

St. Mac Dara's Parents Association

Email: parentsassociation@stmacdaras.ie



October 2020

The St. Mac Dara's Parents Association is an association of all parents/guardians of children in the school. A voluntary committee meets on a monthly basis to plan and implement the activities of the association. The meetings take place on Monday evenings at 7.30pm, and all recent meetings have taken place via Zoom. An update of school activities is usually given by Mr. Ward at the start of each meeting.

The current committee position holders are:

Chairperson: Naomi Hurley

Secretary: Niamh Skelly

Treasurer: Mary Cahill

The committee would like to extend a special welcome to the parents/guardians of the new first years. We were sorry we couldn't meet you over a cuppa at the usual April information evening. If you'd like to get involved in the committee, we'd love to hear from you—we can be contacted through the school or by emailing:

parentsassociation@stmacdaras.ie

AGM

The Parents Association AGM takes place every year in October/November.

This year it will take place via Zoom on **Monday 2nd November at 7.30pm**. We would love you to attend. More information about the AGM, including how to submit a motion, will be provided in a separate document.

Personal Accident Insurance

Personal accident insurance is available as an option for every student in the school. This is currently arranged through **Allianz** and costs €13 per student for 24 hour cover. In the past, the parents association committee has organised this.

The school has very kindly taken over the running of this option and all parents/guardians should have received an email explaining how to avail of the insurance.

Please note that the deadline to apply and pay for this insurance is October 2nd.



Useful Dates for Parents

1st Oct : Applications open for 2021/2022 academic year

2nd Oct: Deadline for School Insurance

12th Oct: CAO Meeting

15th Oct : 1st Year Parent Teacher Meeting

23rd Oct : Closing date for applications for 2021/2022 academic year

2nd Nov : Parents Association AGM

Please note that some of these may be subject to change so please consult the school website for the latest calendar: www.stmacdaras.ie



Thanks

We'd like to extend a thank-you from the Parents Association to Derek Ward, Cormac Cassidy, Noel Donnelly and all the teaching and non-teaching staff of St. MacDara's for their incredible dedication, hard work and commitment to opening our school in a safe and well organised manner. We have seen the amount of time given to this over the past few months and really appreciate all the effort involved—**Míle Buíochas!**

Parents Association Activities

Some of the past activities of the Parents Association include:

- * Providing hospitality for school functions such as the Parent Evening for new 1st Years, the Graduation Ceremonies, the Awards Ceremony and the November Mass for the Deceased.
- * Hosting the annual AGM, including a question and answer session.
- * Arranging talks by guest speakers.
- * Raising vital funds for the school through the voluntary membership fee and other initiatives such as the annual table quiz.



It won't be possible to run some of these activities this year, but hopefully we'll be able to raise some funds for the school and we would welcome any support or ideas for this.

Some of the equipment we've purchased for the school over the last few years through fund-raising includes:

- Extra seating for the canteen
- Upgrade to Science Labs
- Resource equipment
- Set of iPads
- A set of movable steps for the stage
- Music equipment

New Members

We'd really love to welcome new members to the Parents Association committee. If you're free on a Monday evening between 7.30 and 8.30 and are interested, please let us know at the AGM or you can email us at: **parentsassociation@stmacdaras.ie**

We're always open to new ideas and suggestions too!

Message from Mr. Ward

Dear Parents,

Fáilte romhaibh go léir ar ais go bliain nua 2020/2021. Tá súil agam go bhfuil sibh go léir go maith. You are all very welcome back to the new academic year 2020/2021.

I welcome especially and offer my best wishes to our new first year students and their parents. On behalf of the Board of Management I thank all our parents and students for their cooperation and support to our management and staff as partners in the reopening of St Mac Dara's Community College during these very challenging times. The dedication and selfless contribution of teaching and non teaching staff since the beginning of August, to making sure we reopen in a safe and effective manner has been fantastic and I thank them most sincerely. I wish you all well in the year ahead. I thank our hard working Parents Association for all their support. Their newsletter will update you on events. Please also see our college website and St Mac Dara's CC Twitter Account. Idir an dá linn guím gath rath oraibh go léir.



Mr. Derek Ward

Website: www.stmacdaras.ie

Principal

Twitter: www.twitter.com/StMacDarasCC