

ST GERARD'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Representing the Third Branch of our Community

PA ANNUAL CONFERENCE BALANCE IN MODERN LIFE

Join Us! MARCH 15th

6.45pm – Welcome, tea, coffee and tasty nibbles courtesy of our catering department.



Tony Ward

7.15pm



Elsa Jones



8.10pm George Hook



Dates for Your Diary

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Mar 11th | Used Uniform Sale |
| Mar 15th | PA Annual Conference |
| Mar 21st | Junior School Easter Camp – Mr. Jolly |
| Mar 28th | Junior School Easter Camp – Ms. Mc Inerney |
| Apr 15th | Annual Golf Outing Powerscourt G.C. |
| May 10 th /11th | Family Tennis Nights |
| Nov 26th | Winter Ball, Save the Date |

Sponsorships

| | |
|-------|--|
| €600 | Senior Cup Hockey Team |
| €1000 | Part funding of Senior School Piano |
| €600 | Junior School Parenting Course – Part funded |

This committee is here to represent you; so please feel free to contact us with your ideas or questions: stgerardspa@gmail.com

Tuesday 15th March 2016 – Annual PA Conference

We invite you to join your PA, George Hook, Tony Ward and Elsa Jones as we look for ways to find balance for ourselves and our children!

Balance in Modern Life - Evening Schedule

- 6.45pm Welcome tea, coffee and tasty nibbles courtesy of our catering department.
7.15pm Tony Ward
Elsa Jones
8.10pm George Hook



Tony Ward, renowned Irish Rugby Player. Tony faced and overcame extraordinary challenges and life turning events. Tony joins us to share his thoughts on the importance of looking forward, and bouncing back from the challenges that are thrown at us.



Elsa Jones, a qualified Nutritional Therapist & Author of No. 1 Bestseller 'Goodbye Sugar'. Elsa joins us to share diet tips to boost energy, reduce sugar intake & for healthy weight management.



George Hook needs no introduction. A well respected Irish broadcaster, journalist, rugby union pundit, author and humanitarian. George joins us to share his thoughts and experiences on finding balance in life.

Used Uniform Sale

The next Sale will be held on Friday 11th March in the Junior School Multipurpose Room at 8.30 a.m. Items for this sale can be left with Stephanie in the JS marked for the attention of **Laura Brennan/Aoibheann Cleary**. All donations gratefully received.

Easter Camps

Once again this year we look forward to St. Gerard's Easter Camps. Mr. Jolly's Camp will run from 21st - 25th March (Good Friday) and Ms. Mc Inerney's from (Easter Monday) 28th March - 1st April. Both camps will run daily from 10am to 3pm. There is an exciting range of activities on offer on both camps. Watch out for the posters around the School! If you require further information please contact;

Mr. Jolly: Kenjolly.stg@gmail.com 0868202629

Ms. Mc Inerney: jmcinerney@stgerards.ie 0879984536

More to come on summer camps in June!

Family Tennis Nights

The PA are delighted to continue with their annual sponsorship of the St Gerard's Family Tennis Evenings on the 10th May for the Senior School and 11th May for the Junior School. Entry forms for the events will be available online after the Easter break. This year we would love to see more parents playing in the event with special prizes for those taking part. All standards of tennis are welcome at this great social event. There will be a BBQ available for players and supporters on the night. It once again promises to be exciting evening of tennis with family fun for all, so dig out your rackets and get practising, we look forward to seeing you all in May!

Parents' Association Business Directory



Thanks to all those who completed our electronic PA Business Directory Form. We are in the process of collating all the data and hope to have the Directory online shortly. If you would like to register your business please do so by completing the electronic form on the School website or using the following link;

<http://www.stgerards.ie/parents-association/#5>

Parenting Course



The PA part-sponsored parenting course is currently underway in the Pavilion on Tuesday mornings. Stuart Wilson, of Zest Life, is joining parents from Montessori through to Standard 2 to discuss child development, behaviour, challenges, needs, amongst other issues. The feedback on the course so far has been fantastic!

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Annual Golf Outing in aid of Temple Street Children's Hospital



St. Gerard's Parents' Association are again hosting a social event on 15th April this year – a **Charity Golf Outing**. The Outing will take place in **POWERSCOURT GOLF CLUB** and the cost is €85 per person which will include dinner and prize giving. We are happy to accommodate all golfers (and beginners) and will endeavour to make up teams appropriate to all levels, and even teams from individual year groups. Just register your name and we will do the rest! Everyone is welcome and the cost for attending the Dinner is only €25.

If you are interested in offering sponsorship for this event please contact the individuals below. We also need items for our Charity Auction. If you have been lucky enough to win a GOLF (or other) PRIZE recently, please donate it to our Auction as all profits will go to TEMPLE STREET CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL – a very worthy cause.

Come along and SUPPORT this great social occasion - family/friends most welcome. We expect large numbers so get your form in as soon as possible in order to avoid disappointment. Forms attached or available at the school. Please drop your form (Form Attached Below) plus cheque into the office and ensure that it is made out to "St. Gerard's School Parents' Association".

Looking forward to seeing you on Friday 15th April for a great day's golf.

Any queries, please contact :

Doreen O'Reilly (086 2395599), Thelma Hodgins (086 2527608) and
Maeve Cantwell (086 2958527)

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Volunteers Needed

JUNIOR SCHOOL GARDEN

If you enjoy or would like to learn more about gardening and have an hour to spare per week then we need you! The St Gerard's Junior School Gardening Team is looking for volunteers to help with the Gardening Club. By using a hands on approach we help to educate the children about the life cycle of plants and their uses. They learn about what plants and trees need to grow as well as soil structure, different environments and how to compost successfully.

We plant spring bulbs (lasagne planting) with Standard 2; Sow acorns with Standard 3 (Which they will plant as small oak trees on the School Grounds when in Standard 6); sow seeds and plant up the vegetable garden with Standard 4; harvest the vegetables sown in the Autumn with Standard 5.

This year we assisted in compiling a very successful RDS Young Scientist Project with Std 4 and also Std 5 The Lego Competition 'Trash Trek' project. If you would like to help out please contact Fiona Gallagher on [086 – 8544104](tel:086-8544104).



MOCK CAREER INTERVIEWS

The PA is once again delighted to be involved with the school in organising the mock career interview morning for 5th years. This year it will take place on Saturday 9th April. It is always a very well received morning, enjoyed by both students and parents alike. Although we have a good bank of interviewers built up we are always looking for volunteers from various career backgrounds. If you are free and feel it is something you'd like to get involved with we'd be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the PA on stgerardspa@gmail.com.

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Dear Parent

It has been a busy term for the PA with many upcoming events including the annual charity golf outing, our family tennis nights and of course our Annual Conference. With such a fantastic line up it will definitely be one not to miss! We are delighted to be able to be involved in the sponsorship of various items, such as the parenting course, being run by zest life, for Junior School parents which is ongoing at the moment & is creating quite a buzz with some very positive feedback. Also a new piano has been purchased by the school which will facilitate music students in both their practice and examinations and we are delighted to have assisted in this. It is not every year that a St Gerard's SCT Hockey team make it to the Cup Final and so we are especially thrilled to have been able to sponsor a commemorative hoodie to mark the occasion. The team did us proud in the final match against Alexandra College on Thursday 25th Feb and although they unfortunately didn't win they should be justly proud of their performance both on the day and in the tournament overall.

We would like to wish you a very happy Easter and hopefully it will be a time for us all to unwind a little and find some balance in our busy lives

Clea Dolan
Chairperson



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