

# Colaiste Pobail Acla Parents Association

Colaiste Pobail Acla, Achill Sound, Co. Mayo

14<sup>th</sup> May 2018

## **Parents of CPA: Chairperson's End of School Year Report 2017-18**

Thank you to all the parents/guardians and teachers who attended meetings this year and gave their time to the Parents Association.

The Association has had a quiet year in 2017-18. General attendance at meetings was not high, and I have not been an active Chairperson this year. My lack of input was due to personal reasons: I will be leaving Achill this summer and have not had the time to commit to the Association. I apologise to all members for taking on the role this year, without having the time to dedicate to it. And many thanks to the other members and committee members who have carried things forward and done all the work without my assistance this year.

### **WHAT HAPPENED THIS YEAR:**

The Association's objectives did not alter from the previous year: improving school-parent communications, promoting parents assisting the school for events, and pursuing the notion of a Sports Hall. The new school website has been a great boost to school-parent communication, and we thank the school for its development. The Parent Volunteer Group has not grown sufficiently in size to be as effective a tool for the school as it can become, but we feel that this will improve in time. The Sports Hall project is passed into the hands of school management and the community groups whom we hope will continue to liaise with the ETB and Mayo County Council to see this project through to fulfilment.

This year the Association's main additional focus was on ensuring that traffic safety measures at the school would be strongly considered and pursued. We feel that positive progress towards achieving a parents' car park at the school is being made: communications have been made with the school management, and Clar funding has been applied for by the school.

The Association also helped out at the school to serve tea and coffee after the Christmas concert this year, which was sociable and enjoyable, and a great way to meet other parents.

The school have been extremely positive and receptive to the Parents Association and are very encouraging and supportive of its' role. In particular the Principal and the HSCL have been most enthusiastic in promoting the growth of the Association this year, and their suggestions and assistance are most appreciated.

My fellow PA Committee members have been unfailingly steadfast over the past two years in maintaining the Association's presence and ensuring that parents have a forum to voice their opinions and suggestions and lend a hand to the school when they can. It's been such a pleasure to be on the Committee with Karen and Michelle: we've had great fun and I hope we have started something that other parents will see the need and the importance of continuing for the students.

**WHAT MAY BE ON THE CARDS FOR NEXT YEAR:**

I hope that the Association continues to pursue the building of a Parents Car Park. I would also hope that more parents and guardians would join the Parents Volunteer Group to help out with school trips and sports events, freeing up teachers for class time.

It would be great to see parents' coffee mornings or socials arranged. The children are already friends, and their parents have a common goal in ensuring they are happy and successful in school.

My main hope is that the Association only continues to grow in usefulness and support to the school, and that this positive collaboration between school and parents will reflect in the ongoing wellbeing and eventual successes of the students of CPA.

This is not something I can help in achieving – but every parent of a CPA student can.

**Next Meeting:**

**The AGM of the Parents Association will be held on:**

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 in CPA at 7.30pm.**

Agenda includes: Election of new Committee members, Objectives for year 2018-19.

All parents/guardians of CPA students are reminded that you are ALL members and you are ALL welcome to attend and contribute.

With many thanks,

Trish Hogan

Outgoing Chairperson Parents of CPA

 15/05/18