

1. In attendance

Jill Foley	Gary Harte
Reena Mc Carthy	Rosaleen Fitzgerald
Mary O Connor	Kamila Jakubowska-Switaj
Sarah Cooper	

2. Apologies

Aoife O Herlihy
Louise Crowley

3. Treasurers Report

Reena Mc Carthy presented a copy of account statement and balance and copies were circulated of same at the meeting. Present account balance stands at €5644.94. Reena confirmed that she had sent a memo to Gary Harte to confirm payment in cash of €60 to Jill Foley for the purchase of the Easter eggs. Gary presented signed bank forms for account signatories to Reena and she will arrange meeting with the bank in the next 2 weeks to finalise same.

4. Easter Raffle

Gary Harte presented the money raised from the Easter Egg Raffle to Reena Mc Carthy. Same was counted in the presence of all at the meeting and a total of €496.50 was raised. It was agreed that it was a very successful fund raising event and it is hoped that a similar event would be held before the end of the year.

Rosaleen Fitzgerald queried whether the raffle should have had a prize per class for “fairness reasons” but it was agreed after discussion that this would be impossible due to the volume of tickets being sold by the parents on a given day/days and the only way that it could be done was by getting classroom teachers to revert back to selling the tickets again. It was decided that the teachers have enough going on in their classroom each day so any further raffles will continue with the present format of parent volunteers selling tickets in the school hall prior to commencement of the school day.

Mary O Connor raised the issue of the money being held by Gary and not by Reena over the Easter break. Reena was unable to be present on the mornings that the tickets were being sold and Gary confirmed that he was happy to take possession of the money until tonight’s meeting. In future instances if Reena is not available on the day to collect the money, it was agreed that the money should be left in the school office, with Paula, and Reena will collect it from there herself.

5. Bag Packing

This has been organised for Saturday April 29th in Dunnes Stores, Curraheen Road, from 10am – 6pm. Gary Harte spoke with Elain Hatton and confirmed with her that she would co-ordinate the event. Mary O Connor put herself forward as a volunteer. Unfortunately, there is a poor response to the request for volunteers so Gary will ask Brian Cuthbert to send out another email requesting parental assistance with this event. Approximately 12-16 people are required for manning 1-2 tills for the day. Reena Mc Carthy confirmed that event insurance is in place. She has a document confirming same that she will give to Elain Hatton if requested. Reena will also ring the insurance company prior to the day to notify them of the event taking place.

Gary suggested leaving any further discussions on the planned May bag packing event until after assessing the success of this one, as obtaining “man power” is proving difficult.

6. NPC Talk

Sarah Cooper confirmed that Noreen Murnane will present a talk on Internet Safety on May 2nd at 7.30pm. It is envisaged that the duration of the talk will be 1 ½ hours. Gary Harte will ask Brian to send an email to inform all parents of same this week. Gary will also put a link on school website re same and ask Brian to send a text perhaps on May 2nd as another reminder after the long weekend. Mary O Connor suggested that SSN Cailini be invited to attend the event also. Gary will extend the invitation on behalf on SSNB. Gary will look at putting an RSVP on the link so as to gauge numbers attending. Its estimated that 60-80 parents will possibly attend so it was decided that the Computer room should accommodate these numbers adequately. A talk on Anti-Bullying is scheduled for May 24th.

7. Communion

Gary Harte spoke re availability of 1st class parent volunteers. 7-8 have been confirmed so far and it is envisaged that similar numbers will be available from SSNC. Gary will get the phone numbers of these parents from Paula, contact them and look for a parent to take on role of co-ordinator. SSNC bought the supplies for the Confirmation so Gary will speak to Donal, chairperson of SSNC Parents Association, and see what is left over and get a cost breakdown of that event. Mary O Connor suggested that different biscuits be purchased for the Communion as there were numerous packets of plain biscuits left over and there was also a lot of wastage on the day. Roseleen Fitzgerald confirmed that she has €170 left over from which she will buy the supplies. Jill Foley confirmed that she will collect balloons from Heaton’s on the morning of the Communion. Rosaleen looked for assistance in setting up the hall on Friday afternoon....one other person is required. Mary o Connor and Jill Foley confirmed that they will take charge of handing out jackets to Communion children at 2.30pm on Friday May5th.

8. Book Swap

Following the success of the Book Swap in March, it was agreed that a book sale in the school hall would take place to utilise the left-over books. Gary Harte suggested that this might be arranged to coincide with the High-Street bookshop day so as to increase footfall. Its proposed that a request go out for children’s books only, as there are sufficient adult books in storage. This will be discussed further at the May meeting. Gary Harte suggested that any books left over after this event, be donated to Marymount Hospice.

9. Loose Coin Drive

Following discussion with Brian Cuthbert by Gary Harte, a loose coin drive will be held for 4 consecutive weeks, beginning on May 5th. The plan is to ask children to bring in any spare change (any denomination) and fill 4 drums. At the end of the month, each class grouping will take part in a competition to guess how much money is in each drum. There will be vouchers for 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners to the value of €15, €10 and €5 respectively. It was agreed that Juniors/Seniors would win Smyths vouchers, 1st -2nd class would win Easons vouchers and 3rd-6th would win Cummins vouchers. Rosaleen Fitzgerald agreed to approach Cummins Sports re sponsoring some or all of the vouchers and Gary Harte agreed to do same in relation to Smyths vouchers.

Gary has been in contact with Pat Collins printing and he has very kindly agreed to provide posters for the event. The input of Michael Lehane was acknowledged for the template that he provided to Gary.

Mary O Connor kindly offered 4-6 20litre drums for the collection of the coins. It was agreed that the drums be allocated to each class grouping and placed in 4 strategic locations in the school.

Reena Mc Carthy confirmed with the bank that no extra charges will be incurred for the lodgement of these coins, once they are bagged correctly.

10. Future fundraising events

Brian Cuthbert has offered the Parents Association a brand new unused adult bike for a future raffle. Gary Harte will discuss with Smyths the possibility of exchanging this for a child's bike and will have further information on same at the May meeting. It is proposed that this raffle will take place in June.

Mary O Connor kindly exhibited a template of a sponsored calendar as a possible fundraiser for next year. Due to time constraints, this will be discussed in greater detail at the May meeting.

11. Transition Talk

This talk has been arranged in the past by Brian Cuthbert, but paid for by the Parents Association. Gary Harte will talk to Brian re same and also liaise with SSNC re organising same before the end of term.

12. Financial report 28/3/17

Starting Balance	€5397.34
Book Swap fundraiser	€ 311.99
Easter egg raffle purchase (cash to Jill Foley)	- € 60.00
February quarterly fee	- € 4.39
Closing Balance	€5644.94

13. AOB

Rosaleen Fitzgerald asked Gary Harte to remind Brian Cuthbert re hanging of a mirror in the ladies' toilet in the school hall.

The next meeting of the Parents Association will be on April 25th at 8pm

Jill Foley

Secretary SSNB Parents Association