



# Belgrove Infant Girls' School Parents' Association Newsletter

June 2020



**BELGROVE INFANT  
GIRLS' SCHOOL  
Parents' Association**

Dear Parents,

As a school year like no other draws to a close, we hope you and your family are continuing to keep well and stay safe.

It has been a pleasure representing the parent body of the school for the past two years. We both would have liked to complete the full two years but, sadly, Covid-19 prevented this happening and, therefore, being unable to host guest speakers for parents as planned and hosting our annual bake sale which was due to take place in May. We would also have helped the school with the new Junior Infants Induction Day and the First Class Graduation, both due to take place in June. Despite the school closure in March the PA still managed to have a busy year in the school. We helped support a wide variety of events from which we hope your daughter benefited and learnt from.

We will be stepping down Joint Chair of the Belgrove Infant Girls' School PA at end of June. It has been both a pleasure and a privilege to have an insight into our daughter's education, and to work to improve the experience of all of the girls in Belgrove Infant Girls' School. We have outlined some of the key initiatives and events we have supported over the past two year in this newsletter.

We are delighted to have enjoyed an excellent working relationship with the school and would like to say a heartfelt thanks Ms O'Driscoll, Lorraine, Colm and all the teachers for their continued help and support with all our activities and ideas. Ms O'Driscoll made herself available to us at all times and considered every suggestion we came to her with.

We would also like to especially thank our fellow committee members, Niamh MacLeod (Deputy Chairperson), Genevieve Wallace, (Treasurer), and Aoife Gibson-Campbell (Secretary), to the classroom Reps, and to all of the committee members and volunteers, who each contribute their time, energy and ideas towards improving our daughters' school experiences.

We are delighted to announce that Michelle Carey and Heidi Carreiro have been elected as the new Joint Chair and we would like to wish them every success in their new role. The next meeting will be held in September either in the school or via Zoom. New members and ideas are always welcome.

We wish you all an enjoyable summer break.

Best regards,

Derval Coughlan & Hazel Mealy  
Joint Chair Belgrove Infant Girls' School Parents' Association

## PA Fundraising

Fundraising is one of the cornerstones of the PA. Over the past two years the combination of the two Annual Rugby Club School Quiz and Bake Sale have raised a total of €47,500 for the school.

We would like to thank all the local business for all their generous sponsorship and advertising along with all the parents who attended our events, bought raffle tickets, auction items and goodies from our new Christmas bauble shop.

Whilst it's highly unlikely that this year's School Quiz will go ahead, there are plans for a "Million Step Challenge" fundraiser to take place next year which will raise funds for extra curricular activities and support the School's Active Flag project.

The following pages outline what the funds raised were spent on.



## Creative Interaction



Horseshoe-shaped tables for Junior & Senior Infants,

13 Interactive Display Screens,

Play resources including mobile shop, Lego education and construction toys

& Charlie Fox outdoor graphics

were all purchased with PA funds to help enrich the girls' learning experience.

€10k contribution was also made to the school structural project to increase size of the classrooms





## What will we learn today?

Doctors and Nurses, Scientist, Construction, People Who Help Us, Water Play...plenty of play resources and equipment were purchased with the help of PA funds.





## A Trip to the Vet



The girls love role-play!  
Your support helps the school purchase play equipment.





First Class girls 10 weeks of tennis lessons.

Heritage for Schools – Bird Watching with Patrick and a Bee visit

An orienteering trip had also been planned for Active Week in Saint Anne's Park

The cost of coaching for trips to Raheny Library & Fighting Words were also covered by the PA funds.

Thank You!



## Themed School Weeks

The teachers organised a wonderful **Science Week**. PA funds help pay for Big Bear Planetarium, Scratch coding classes and Young Einstein. Volunteer parents helped make it a fun week with lots of learning.

PA funds contribute to Violin Recital and puppet theatre for **Arts Week**

The girls enjoyed an Irish play from MoMo productions which enhanced **Seachtain na nGaelige**.



Big Bear Planetarium  
Science Experiments  
Optical Illusions



## School Community



At Christmas time,  
Santa visits the school  
with lovely presents



The PA enriches the school community in many ways by helping to organise various events throughout the year:

- ◆ AGM
- ◆ Junior Infants Family Day
- ◆ Food Dudes
- ◆ First Class Graduation gift
- ◆ Junior Infants Open Day and Junior Infants Family Day
- ◆ Book Fair
- ◆ School Audio Visual Support: Christmas Concert & First Class Graduation
- ◆ Guest Speakers: Support young children's development through Play – tips and tricks Parents' Talk by Dr Gillian Lake  
Stay Safe Child Abuse Prevention Programme



## Zamda Uniform Donation



Following a survey with parents, we introduced a change to the school uniform. The girls are now able to wear their tracksuits and a white aertex to school every day. The girls can still wear their school skirt and there is an option for shorts in warmer weather.

A huge thank you to all the parents who donated their daughter's old school uniform to the local charity Zamda, who run a school and orphanage for Children in Kabwe, Zambia ([www.zamdaireland.org](http://www.zamdaireland.org)). The uniforms were graciously received and as you can see from the photos, it's fantastic to see the uniforms being put to such good use!

