# Parents Association

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON

WELCOME to our new PA Newsletter.

There will be two in a year. Autumn/Winter in December and Spring/Summer in May.

Our hope is that it will keep us connected and be a helpful resource.

This newsletter is circulated digitally in support of our green school.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big Thank You from the PA to all the parents for your support in 2023 and extend the invitation to jump into all the fun upcoming in 2024.

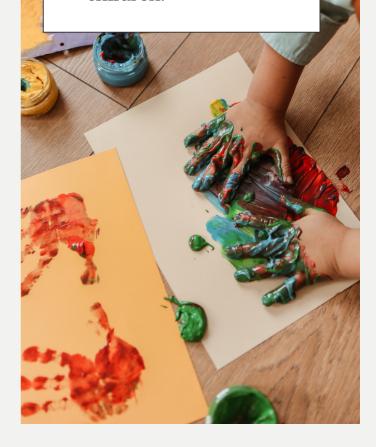
Happy New Year!



#### **BUILDING BRIDGES**

CONNECTING OUR FAMILIES, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

- Empowering Parents.
- Supporting Teachers.
- For the benefit of our children.



From the spread of yummy treats at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service to the donations and time volunteering for our Christmas Community Focus event, and much more in between, you are playing such an important role in supporting our fantastic Flowerfield teachers and in connecting school and home.

One of the exciting ways parents are involved this year is in AISTEAR Room Support.



AISTEAR is a framework of learning through play that is woven through the day in the Junior room and which also has a dedicated time and space every morning.

Some Flowerfield Moms underwent Garda vetting through the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Board and are currently volunteering throughout the week in the Aistear room.

A brilliant example of a bridge between school and home.

One of the lovely Aistear Moms, Sorcha McDonald says;

"Seeing the children enjoying playing and getting involved in the different Aistear activities together makes it really rewarding to be part of."

## READY TO GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Getting involved with the Parents Association matters. Any input is welcome and valued; from attending the meetings to volunteering at an event, all parents are welcome. You can make a positive difference!

Have you a skill you would like to share? We would love the contribution of parents and community members in 2024.

Introducing THE PARENT SHED where you can offer your skill (e.g. creative) to share with other Parents who can enjoy something new and have refreshment together for a small entry fee which goes towards our fundraising goals.

We will send out more info in the New Year. Email us to put forward ideas, discuss details or offer a class.

In January's Parent Shed, we are excited to have a Mindfulness Class by past pupil and certified creative mindfulness teacher for children, KatieAnne Bolger, who will bring us skills and tips to help us and our children navigate big feelings.



#### SAY HELLO

Teachers, Pupils and Parents are working together to celebrate the many languages spoken by Flowerfield Pupils and their families.

We will be gathering the word **HELLO** in each of these languages to put together a beautiful project in the school corridor.



# Updates

#### THE YARD

Flowerfield School are looking at improvements in the school grounds in the coming months.

Artwork, updated play areas and a resurfacing of the basketball court are all currently being researched and priced.

#### A PRESSING NEED

An immediate need that the Parents Association has agreed to help with is the replacement of the picnic benches.

They have been repaired before but need replacing. Mrs Kelly would like us to sponsor these lovely composite benches for our children to enjoy.

Amongst our other goals, we will be raising funds towards these this year.

At our general meeting in October it was suggested and agreed upon, that we put it directly to the parents that if you are in a position to and would like to give an amount towards the benches, we would welcome any donation at any time(outside of set events) to sponsor the benches.

Please email <u>parents@flowerfieldns.com</u> if you wish discuss, we can arrange a time for a phone call.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

# Upcoming Events



#### DECK THE HALL

This Parents Association fundraising Christmas Party will take place in the school hall on December 22nd from 10.30 am to 12 noon.

Games, Treats, Prizes and More Parents are invited to join the festive fun. (Helpers wanted!)

Watch out for a poster coming soon.

#### LOTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2024

- January Parent Shed: Mindfulness
- PA General Meeting
- Spring PA Outdoor Fundraiser
- Supporting School with a Community Focused Project

... and more

