



Board of Management

St. Patrick's Girls' National School

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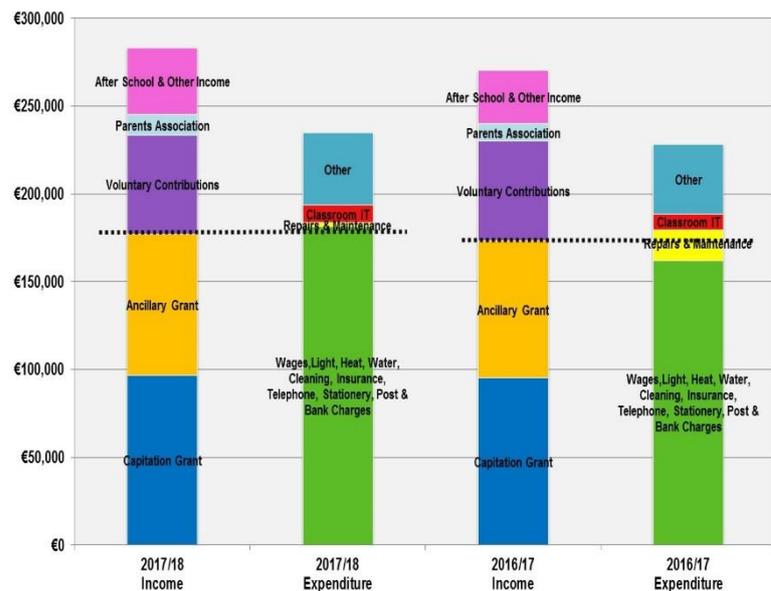
Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Board of Management, I am writing to ask you for your financial support in meeting the running costs of our school for the current academic year 2018/2019.

I would like to thank most sincerely the 50% of families who made a contribution last year. I appeal to the other 50% to please make a voluntary contribution for this school year. The Parents' Association has asked me to highlight our **standing order facility** which can be used to spread the cost of your contribution over the year. The PA has also asked that the Voluntary Contribution request be issued at the start of the school year from September 2019. This means that the contribution for the school year 2018/2019 is being requested now and the contribution for the school year 2019/2020 will be requested in September 2019.

2017/2018	% of Families
Cheque/Cash	26%
On-line payment	14%
Standing Order	10%

Our income and expenditure for the past two school years is summarised in this chart. The dotted black line for each school year marks the total government grants received. The graph clearly shows that these grants are never sufficient to cover our running expenses. The shortfall is funded entirely by voluntary contributions, Parent Association fundraising, income generated from after school activities and other small amounts of income.



The capitation grant we receive is paid per pupil but capped at 500 pupils regardless of the size of the school; we have 574 pupils on the roll this year.

In addition to paying our day to day running expenses, we need to fund the following which can only be done by way of increased voluntary contributions or fundraising through Parents' Association activities as they exceed the grants received.

- School Cleaning Contract
- Ongoing replacement, upgrade and maintenance of IT systems, sports equipment, classroom resources, books, musical instruments and resources
- Purchase of Séadán Sí and PM Readers in line with new Primary Language Curriculum

Chairman: Ms Margaret Keane, **Principal:** Ms Bernadette Gunning, **Patron's Nominee:** Mr Kieran Carrick, **Parents' Nominee & Treasurer:** Mr Brian Gormley, **Parents' Nominee:** Ms Colette Potter, **Community Nominees:** Dr. Margretta Nolan & Mr David Ceannt, **Teachers' Nominee:** Ms Zoë Mannix.

- Development of school orchestra, affiliation to National Children’s Choir and Laudate 2018-2019
- Upgraded storage facilities to meet GDPR regulations
- Upgrading of school in line with Child Safeguarding
- Licences for online facilities such as *Bua na Cainte* and *Twinkl* which are necessary to effectively roll out the curriculum
- Ongoing CPD for staff
- Continued development of our school surroundings – including our renewed garden, our shared Hiberno-Franco garden, general shrubbery, upkeep and maintenance

Last year we received annual voluntary contributions ranging from €50 to €500, many being paid by standing order over 12 months. We suggest a contribution of €250 per family because this is the minimum amount that enables us to claim tax back from the Government (at no cost to you - see table). However we do realise that everybody’s financial circumstances are different and we would like to stress that **any contribution of any level is welcome and gratefully received.**

Your Donation	Tax Benefit	Total received by School
€100	-	€100
€200	-	€200
€250	€112	€362
€300	€134	€434

If you would like to complete the enclosed Voluntary Contribution Remittance Advice Form, CHY4 Cert for Tax Relief where appropriate and return them to the office at your earliest convenience we would be most grateful. If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

If you intend to set up a standing order through your personal online banking, please advise the office so that this can be reconciled on our payment records. To meet GDPR requirements we ask that you use the payment reference of your child’s initials (first name and surname) followed by their date of birth in the format AZ010116.

You will receive a text with a link giving you the option to pay your Voluntary Contribution via Aladdin if you so wish.

We undertake to acknowledge all voluntary contributions.

The experiences your daughter enjoys in this school rely hugely on the investment we make in trying to maintain high standards. We would hate these to decline. Please, do not be one of the many parents who allow others to shoulder these costs on their behalf. Thank you for your ongoing support which is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Keane, Chairperson

