IS proposed and KM seconded.  
GB passed on the PRO role to WR at the October meeting.  
The position of Vice Chairperson is still open.

## 6.0 PTA Communication

6.1 The group discussed the PTA blog on the school webpage. school said he had no problem with a PTA Facebook page, however it was agreed that we would proceed with an up to date blog on the website rather than a Facebook page at this stage.  
It was agreed that the PTA should make a list of photo situations that we would like on the blog and we could ask teachers to take them during class.

6.2 Advised PTA looked into PAYG phone options. The cheapest she could find was to top up with 20 euro every 3 months to get 500 web texts. It was agreed that we should go ahead and purchase this.

## 7.0 A.O.B.

7.1 Suggested at October meeting that 'Any Other Business' come off the agenda, so that meetings do not overrun by too long. It was suggested that if anyone has any items to be raised at the meeting that they be emailed in

advance of the meeting (preferably by the Friday beforehand).

- 7.2 It was suggested again that next year at Halloween any swimming lessons scheduled for the Friday be postponed by a week to allow the boys to dress up / wear face paint.
- 7.3 It was asked whether we need to book the parent who did the DVDs for the communion/confirmation. School will ring to book this.
- 7.4 PTA was asked by dance teacher if the school will be requiring Irish Dancing during the year. In the past the PTA has funded the Irish dancing for the boys when it has been arranged by the school. School will contact direct and ask her to provide a quote. Following that further consideration will be given to the PTA possibly funding further Irish dancing classes.

**Next meeting - Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 8pm**