

Our Lady's Grove Parents Council Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- > Hockey Pitch
- > Upcoming events, including internet safety talk for parents
- > Keeping in touch with the school

2018/2019 Spring Semestre

Dear fellow parents,

Welcome to our second newsletter of 2018/2019. You're not alone in wondering where the year has gone as we are suddenly into 2019, and already the thoughts of summer break suddenly pop up in conversation, and the finishing of another school year, or for some parents, the first year of secondary school!



We have a mixed bag of news for this letter with news of a delay in the hockey pitch, but countered with some positive news of events coming up, plus some hot tips for how parents can best to keep up to date with what is happening the school using your digital

tech.

As a Parents Council we need the input and contribution from you, the parents of our kids, and our first step in building that relationship is to put in place a regular communication channel with you. We encourage you also to reach out to us and keep an open dialogue and conversation amongst parents.

We are very lucky to have an open and communicative management team within the school who always have an open ear for the parents. We should leverage that to ensure the secondary experience for our kids is everything we and they want.



Help us keep in touch

With the advent of GDPR, we as a council have no access to parents contact details through the school, so communicating with parents will be a challenge. Unless you are one of a privileged few you are probably reading our newsletter from the school website rather than having received a direct e-mail. But we would much rather get in touch directly with parents. Please reach out to us via address opposite with the title 'Please add me to your mailing list' to allow us to contact you easier

Parents@jesusandmarycollege.ie

****As we bcc our addressees, our mails may end up in your spam. Please add us to your allowable contacts****



School Communications



The school strives to put to use the digital tools available in this day and age, but we are parents can find this a struggle to keep up, particularly in the chance from primary schools. Rarely will news be communicated via letters, but rather updates are sent via Twitter and emails. The

website (www.olgrove.ie) is the primary conduit of communication from the school, but this is setup to be self serve. We would greatly encourage parents to check in regularly to the website, or even better if you are part of the Twitterati make sure you are following the @olgrove Twitter account.

Top Tip: Get in the know in with the school calendar

But, if like yours truly, you haven't got a handle on how these hashtag handles work, or simply don't have inclination to get involved with social media, added this year to the school website is a school calendar. With a few easy steps you can add the full school calendar to your phone calendar, and any updates will be added automatically. Log onto the school website www.olgrove.ie and in the bottom left you'll see the calendar icon, and instructions for the mobile of your choice.



Hockey Pitch

Unfortunately, before the ink was dry in our last newsletter where we shared the good news of the successful planning application for the hockey pitch, a further objection was raised by a local resident, which has put a further delay.

The school has responded formally to the council in response to the

issues raised. While disappointing to have had yet another delay, the school management and board have poured considerable time effort to yet again put together the required responses.

As parents, we would encourage you to listen out in your community for any talk of objections to the plans, and make

our voice heard in the support of the long awaited new hockey pitch.

As parents we want to the pitch built as soon as possible. The hope is once we overcome these objections, the building can commence immediately.

Meet the team

We are a council of 10 members. If you are interested in getting involved in anyway or simply want to raise something to the council, reach out to anyone below or email us at parents@jesusandmarycollege.ie

- Mark Ryan (Chair) - 4th year parent
- Rosemary Enright - 6th year parent
- Ger Corcoran - 6th year parent
- Tara Byrne - 3rd year parent
- Deirdre Dowd - 4th year parent
- Safe Eltom—3rd and 1st year parent
- Noreen Maguire—4th and 3rd year parent
- Anne Kelly—5th year parent
- Ann O'Kelly—5th, 4th and 2nd year parent
- Grainne O'Neill—1st year parent
- Fadi Badin—2nd year parent

Our next meeting is scheduled for:

Wednesday 6 March 2019

8pm

All are welcome and invited. Speak to any of our members for more information or drop us an e-mail.

Upcoming events

Internet Safety Talk



The digital area is probably one area where the kids are clearly ahead in the knowledge department (but we won't tell them!). Let **Ger Brick of iNet** give you some tips and tricks, and honest advice, on internet security and safety. We will be hosting a parents talk on Monday evening 1st April at 7:30pm on the topic of internet safety. Join us from 7pm for tea and the opportunity to meet other like minded parents.

When: Monday 1st April 7pm

Where: School

We want this to be interactive / useful for parents as possible, so please [email us](#) with any areas you would like covered, and we can give to Ger in advance.

Ok—so not quite as dramatic as the picture might entail, but one of the big successes of last year was the “table building morning”. The school is expecting a delivery of new tables and chairs shortly. Great time and effort goes into sourcing the best equipment at the best price, but unfortunately that constitutes some building . Many hands make short work, and we'll be asking any parents to come along some Saturday morning and give us a hand out.

When: hopefully March / April

Where: School

Table Build



Uniform swap and clothes drive



The cost of uniforms is not small output for parents. Let's help make that easier on the wallets, and the environment, by making sure uniforms are put back into use. We will be both looking for donations of uniforms, and holding two mornings where parents can come in and pick up uniforms they want.

When: June (tbc)

Where: School

We'll also be combining this with a clothes donation drive, all in the hope of raising funds for the school



Family Wellbeing Course
Effective Parenting of Self and Children
6 weeks
Starting Thursday 7th March, 2019.
From
7:00pm to 9:00pm
Our Lady's Grove Secondary School
Goatstown, Dublin 14.

Family Wellbeing is about relationships and our first relationship is with ourselves. During this course we will explore how we can improve that relationship and in so doing have a loving relationship with others.

What people said:

"The benefit was proven for me from the first session and reflected on my personal life at home and at work. Great course – Thank you"

"I have already experienced the benefits of putting into practice what I have learned on the course. I have been to Parenting talks and while useful to give insight on how the child was feeling, in their age development, the way a parent and why a parent reacts was never covered, this was the missing link"

"Well delivered and constructed. Plenty of 'in class' discussion which was great. You engaged and prompted people to speak, so actively encouraged. V Positive."

"Excellent Course. I looked forward to coming every week. Well-presented and helpful course. Thank you!"

Please contact Mary Pierce, Relationship & Parent Mentor,
Phone or text: 087 6848573 or email: mpierce427@gmail.com for more information or to
book a place. The cost is €120 for 6 weeks. Payments can be made in instalments.