



GREYSTONES  
**Educate Together**  
 Parent's Association

<p><b>Parents Association Meeting</b></p> <p>Present:          Catherine Matthews,          Garrett Phelan,          Evan Furlong, Lee Bonass          Steven McLoughlin,          Patrick Cusack,          Lisa Sterritt</p> <p>Apologies: Sarah Kernaghan,          Sarah Fontonnaz, Emma Smith,          Ramona Parkes</p>	<p><b>MINUTES</b></p>           <p>LB</p>	<p><b>Greystones Educate Together</b></p> <p><b>9<sup>th</sup>February 2010</b></p>
<p><b>Items for Discussion:</b></p>	<p><b>Executed by:</b></p>	<p><b>Outcome:</b></p>
<p><b>Item 1:</b> Chinese New Year</p>	<p>EF</p>	<p>It was decided that on the day of the Lion-dance, February 15<sup>th</sup>, the committee would provide some traditional food.</p> <p>Considering possible allergies in children, Evan proposed simple fried-rice cakes as a snack, home-made by herself, with mandarin oranges to follow.</p> <p>The content/ingredients of the rice-cakes are listed in a note going home in the school bags, and in a committee e-mail sent to all who provided their contact details at the start of the year.</p> <p>As there is will be a short wait after the performance and pick-up time, the parents room will be used to serve Chinese tea to parents.</p>
<p><b>Item 2:</b> St. Patricks Day Parade</p>	<p>GF/PC/CM/SM</p>	<p>Committee looking into the possibility for GETNS pupils to take part in the Greystones Parade.</p> <p>Pat will contact the Chamber of commerce to query viability, Garrett to bring to BOM.</p>

St Patricks day continued		<p>Teacher input will be needed regarding behaviour and orderly systems.</p> <p>Volunteers would be needed during parade to chaperone children. Stephen is willing to do it with some other parents.</p> <p>All pending BOM approval and logistical feasibility.</p>
<b>Item 3:</b> Fundraising	All	<p>As Norma Prause Brewer has stepped down from the position of fundraising coordinator it was proposed that a member of the committee take up this role. We would all like to express our gratitude to Norma for her dedication, time and artistry.</p> <p>Bake Sale/PJ day for Haiti Earthquake relief fund was a great success, raising over 705 euro for UNICEF. Well done everyone.</p> <p>Tesco Bag Pack this year will take place at the end of September for three days, as before. Committee to revisit this fundraising event closer to the time.</p> <p>Easter egg hunt plans on hold, possibly being replaced by St. Patricks day parade event, but the option is not off the table. This event is not likely to be a fundraiser, but more to generate fun and embrace the social aspect of a school event.</p> <p>Teddy Bears picnic may possibly be held in May or June, before the school term is over, so that more parents and children can attend. Committee to revisit this in next meeting.</p>
<b>Item 4:</b> Internet Safety evening	PatC	<p>Pending Principal approval, Patrick is organising an information seminar for parents in the coming month regarding internet safety for children.</p>

		<p>A recent Irish Times article highlighted the fact that Ireland is way behind on knowing what their children are doing online, compared to their European counterparts. Patrick will outline the dangers and pitfalls of our children navigating the web unsupervised. Details of this will be on the noticeboard, in school bags, and on the websites (both PA and GETNS). Sign-up sheet and further info will be on noticeboard when date is set.</p>
<b>Item 5:</b> Pa constitution	All/SMc	<p>The PA constitution has been compiled by Stephen McLoughlin and was presented to the committee for their input. After being adopted by the committee it will be forwarded to the whole parent body (through a message in the bags) and the BOM where it can be formally voted in. It will be published to the websites and posted on the noticeboard. Committee members to review and give feedback..</p>
<b>Item 6:</b> Green Schools	SF/Emmet	<p>Sarah to propose organic planting in the school. Green schools website to be designed by Emmet, Green schools coordinator.</p>
<b>Item 7:</b> Fundraiser organisation		<p>Some ideas to develop better organisational strategies were discussed – we will look for direction from a template of a very successful fundraiser, the Teddy Bears Picnic, and use the ideas from it to ensure good running of future events. In keeping record of events we manage, we can create a better guide for future events.</p>
<b>Item 8:</b> Sponsors	LB	<p>A list of our sponsors of the bookfair will be thanked in a special section of the PA website.</p>

<p><b>A: O: B:</b></p> <p>Extra-curricular activities</p> <p>Perspex noticeboard</p> <p>SES curriculum</p> <p><b>Next meeting: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010</b></p>	<p>CM</p> <p>GP</p> <p>Geraldine</p>	<p>Catherine Matthews to speak to Principal Catherine about BOM approval of the activities.</p> <p>The need for an outdoor noticeboard is still apparent. Important and active news would be put here, for the convenience of parents dropping off children in the mornings. A Perspex board is proposed for the coming agenda.</p> <p>Geraldine would like parental input, when possible, and help in drawing up additional resources for the SES curriculum. Anyone with a special interest in any of the four strands of the curriculum (moral and spiritual, equality and justice, belief systems and ethics, and the environment) is welcome to come forward, especially with practical lesson plans.</p>
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