



St. Killian's Special School Parents Association Newsletter February '26



THE ROLE OF THE PA

We are delighted to share the Parents' Association Newsletter for February 2026 with our St. Killian's community. As a new committee, we are very much looking forward to working together with parents, staff and friends of the school to strengthen connections, support our children, and continue building a warm and inclusive school community. We hope this newsletter keeps you informed about what's happening and highlights the many positive developments underway.

January 2026, a new Parents' Association Committee was elected. The Committee has identified four key areas of focus for the year ahead:

1. Community Building

Creating opportunities for parents to connect, build relationships, and support one another.

2. Advocacy for St. Killian's

Actively highlighting the ongoing challenges facing the school and the uncertainty it continues to experience. We are committed to advocating for the stability, resources, and recognition that St. Killian's and its students deserve.

3. Fundraising

Raising funds to support the Parents' Association's continued investment in equipment and resources that directly meet the needs of the children.

4. Parent Liaison with School Staff

Acting as a constructive link between parents and St. Killian's staff, enabling meaningful feedback and parent engagement on key strategic issues and decisions made by school management.

If you would like to get involved in the Parent's Association – you would be more than welcome to join our meetings. Details of our next meeting are outlined on page 3.

An Update from the PA



♥ Summer Provision

We were delighted to hear from teacher Stephen McCarthy that St. Killian's will be offering a form of summer provision this year.

This is a very positive step forward for our school community. Junior ASD classes will be prioritised initially, with capacity for approximately 24 students. The ambition is to grow this provision year on year so that more children can benefit in the future.

Getting to the point where summer provision can take place at St. Killian's is a genuinely welcome development, and we look forward to hearing further details in due course.

♥ RSE Programme (Relationships and Sexuality Education)

Teacher Róisín Hession outlined plans for an RSE programme for students in 3rd to 6th class (age 10-12 years), which will take place over the coming months.

Róisín will be in touch with parents in advance to share information about the topics that will be covered. She will also host a parent information session on March 12th for anyone who would like to learn more about the content of the programme or ask questions ahead of it beginning.

Further information about dates and details will follow shortly.

☀ Fundraising Update

PA Co-Chair Fiona Coughlan shared some wonderful news: St. Killian's has been selected as the 2026 chosen charity for the Cork branch of Johnson & Johnson.

This was a highly competitive process, so this is a fantastic achievement for our school. Throughout the year, Johnson & Johnson employees will support the school through fundraising initiatives and will also undertake improvement works onsite to enhance the school environment and facilities.

We are incredibly grateful for this partnership and excited about what it will mean for our children and wider school community in the year ahead.

The Parents' Association would warmly welcome introductions to other companies who run similar Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes. If you have a connection and would be willing to help broker an introduction, please contact Fiona directly on 086 340 8619.

📱 The Parents' WhatsApp Group



The PA is hoping to gather as many parents' contact details as possible so that we can stay connected and share updates easily via WhatsApp.

To join the Parents' WhatsApp group, please contact Co-Chair Fiona Coughlan on 086 340 8619 and request to be added

👁 Keep an Eye Out...



We'll be running an Easter Raffle as part of our fundraising efforts, with some lovely Easter spot prizes up for grabs.

Tickets will be sent home in your child's school bag over the coming weeks. We would be very grateful for your support – and we also warmly welcome any prize donations from families or local businesses. More details to follow soon!

📅 Our Next Meeting



Our next Parents' Association meeting will take place on April 16th at 2.00pm in the school.

All parents are very welcome to attend – whether you've been involved before or are just curious to learn more. We would love to see you there.

Meet the Committee:



Eibhlín Gleeson - Co Chair
Mother of Artie,
Aged 7 in Chestnut.



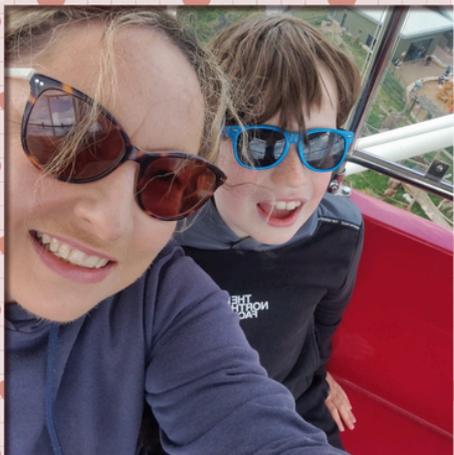
Fiona Coughlan - Co- Chair
Mother of Chloe,
Aged 11 in Yew



Nicole Duggan - PRO
Mother of Reily,
Aged 12. in Maple



Ross Curtis - Treasurer
Father of Ryan,
Aged 14 in Cuilleann



Andrea Davis, Secretary
Mother of Adam,
Aged 9 in Elm



Marie Cafferky, Parent Liaison
Mother of James,
Aged 9 in Pine

The Parents' Association would like to sincerely acknowledge the outstanding work undertaken by our former committee members — Suzanne O'Flynn, Nicola Rice, Julie-Anne Fitzgerald and Andrea Davis.

We are deeply grateful for the dedication, time and energy they have given over the past number of years. Their commitment to supporting the children, families and staff of St. Killian's has made a real and lasting difference to our school community. Thank you for everything!