

St. Gerard's School Parents' Association
Thornhill Road, Bray, Co Wicklow

ST. GERARD'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

September 2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back!! On behalf of the Parents Association we would like to welcome all our new parents to both the Junior and Senior School.

Parenting Together

Last year the Parents Association produced a booklet outlining useful information and advice to Parents regarding the wellbeing of our children. The feedback on this Parenting Together Booklet was extremely positive from everyone!! We are once again enclosing a copy for your information.

Uniform Sale

The second-hand uniform sale will take place in the Multi Purpose Room on the Ground floor in the Junior School at 2pm on Wednesday, 30th September. If you wish to donate any item of crested School Uniform in good condition, we would be delighted. All proceeds go to a charity chosen by the Head Mistress.

Lecture – Alcohol and our Children

The Parent's Association will be holding a lecture on Alcohol and our children by Dr. Bobby Smyth on Tuesday, 10th November, 2009 at 7.30pm in the Junior School Hall. There will be tea and coffee available from 7.00pm. All are welcome. As always, if there is any particular subject you would like to see covered in a lecture, please let us hear from you. You can make your suggestions through the Secretary of the Parents' Association or to any member of the Committee. We would love to hear from you!

The St. Gerard's Ball - In aid of Cystic Fibrosis Ireland & Unicef

St Gerard's Parents' Association invites Parents and Friends of St Gerard's School to The St Gerard's Ball on Saturday 14 November 2009 at The Ritz Carlton Hotel, Powerscourt, Enniskerry.

Take advantage of our very special recession busting ticket price of just €20 per person. The Ritz Carlton Hotel has generously offered exceptional rates this year allowing us to reduce the ticket price. In addition the hotel is offering a special overnight accommodation rate of €15 for B & B for early bookings (subject to availability). Booking forms have been sent to all parents last week.

This year we will have tables allocated to each year group should you wish to join with other parents. We will also cater for individual parents who wish to come to the ball on their own by allocating tables which will ensure an easy mix with other parents to ensure that everyone will have a most enjoyable night. The bookings were very prompt last year, so to avoid disappointment we advise you to arrange your table/tickets early. If you have any queries please contact Janice Ryan on 087 2251812.

As always the aim of the Ball is a social night for the Parents, Staff, Governors and Friends of St. Gerard's. Should we be lucky enough this year to raise some money for the Social Awareness programme in the school the beneficiaries of the evening will be **Cystic Fibrosis Ireland and Unicef**. The event promises to be a great night with a cameo spot from The Three Irish Tenors and lots of surprises. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you would like to support the night through sponsorship, donating a raffle or auction prize, or if you have other ideas which may help, please let us hear from you!

Outreach Programme 2009 to Rwanda

Congratulations to the 6th Year students of the class of 2009 along with Ms Diane Owens and Mr Seamus Jennings who travelled to Rwanda at the end of July for two weeks. Once again the Outreach Programme has reached new heights and the students had a fantastic and memorable experience. The students received a wonderful welcome in Busasamana School and the investment of the monies raised by St Gerard's School was clear and visible for everyone to see. The students will make presentations to all of the students in the Junior and Senior School over the coming weeks and their presentation will be posted on our internet site.

AGM of Parents Association

The AGM for the Parents Association will take place in the Junior School Hall on **Thursday, 22nd October at 7.30pm**. We hope as many parents as possible will attend.

As always we will be looking for new members to join the committee of the Parents Association as there will be a number of places available, due to some committee members stepping down. Please fill out the attached nomination form as soon as possible if you are interested in joining the Parents Association Committee and return to the school office marked for the attention of Janice Ryan, Secretary, Parents Association.

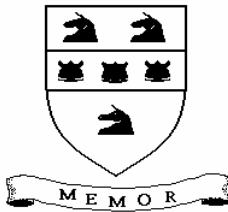
Amendment to Parents Association Constitution:

The Parents Association has been formally in operation since the 1st December 2005. A sub committee has been reviewing the Constitution and have recommended a change to the existing constitution. The original constitution under Article 6.2 provides that a committee member cannot sit on the committee for more than two consecutive years. It has been found that this restriction has resulted in committee members who have particular talents and have acquired worthwhile experience being required to stand down from the committee. It has been noted particularly in respect of officers that they are usually only in office for one year after serving as a committee member for one year prior to this. This has resulted in that officer being unable to continue to sit on the committee and make a contribution to the workings of the committee. Therefore it will be proposed to the AGM that this provision be changed to allow a committee member serve for not more than **three** consecutive years. The exact wording will be set out in the Notice for the AGM. No other change is recommended.

Dates for your Diary

Uniform Sale	-	Wednesday, 30 th September.
St Gerard's Day	-	Thursday, 15 th October
AGM Parents Association	-	Thursday, 22 nd October.
Lecture – Alcohol and our Children	-	Tuesday, 10 th November
St Gerard's Ball	-	Saturday, 14 th November

Don't forget our email address is stgerardsparentsassociation@hotmail.com if you want to contact us!



St. Gerard's School Parents' Association
Thornhill Bray Co Wicklow

Committee Nomination Form 2009/2010

(Block Capitals)

Nominee _____ (name)

Address _____

Telephone _____

For the 2009/2010 Parents Association Committee

Proposed by: _____ (name)

Seconded by : _____ (name)

I agree to stand for election to the 2009/2010 Committee

Signed _____ (nominee)

Children in Classes _____

Completed nomination forms should be returned by Friday, 16th October to:

Janice Ryan, Secretary, St Gerard's Parents' Association, Junior or Senior School Office.