



Email: [kilbegparent@gmail.com](mailto:kilbegparent@gmail.com)

## **Kilbeg NS Parent Association 2020/2021 Newsletter October 2020**

Dear Parents & Guardians,

On behalf of the Parents Associations I would like to thank you all for your support in our fundraising events held in 2019 and early 2020, which even though it was a challenging year we did manage to reach our target and achieve our goal to purchase an Interactive Board for the school. This is due to be installed over the coming weeks in Mrs O'Reilly's classroom.

The Parent Association held an Annual General Meeting last week via Zoom where we discussed the following items:

### **Committee Members:**

An Election took place and the following persons were selected:

<b>Chairperson</b>	Cathriona Cassidy
<b>Vice-Chairperson</b>	Michelle Brennan
<b>Secretary</b>	Isobel Uradnikova
<b>Vice-Secretary</b>	Kim Brosnan
<b>Treasurer</b>	Olivia Nulty
<b>Vice-Treasurer</b>	Paula Clinton

I would like to thank all of our committee members on taking on the roles and giving up their time and effort to ensure we can continue even in these challenging times.

### **Who are we?**

The committee is made up of six people; some of you may not be familiar with who we are so below is a brief introduction:

#### **Chairperson Cathriona Cassidy:**



Most people will know me as Treeny O'Brien from Carlanstown but I am now living and married to a Kilbeg man! I have two children; my son is in Senior Infants. I joined the committee last year when my son started in Junior Infants, and found it very beneficial as a new parent to the school to get involved with the PA and assist with fundraising. It was also a great opportunity to meet other parents and build up a relationship with the school staff. I enjoy the role as chairperson and I am delighted to be elected chairperson for another year.

### **Michelle Brennan-Vice Chairperson**



I have two children. I joined the committee in the role of communications officer initially. We recognised a need to develop communication between our committee and parents and I felt I could help. We worked on making sure every parent felt they had a means to get in touch with the Committee whether through knowing a member or contacting us through the various new methods, we set up. In my second year I moved to Secretary of the Association. Since then I have been Vice Chair. I enjoyed each role and continue to enjoy working with both parents and our school to achieve all the wonderful benefits our children enjoy everyday. I very much look forward to the challenge this school year will bring and hope to meet more and more parents along the way

### **Secretary-Isobel Uradnikova**

My eldest child is in Kilbeg NS. This is my first time on the committee as 2020 remote working gives me more flexibility with my time. I am still learning what it is about and look forward to participating

### **Kim Brosnan-Vice Secretary**



Hi there, I am Kim Brosnan nee Sheerin, from Robertstown. I have two children in Kilbeg. All I knew about Parent's Associations is that it can be a really easy way to keep up to date with the school, so that is why I went to my first meeting. Turns out the school is very good at staying in touch, but I ended up on the committee! Despite not knowing anyone at the beginning, we really got a lot of things done. It is very rewarding. Look forward to attending this year's meetings in my pyjamas via Zoom!

### **Olivia Nulty-Treasurer**



I have three children attending Kilbeg NS - they are in Fourth, Second and Junior Infants. I joined the PA initially in 2015 when our eldest son began school. I found it really helpful in getting to know more about the school and their requirements and how we as parents can assist through fundraising / organising events etc. I am currently the Treasurer for this school year.

### **Paula Clinton-Vice Treasurer**



I have four children, three of whom attend Kilbeg NS. I joined the Parents Association 5 years ago and have enjoyed helping with many activities during this time from Christmas raffles to school walks. Throughout the years I have seen the benefits of the collaboration between the parents and the teachers though the various projects we have undertaken. I look forward to more exciting projects this year as vice treasurer.

## Role of the Parents Association:

Some parents in particular those new to the school may not be aware of the role of the Parent Association. Our purpose is to provide a structure through which the parents/guardians of children attending Kilbeg National School can work together for the best possible education for their children. The Parent Association will work with the Principal, staff and Board of Management to build effective partnership between home and school.

The Aim of the Parent Association is to enable parents to play their part in ensuring provision of the best possible education for their children and that this is achieved through the Associations' programme of activities. The Parent Association will promote the interests of the students in co-operation with the Board of Management, Principal, teachers and students, in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act, 1998.

All parents or guardians of children attending Kilbeg National School will be deemed to be members of the Parent Association.

We are also affiliated to the National Parents Council and they have a very useful website which I would encourage you visit:

<https://www.npc.ie/primary/parents-associations/role-of-a-parents-association>

We have an agreed constitution, which can be made available to any parent/guardian if they wish to view it please do get in touch.

## Accounts:

It is always lovely to get a clear understanding of where our money went, so here's a little breakdown of our fundraising from 2019/early 2020:

Income	€	Expenditure	€
Opening Balance Sept 2019	€ 399		
Halloween	€ 380	Bank, Insurance & Other Fees	€ 295
Christmas	€ 1,611	Santa's Expenses	€ 142
Kids Klub	€ 1,000	Events (6th Class, Gifts etc)	€ 71
CKCD	€ 500	Communion Party	€ -
Utmost	€ 250	Transfer to School	€ 3,782
St Michaels	€ 50		
Walk	€ -	Closing Balance June 2020	€ 400
Councillor	€ 500		
	<u>€ 4,690</u>		<u>€ 4,690</u>

## Fundraising:

The target for this year is to raise as much funds as possible to be used towards an outdoor classroom/space that can be used by our pupils, which has a number of key benefits for both Physical and Mental Health. Given our current restrictions, we will be unable to host any events however any non-uniform days we will be put towards this goal.

Mrs O'Connor has confirmed that they hope to hold six non-uniform days: Halloween, Christmas, World Book Day, St Patrick's Day, Easter and Summer. If anyone has any ideas as to how we can fund-raise within the current guidelines please do get in touch.

**Communication:**

The Parent Association would like to communicate to each family after each meeting. A newsletter will be issued and made available on the school website. We can also be contacted on [kilbegparent@gmail.com](mailto:kilbegparent@gmail.com).

We have a Facebook page called Kilbeg Parents Association- if you have not joined yet, please find us on Facebook!

We held our AGM via Zoom and it was very successful and we seen an increase in numbers attending it which is great, our plan is to continue with our meetings via Zoom for the foreseeable future. We encourage as many parents as possible to attend, so that your concerns, views and ideas can be shared.

Finally, a huge thank you to each of you and to our wonderful teachers and support staff, all of whom make our school a fantastic place for our children to be. Let's make 2020/2021 another successful year, thanks again for all your help and support ☺

Our next meeting is scheduled for the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and we intend to share our agenda in advance, please do dial in if you can.

Many Thanks,

***Cathriona Cassidy***

Kilbeg Parent Association