



# Newsletter

April 2017 | Issue 04



CASTLEBAR EDUCATE TOGETHER  
NATIONAL SCHOOL

## Marsh House Update

Elisa Goode (Department of Education and Skills) has emailed me to say that the BOM will be invited to Marsh House for a site visit in the coming weeks. She once again assures us that the building will be ready in August and that there is absolutely no question of our school having to close!

We already knew this but it's something that some new parents have asked me!

## Fundraising Committee

We would like to invite parents to join a fundraising committee. Our intention is to host a few events before the end of the year and to set dates for Term 1 next year. No expertise is required just an hour of your time to discuss events and then select dates where you are free to volunteer to run the events. If you have ten minutes on the 6th April at drop off time I'll see if we can arrange our first meeting. If you can't make this time and are interested give Jennifer a call to let her know.

## New Primary Language Curriculum

All primary schools are asked to close for one day this year to facilitate staff training in the new primary language curriculum. I will be attending training on Wednesday 24th May but we will **not be closing** the school for this day. We will have a substitute teacher covering my absence for this day.

We will however be closing at 12pm on Friday 7th April for Spring Holidays and again on June 29th at 12pm for Summer Holidays. It is custom and practice that all schools close early on the day of Winter, Spring and Summer Holidays.

## Sponsored Walk

Our first whole school fundraising event will be a sponsored walk. We will send home a sponsorship card and ask that you collect money from family and friends to support our walk. The walk will take place on **Sunday 28th of May at 2pm** and all money raised will be used to buy literacy and numeracy resources for our school-things like small whiteboards, yard toys and resources for teaching about capacity and weight. All the family can take part in this walk and we will be inviting future parents and children to participate also. We'll finish the walk in the playground so children can have a play date!

## Agreed Report from BOM

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate account of the meeting.

**Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising

**Correspondence:** The Educate Together A.G.M. will take place on Saturday 20th May.

**Finance:** We would like to set up a Fundraising Committee to raise funds for school resources.

**Principal's Report:** The Principal presented a report on the workings of the school and the Board approved the calendar for 2017/2018.

**Marsh House:** The BOM hope to visit Marsh House in the coming weeks with the DES to discuss its progress

## Greetings - Beannachtai

**Hello** (to one person) - Dia Duit (**Geea gwitch**)

**Hello** (answer to above) - Dia is Muire Duit (**Geea is mura gwitch**)

**Hello** (to more than one person) - Dia daoibh (**Geea Yeve**)

**Hello** (answer to above) - Dia is Muire daoibh (**Geea is mura yeve**)

**Goodbye** - Slán leat (**Slawn lath**)

**Bye for now** - Slán go fóill (**Slawn guh foal**)

**I'll see you tomorrow** - Feicfidh me amárach thu (**Feiche may amairoch who**)

**How are you?** - Conas atá tu? (**Cunis ataw thu**)

**I am well** - Táim go maith (**Tawim guh moih**)

## Parents Association/Board of Management

Next year we hope to establish a Parents Association (PA) or a Parent/Teacher Association (PTA). This is a great way for parents to become involved in the school and many fun and beneficial events can be organised e.g. Maths For Fun - where parents come in to class and help children with Math Games, Story Session with Parents - where parents read to the class or organising a Family Fun Day or Food Night for parents.

The range of events is wide but we need parents to help make it a success! Over the next few months you can consider what kind of things you would like to help organise and then in September we will begin to set up our PA or PTA.

By October next year we will also need to elect two new parent nominees for the Board of Management (BOM) - one male and one female. Currently there are 4 members on our BOM but next year we start a new board with 8 members. Some or all of the current board might feature in the new board but we are especially looking for someone with accountancy skills if not from the parent body then it could be someone from the community who was willing to give 2/3 hours a month. They could become a community nominee on our BOM. So if you have a financial background or know someone who would help us, we would really appreciate this!

## Headlice/Nits

Please check your children's hair regularly for headlice as this is a reoccurring problem in all schools.