

 03 February, 2023

**Launch of St.Patricks P.S. ICT Fund**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may be aware, the St Patrick’s PS staff - led by Mrs Orr - have developed a comprehensive Information Communication Technology (ICT) Curriculum from P1 to P7. Our pupils experience a curriculum that fully meets the requirements of the NI Curriculum for ICT.

Our pupils have developed their ICT skills in Publishing, Presenting, Coding, Managing Data, Art & Design, Music & Sound, Film & Animation and thoroughly enjoy the learning that take place.

Over the past three years, we have been able to use the Shared Education partnership funding to purchase Beebots, Floor robots, Ozmo, Spheros and Lego Dacta to ensure the pupils had access to the best peripherals in meeting the needs of the curriculum.

Due to constraints within the school’s financial budget, we have focused on renovating the classrooms for the 21st century, however consequently, the ICT hardware, including PCs, laptops and iPads are now well past their **life expectancy** and are now obsolete.

The DENI has refreshed and provided 15 new PCs and 13 new laptops; 13 of these are used by the teaching staff linked to their Interactive Whiteboards, however our stock of PCs, laptops and iPads has been reduced by over 40 devices. This has left a **significant gap** in our hardware available for teaching and learning.

As a school, we acknowledge that the cost-of-living price rises is impacting on every family and we greatly value the support that we receive from our parents and community.

In conjunction with the PTA, we are launching this fundraising campaign to provide the additional ICT resource we require to fulfill the curriculum needs of every pupil.

The following is the cost per unit that we have secured through the EA procurement scheme

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PC | £595 | X 8 | £ 4760 |
| Laptop  | £705 | X 8 | £ 5640 |
| I-pad | £240 | X10 | £ 2400 |
| Total  |  |  | £ 12800 |

Our target is to secure funds for 8 x PCs, 8 x laptops and 10 x iPads. This would be a fantastic start to replenishing our ICT resources.

We will undertake a number of fundraising activities to launch the fund-raising drive – as follows:

**07 February** National Internet Safety Day - a non-uniform day (fee £1 per pupil)

**11 March** PTA St. Patrick’s Hooley Party at Holywood Golf Club (details shared separately)

**15 March** Fitness Freddy Sponsored Fun Day (with a star prize for the top fundraiser)

These are all small activities and should generate hundreds of pounds, which will be a good start, but as you can see from our target amount above, we need thousands. So, as always, if any local business owners among our wider school community would kindly wish to sponsor some ICT hardware, this would be greatly received by the staff and pupils. Please remember that the PTA is a registered charity, so any donation of this nature is tax deductible – and we can benefit further from Gift Aid too.

If you are able to support with a regular or one-off personal or business-linked donation, please get in touch with myself or Cathy Martin, PTA Chair, to take this forward. Our aim is to not only work with our existing families in school, but to extend our appeal to past families, pupils and businesses within the Holywood community.

We’d also like to encourage families to make a voluntary donation to the PTA or to the School Development Fund to facilitate our ICT goals. Voluntary contributions were halted over the initial pandemic years of 2020-21, but we’d like to re-instate these. The current contribution rate is £35 per child but based on affordability – so give what you can if you can’t meet this.

On the next page we’ve included the bank details for the PTA so that you can make a contribution electronically, however we would appreciate it if you could either make your family name/pupil name clear in the narrative/notes with your payment. We’ve also included a Gift Aid form, which will allow us to benefit more (but not at your expense) if you’re a UK taxpayer.

We are so grateful for any help you can bring to our pupils and their learning experiences, and if you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

C O’Neill, Principal

Cathy Martin, PTA 

**School Development Fund Support Form**

**Family and/or Pupil Name**  ……………………………………..

I/we would like to make a voluntary donation to the SDF(please tick)

I enclose payment /cheque (insert amount) £……………

I have sent an electronic payment (tick)

Payment Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*NB – please include your child/family name on the narrative/description with payment

**PTA Account details are as follows:**

**SORT CODE:** 980760

**ACCOUNT:**  43751067

I am a taxpayer and would like to gift aid my contribution

\*please complete the Gift Aid form on the next page & email to cathy@CMPRIreland.com or hand in to the school office

**Charity Gift Aid Declaration Form**

Gift Aid allows the charity you support by reclaiming extra funds from HMRC **from the tax you pay** for the current tax year. It can boost your charity donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. NB: It doesn’t cost you anything extra.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer, so please be sure to insert it below.

In order to Gift Aid your donation **you must tick the box** below:

I want to Gift Aid my current donation of £\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I am happy to Gift Aid any donations I have made to this

charity in the past 4 years & any donations I make in the future.

**Name of Charity St Patrick’s Primary School Parents’ Association**

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

**My Details**

**Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**First name or initial(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Surname \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Full Home address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Postcode \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Please notify the charity if you:

* ﻿﻿want to cancel this declaration
* ﻿﻿change your name or home address
* ﻿﻿no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

NB: If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.