**Holy Family Community School Parents Council – Latest News from Meeting held on 9th January 2017**

**Parents’ Association / School Banner**

- Two banners will be produced (one for the PA and one for the school).

**Talks for** - ***Mental Health***

**Parents** Mary Pearson, psychotherapist, who works with Pieta House, has been provisionally

 booked to talk to parents on 2nd February.

She spoke to teachers before and was well received. It was suggested that she speak

to the students first, and fees/dates for this will be discussed with her.

 - ***Anti bullying training for parents***

Sinead Leleu, Chairperson, is waiting on a reply from the National Parents’ Council re the above.

 - ***Gwen Enright, Nutritionist***

It was agreed to book Gwen at a later date, possibly during 2017/2018.

**Fundraising** - TY students are organising a Clothes Collection during January. The Parents’ Council have

decided to not organise a clothes collection at present but to run a Race Night to raise funds.

**Race Night** - Funds raised could go towards a new water filtration system, canteen furniture,

 mobile staging and PA system for assemblies/events.

- The Race Night will be held in Muldowney’s of Rathcool on Thursday, 30th March at 8.30pm

- Advertisements and sponsorship of races/horses would have to be received by the end of February.

 - Receipts are issued to race sponsors, advertisers, etc after the event.

- Letter will be drafted to include all relevant information.

. Advertisements - €50 for half page; €100 for full page

 Race sponsorship - €100

 Horse sponsorship - €10 per horse

- Sponsorship would be sought from the following districts:-

 Newcastle/Greenogue Saggart/Slade Castle

 Citywest Rathcoole

 School suppliers local Sports Clubs

 Builders

**Communication** - It was agreed that a Parents section be set up on the school’s website

**with Parents** which would provide:-

1. contact details of the Council eg email address
2. news updates in the form of bullet points of the minutes.
3. links to information on various topics eg nutrition, dyslexia, etc.

**Strategic Development** - PINTA held consultations with staff, Students’ Council, BOM, PA, local primary

**Plan** schools regarding the Strategic Plan.

- The school is awaiting the results of these consultations.

**Student News** - A past-pupil, Louise Duke-Keegan, sadly passed away. A sympathy card on the

behalf of the PA was posted.

 - School reports were issued for the Christmas exams.

 - An Art inspection took place in December. No report has been received yet.

 - The students held a Shoe Box appeal for the Homeless and they raised €1,000 with

 their “Sleep Out”.

 - Fundraising events in aid of Concern have raised €6,000+.

 - 1st years went on a trip to the cinema on 21st December.

 - Carol Service was held on 22nd December.

 - Parent Teacher meetings for 1st years are on Thursday, 12th January, and for 5th

 years/TY/LCA on Tuesday, 17th January.

 - The school is holding a Showcase in The Moat Theatre in Naas on 26th & 27th

January.

 - The Department of Education announced that the school will receive a grant of

€30k to develop ICT and E-learning in the school.

**Early Bird Enterprise**  - If anyone would like to help out, please contact Noel McConnell.

(Volunteers need to be Garda vetted. This is carried out through the school).