



# Parent News



Newsletter of Coolmine Community School Parents' Association

Oct 2022

## Welcome to Academic Year 2022/2023

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our Parents / Guardians after the summer holidays and most particularly to Parents / Guardians who are new to the Coolmine Family. Joining the Coolmine family means that you are part of a vibrant group of Coolmine Parents who work tirelessly to support the education of all our young people. Our school is a great example of partnership between Parents and School Personnel. The educational experience of our students is enriched by the work of our Parents' Association. The Executive is committed to a range of activities that support teaching and learning including (but not limited to) - keeping parents informed, provision of the school uniform, organising the debutantes' ball, administration of the Book Rental Scheme, nominations to the Board of Management, and reviewing school policies. I would encourage you as a Parent / Guardian to get involved in the Parents Association. In becoming involved, you will find support from other Parents, provide practical support to the school and have the opportunity to improve learning for all.

Traditionally, Autumn is a time of Thanksgiving and there is a lot to appreciate and be grateful for at the start of this school year. It is great to be back together - to learn in a face to face setting and to be able to socialise normally. Students have lockers and classrooms display and celebrate students' work. It is great to experience the hum of busyness throughout the school, hear music and conversation that is vibrant and engaging. For our students there are new opportunities to grow and develop. There are activities and spaces outside of the classroom experience -whether it is sport, school trips, dance, enterprise, school choir, drama, language club, the school radio or a quiet relaxing space to read, there are a huge number of ways to connect with Teachers and Peers. Relationships are at the heart of what we do and that heart beat is steady and strong.

You will notice the building works at the front of the school. This is a temporary building for our new Special Class for students with Autism. We are excited about this development in our school and look forward to this new space opening soon.

This Academic Year, Coolmine Community School celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It opened its doors for the first time in 1972 and has contributed to the education of young people in the area since then. Back then, it was a totally new idea in education – leading the way and providing a model of schooling that has become the norm. Most importantly, Parents were seen as real Partners and have played a significant role in education here throughout the last 50 years. We have a lot to be thankful for. We look forward to celebrating our contribution to Education in Dublin 15 throughout the coming months.

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## **Welcome to Academic Year 2022/2023**

The date of our Parents AGM occurring on the second Monday in October, is Thanksgiving Day in Canada which celebrates the harvest and other blessings of the past year. However, Canadian Thanksgiving was originally less about celebrating the harvest and more about thanking God for keeping early explorers safe as they ventured into the New World. I think of our Graduates facing new horizons and pray that they will be safe and find fulfilment in their lives ahead.

I am writing this in the aftermath of the tragedy in Thailand, where 23 children have lost their lives. I am struck daily by the gift we are given in our young people and the responsibility we all share to keep them safe and enable them to flourish. These can be challenging times to be a Parent / Guardian and Educator. If ever we feel challenged, it is important to reach out to each other. We can accomplish so much more together than we will ever achieve alone.

This Parent Newsletter is a news magazine about school life, published by parents for parents. It is a lovely example of partnership in action and an opportunity to see our amazing students. My sincere thanks to Editors of Parents News for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the production of this newsletter.

*Patricia Mc Phillips*

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## **Debs 2022**

The class of 2022 got to celebrate their Debs night at the Carnegie Court Hotel in Swords on Friday, 9 September. The Principal (Ms Mc Phillips) and Mr O'Reilly, along with other teachers, were there to wish their past students all the very best for the future. An amazing night was had by all and the celebrations were even more special as it had been three years since a Debs had taken place in the school due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event was organised by members of the Parents Association, a group of 6<sup>th</sup> Year students and Debs Ireland, who all did a great job. Thanks to everyone involved for your time and hard work to make this a night to remember. Special thanks to Linda Osbourne from the Parents' Association, who has done Trojan work over the years to make the Debs such a success and run so smoothly.

From the red carpet to the decor, the theme was "Oscars Night"; and our students certainly looked the part! Our glamorous debutants got to step out on the red carpet and enjoyed their own night at the Oscars. There were cocktails on arrival, a very swish dining room for dinner and dancing until the wee hours.

"We Danced all night "

*Gillian Douglas*



The **Coolmine Parents Association** would like to **welcome all parents and guardians to our Annual AGM on Monday, 10 October at 7.30 pm.** You can participate either in person in the School library or virtually through Zoom. **Please email [coolmineparents@gmail.com](mailto:coolmineparents@gmail.com) or call 087 988 3813 for more information or to request the Zoom link.**

**All who attend will be entered into a draw for a gift voucher for the Blanchardstown Shopping Centre.**

We are currently recruiting and have some big roles to fill in September 2022. We will be voting on a new **Chairperson. The Treasurer and Book Rental Coordinator posts are both up for grabs. If you are interested, please read on and contact us through [coolmineparents@gmail.com](mailto:coolmineparents@gmail.com) or [bookrental@gmail.com](mailto:bookrental@gmail.com) for more information.** We are also open to new members for committee roles and we would love to have you on board as we always need new members. We really need at least one parent / guardian representative from each year group so we can offer a balanced opinion and feedback to the school.

The Parents Association (PA), meet during term time, and we are currently having hybrid meetings to facilitate all members. The purpose and aims of the PA can be found on our Parents page on the school website. We work closely with the school throughout the year. We meet usually monthly through the academic year on the first or second Monday of the month at 7.30pm (apart from Book rental who operate through the summer months too with the help of all members).

**Book Rental:** is run **solely** by the Coolmine Parents Association from March to August. Book Rental was created to provide books for the Junior Cycle at a discounted rate. We really need help to continue this.

**TREASURER:** Currently the Book Rental Coordinator and Treasurer roles are combined. This is not necessarily a pre-condition of either role but the person or persons undertaking the roles will need to work together on many occasions. No reason why a new member could not take on either role as shadow this year in preparation for taking on role when incumbent leaves the PA.

Thank you for your support over the last two years. COVID-19 presented new challenges and we got through it all as a committee. I am looking forward to taking on a new role on the PA as I move on from Chairperson.

Kind Regards,

*Janet Mitten* (Chairperson)

## Parents' Association Executive 2021/2022

Janet Mitten (Chairperson)  
Mary Conneely (Secretary)  
Dermot O'Mara (Treasurer)  
Dermot Fitzpatrick (Vice Treasurer)  
Hilary Sweeney  
Selina Bonnie  
Brenda Colohan  
Gillian Douglas  
Dermot Kinane  
Larissa Norton  
Glen Phelan  
Paola Visciano  
Helen Patton  
Bo Zhou  
Marta Sanz  
Liz Hyde  
Sunitha Manoj  
Claudia Krogull

### Leaving PA

Denise Mooney  
Paul McShane  
Niamh Glynn  
Linda Osborne  
Valerie McAllorum-Byrne  
Emer Burke

## Parents' Association AGM

Date: Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> 2022

Time: 7.30pm

Location: School Library

Also Zoom

Please email  
[coolmineparents@gmail.com](mailto:coolmineparents@gmail.com)  
for the Zoom link



# AGM

Annual General Meeting

Visit the school website  
for further information  
<http://www.coolminecs.ie/>

