



# Holy Faith Clontarf Parents' Association Summer Newsletter 2020

*Our mission is to provide a resource for the parents of our students*

## A fun way to fundraise

Our main fundraiser of the year took place in the Clontarf Castle at the end of February. As always we were blown away by the generosity and support that we received for the Table Quiz. Huge thanks to our long time Quiz Master, Stuart Davidson who 'came back' to host another fantastic social event. Thank you Stuart! And also to everyone who came along and took part on the night.

We had over 40 tables, a very successful raffle and generous sponsorship from local businesses and organisations. Together we raised almost €10K in funds which will be used to fund a variety of activities throughout the school.

None of which would be possible without the help and support of a significant number of parent helpers. And none more deserving of a special mention than Pdraig Kent who amazes us all every year with his hard work and determination.



## Staying Together Apart

**When this newsletter was being planned, we had no idea what a different world we'd be living in by the time it would go to press. School life has been interrupted in such a dramatic way, it's hard to even contemplate all the normal events and activities that would have taken place in the final few months of the school year.** By now, the Parents' Association would have been involved in the TY show, run our ever popular May Book Fair, and helped out with the graduation day for 6th Years. Importantly too, planning would be underway to transform the school hall for the pre- Debs reception in September. Not to mention all the normal curricular and extra-curricular activities that would be taking place. We are all missing the buzz of school life but our thoughts are especially with families who have suffered losses and who are experiencing hardships. We can only look forward to brighter days ahead.

At this time of year, we would also get together as a committee for a night out, to look back on the year's activities and think about the year ahead. Sadly this will not be possible in person and so I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in the PA this year but especially to those who will no longer be members of the PA come September. The parents of the Class of 2020 have been some of the most active and generous in their contributions to school and will be missed in the months and years to come. Hopefully we will see some of you at our now annual School Lunch in St. Anne's golf club in November.

Thank you also to Máire Ní Chléirigh, Louise Mc Kenna, Clarissa Bryans and Colleen Savage for all the work you have done on the committee this year. It has been a pleasure working with each of you.

And a big thank you to Sharon of Bold Communication who designed this newsletter and Ellen and Ronan of Together Digital who are helping produce the video keepsake for this year's 6<sup>th</sup> Years. Brilliant examples of the school community lending its expertise for the good of the school.

For those with girls still in school next year, I look forward to seeing you after the summer. Keep well and stay safe.

*Julie*

**Julie Way**, Chairperson



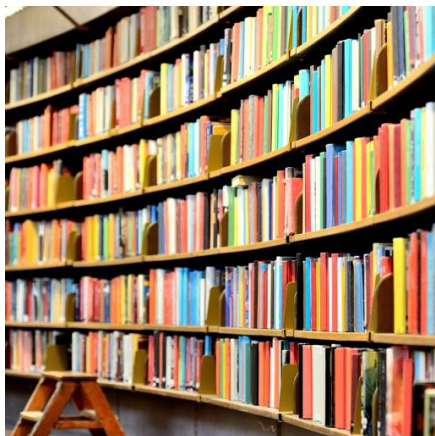
## Prize Winners #TQ2020

**Cover story photo:**

The table decorations for our the first ever parents lunch at St. Anne's Golf club on a beautiful sunny day in November 2019. We hope that we will meet again soon!

## Creative Communications

As much as we love being at home with our children, sometimes they really miss their friends and school. The girls have come up a range of great ways to stay in touch during this time apart. Zoom quizzes, sports challenges, hair & beauty makeovers, great virtual bake offs and even study groups! It is still hard for teenagers, and not everyone is feeling connected- we found some great articles for ways to help your teens cope: [www.spunout.ie](http://www.spunout.ie).



## Building an Oasis...

What is the function of the school library? Do we really need one in these days of kindle and audible? Will the girls actually use it?

These are some of the questions that we have asked ourselves over the past months. And, to be honest, we don't really have the answers. But, in this age of constantly being ON, the idea of a quiet oasis within the school walls is something that increasingly needed.

The library stock is very depleted, and it is our intention that we increase the stock by 300 books of a variety of genres before the school year end. We are asking the girls to suggest books that they would like to see in there. We will also stock copies of the curriculum recommended reading.

Over the past couple of years, the Parents' Association has fundraised specifically, and has also allotted part of its general profits to the library project, and we are pleased to say that we now have over €2,000 to spend.

A few years ago, the school renovated the room. It isn't a huge space. But it is a beautiful light, clean room, with wooden shelves & cushioned seats – all it needs now are books, lots of books.



## An inspiring day out...

We held our first parents lunch in November, and welcomed 80 parents along to St Anne's Golf Club on a beautiful sunny day. We were joined by the Master of the Coombe, and former pupil- Dr Sharon Sheehan. She spoke movingly about the privilege of being so close to new life, and the power of life-long learning. A love that she said was nurtured during her time at Holy Faith. It was a great opportunity to share a few stories about our own school experiences.

We hope to have our second annual lunch in November and hope that you can join us!

## We Need You!

We run many events every year:

- Book Fairs
- The Table Quiz
- Parents lunch
- First Year Parents Welcome night
- Mock interviews
- Tuck shop for TY Musical
- Pre Debs reception
- 6<sup>th</sup> year Graduation day
- Annual Meeting and Talks

People can help out in lots of different capacities- from accountancy, to design, to interviewing and occasionally making the tea! We welcome all help and the more the merrier. Having new faces join in keeps the energy high and the ideas flowing. Drop in to one of our monthly meetings – all are welcome.



We would normally put a calendar of events here - but with so much uncertainty at present, we thought it better not to. So we want to take a moment to say a big thank you- and show you what you helped to do:

**In 2019/20 Our activities raised €15K**  
And this allowed us to

- ✓ Host the Debs reception
- ✓ Restock the Library
- ✓ Welcome 1<sup>st</sup> year parents
- ✓ And handover 10k to the school for talks and extra curricular activities.

So a BIG, BIG thank you!



## Committee Membership

Chair: Julie Way  
Vice Chair: Máire Ní Chleirigh  
Secretary: Louise Mc Kenna  
Treasurer: Clarissa Bryans  
Comms: Colleen Savage

As a parent or carer of a child at Holy Faith Clontarf, you are automatically a member of the committee and welcome to come along to any monthly meeting.

## Get in Touch

We love to hear from you:

Email: [paholyfai.thclontarf@outlook.ie](mailto:paholyfai.thclontarf@outlook.ie)

Web: <https://tinyurl.com/y8pjxabn>

Twitter: @hfclontarf

LinkedIn for HF Alumnae:  
<https://tinyurl.com/yaq4lrkk>

## Dates for your Diary

- Next PA Meeting: Wednesday 2nd Sept
- AGM: tbd (early October)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Year Parents Welcome – 14th October
- Parents Lunch: 6th November

\*Dates subject to change...keep an eye on the school app for updates.

