

Parent Support Group



'Learning is Fun...Together as One'

Dear Parents,

As we are all too aware, school funding and pressurised budgets are hot topics. While the Government debates funding challenges, our schools face immediate financial challenges due to reduced financial resources and ever rising costs. At St Peter's Primary School, as always, our first priorities are our pupils and ensuring they have access to the best academic and extra - curricular resources available to enhance their learning and development. However, this is again becoming more of a challenge. Certain pupil enrichment programmes and activities are running above the normal school costings and therefore we will need funding for them.

This year your Parent Support Group will be focusing on raising funds and applying for Grants to ensure the following programmes / activities continue this year:

1. GL Assessment - £2,700 2. Accelerated Reading (AR) - £1,400. 3. Mathletics -£1,200
4. Big Cat Readers Online - £1,000. 5. Gardening Project - £500. 6. Bus Trips - £1,000
7. After School Equipment - £500. 8. P7 Leavers Jersey's - £500.

We are writing this letter to inform you of the reason for fundraising, but also to seek help as together we can work in partnership to encourage a positive way to raise money and secure the best educational experiences for our children.

Your Parent Support Group is currently planning numerous fundraising events for this academic year. Firstly, we would like to say thank you for supporting our hugely successful **"Break the Rules Day"** which raised £600.

Our next fundraiser will consist of a **whole school Christmas Raffle** for pupils, parents, teachers and the wider community to buy tickets to raise money for our nominated causes. The raffle will take place in December with raffle tickets being sent home with children in November. There will be a 'Smyths Toys' £20 Voucher Prize for 1 pupil in each class who sells the most tickets. Pupils simply need to return the sold ticket stubs and money to school and they will receive another book to sell. Good Luck!

The success of our fundraiser depends on ticket sales but also contributions from sponsors who generously donate various items for prizes. This year we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of individuals and organisations who have contributed so far. They include:

- Paul & Mealla Campbell - Campbell Fuels - £150 Oil / Fuel Voucher
- Siobhan Prunty Makeup Artist - Makeup Voucher. ~ Aggie Jordan - Aggie Country Cuts - Hair Voucher.
- Anthony & Blaithe Mackle - MACAHL Animal Health - £100 Peekaboo Kids Gift Voucher & £100 Brew Gift Voucher.
- Maeve O'Donnell Interior Design - £100 Chapter V Gift Voucher. ~ Sheena Kerr - Armagh Sports Gift Voucher.
- Ruairi McGeary - Bouncy Castle Hire. ~ Jolly Bouncers - Hot Tub Hire. ~ Eimear McGeary - Beauty by Eimear - Pamper Hamper.
- Shauna Richards - Sugar by Shauna - Celebration cake to the value of £60. ~ Aidan Murray - APM UK - £140 Smiths Toys Gift Voucher & £40 Airtastic Gift Voucher.

We are also planning a Steak Night in February with an Auction on the night. We have already received the following donations for our Auction from the following generous sponsors:

- Estelle & Nigel Rafferty - NR Trucks - Le Jardin Luxury Spa @ The Linen Green - Spa Voucher
- Marty & Mairead McDonagh - Autobits Motorstore - Afternoon Tea for Two at the Grand Central Hotel.
- Pat & Olivia Brannigan - 2 Premium level Tickets for Garth Brooks, Croke Park.
- B Hughes & Sons - Overnight Stay at a Hotel.

We would like to say a big thank you to all of our sponsors in recognition of their generous contributions. The funds raised from their support will impact massively on the opportunities and experiences of all the children at school.

The final fundraising event will be an end of year fun summer event - exciting details to follow!

This year the Parent Support Group are also applying to become a **registered charity**. We have completed our Expression of Intent form and have been placed on a combined list to be called forward by the Charity Commission NI to complete our registration.

This is proving to be a lengthy process however once our registration is complete we will be eligible to receive charitable donations from local companies who can use our registered charity number. We will also be able to apply to grant-making charitable trusts, statutory and lottery funding organisations and we can apply for Gift Aid.

If anyone would like to contribute to any of our fundraisers, indeed throughout the year, or offer support in any way e.g. help with tea/coffee at events, or is interested in joining the group to suggest further ideas please contact the Chairperson Aine Murray on 07855464430 or the school directly.

Your help really does make a difference.

Yours sincerely

St Peter's Primary School Parent Support Group.