

WELCOME NOTE FROM THE COMMITTEE

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to our 1st issue of the Inch National School Parents Association Newsletter.

The Parent's Association committee, the principal and the Board of Management attended training given by the *National Parents Council* recently. This was very informative, and it provided the foundation for the development of effective communication and partnership between us all.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the former committee for the fine work they did.

We sincerely believe we have a great school and it is up to each and every one of us to support the teachers, our children and their learning in any way we can. We will be richly rewarded with happier children, teachers and parents. Please join the committee in our endeavours.



The committee have the support of the principal and the BoM for all the above initiatives. The committee have the necessary insurance in place to run them. We can only bring them to fruition if we have your support and involvement. We will cast a vote on the various initiatives at the open meeting on the 15th. Please come along and have

your say!

THE ANALOG DEVICES COMMUNITY AWARD.

Congratulations and thank you to Leonard McGuane and Analogue Devices whom identified Inch National School for a €450 award under their Community Award Scheme which makes contributions to worthwhile projects in education, social and charitable, cultural and artistic projects.



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Attend our next meeting on the 15th Feb at 7: 30 in the school, where you can enjoy a 'friendly cuppa' and learn about our exciting planned initiatives.

- Have a 'Clothes Collection' to fundraise for equipment for infants to second class
- Have parents involved in Policy development with the BoM and teachers
- Have speakers in from the National Parents Council to train parents how to support our children eg deal with bullying, build resilience or stay safe online
- Do basic maintenance jobs in the school
- Flip pancakes on Pancake Tuesday
- Easter Egg hunt for the children
- Establish a PA website
- Have a 'Fun Run' as a Summer Fundraiser and community event
- Fancy dress Halloween Disco
- Organise and extend sports activities in the school
- Invite parents to visit the school and share their expertise eg. An Garda Síochána
- Develop a Healthy Eating Policy in the school
- Have a parents 'Social Club' evening once a term;
- Social gathering after the Communion and Confirmation masses in the school
- Help at Social after Christmas Carol Service

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES SINCE SEPTEMBER

The PA would sincerely like to thank the principal Mrs Corry, Mrs Egan, Mr O Loughlin, Ms Keane, Miss O Donoghue Fr Larkin and a number of parents for organising all these events;

- Cross Country for the senior classes- 28th September and the 19th October
- Swimming Lessons from 3rd to 6th class
- Workshop with Weaver for all classes- 14th October
- Confirmation Enrolment – 9th November; organised by Fr Larkin and 6th class parents
- Christmas Play for Junior Classes in Dánlann an Chláir- 16th December
- Christmas Carol Service performed by all classes- 21st December
- Annual Santa visit- 22nd December
- Indoor hurling Tournament - 24th January
- Indoor Camogie Tournament- Reached the final- 31st January

**Parent Association Committee: Chairperson – Evelyn Daly,
Secretary – Claire McDonald, Treasurer – Carol Conlon, PRO – Joe Forde, Roisin Killeen**

- Participation in Catholic School Week
- Visit by ambulance and Paramedic team organised by parent Theresa Forde- 19th January.

UPCOMING SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

1. 5th and 6th classes will attend an authors and illustrators workshop in Glór on 15th February
2. Ms O Donoghue will continue to teach Basketball for 4th to 6th class from 3 to 3 45 every Tuesday
3. Continuation of the Accelerated Reader Programme
4. Start of exciting 'Kids Talk' programme
5. Prepare for Confirmation and Communion

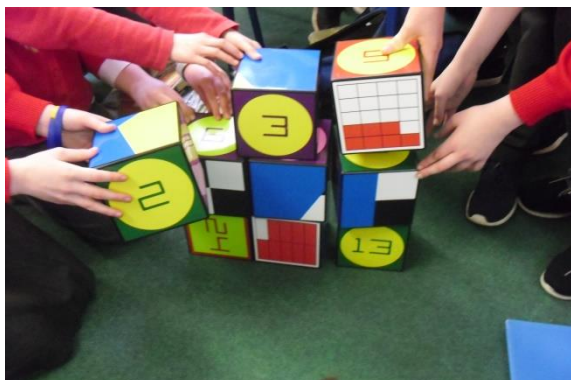
NEW INITIATIVES YOU HAVE FUNDRAISED FOR:

Izak 9

"Izak 9 has arrived in Inch School! This new maths resource allows for pupils to engage in mental maths in a way that is fun and challenging.

The resource is made up of 27 cubes. Each of the faces on the cubes has a number shape or symbol. These cubes are used by the pupils to solve the various maths problems sourced from an online website. The maths problems are based on fractions, percentages, decimals, shape and space number theory and algebra.

This maths resource develops the pupils ability to reason and problem solve in collaborative groups using concrete materials. When using this maths resource, pupils think about how they think about maths and engage in discussion and debate about the viability of the various maths solutions they come up with. When using the Izak 9 pupils are encouraged to come up with more than one way to find the solution to the maths problem /challenge, thereby promoting their "thinking outside the box"



I would like to extend a very sincere thank you to the PA and the parent body for providing funding for this invaluable and innovative maths resource for the pupils in Inch. Your support and generosity is very much appreciated by the staff."

Rosemarie Corry Ryan (Principal)

The Buddy Bench

A buddy bench is for a child to sit on if they're feeling lonely, sad or just need a friend to play with. It has many aims, one of which is to give children valuable coping skills, including emotional confidence.



The principal and teachers will be introducing the Buddy Bench to Inch National School. They will teach the skills surrounding its philosophy in their Social Personal and Health Education classes.

Barrington Stokes

The recent school calendar fundraising event was very successful. These funds will be put toward buying a programme of books (Barrington Stokes) for children with special educational needs. Thank you again to all who assisted in this annual fundraising initiative.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following events are planned in the school and the Parent Association will be seeking assistance for parents available on the day;

Clothes Collection

Tuesday 28th February, 1st, 2nd and 4th March 2017.

This initiative will help raise much needed funds for the school. In addition it raises awareness for our children of the importance of recycling for the general good of our environment and that of the global environment, tying into the key message being communicated in daily school life.



Useful websites for parents:

www.npc.ie

www.ncca.ie

For the kids check out these great free learning websites

www.topmarks.com

www.abcya.com