

The main functions of Loreto Parents' Council, Wexford are to

- » Represent all parents/guardians in the school community
- » Liaise with the school
- » Liaise with students through the Students' Council
- » Meet once a month
- » AGM annually
- » Appeal for funds annually

The members of the Council from October 2010 are as follows:

Chairperson: Michele Winters
Deputy Chair : Mary Fox
Secretary : Frances White
Treasurer : Jackie Owen

Joan Bowe
Annemarie Byrne
Liz Darcy
Nicole Carty
Marguerite Power
Eleanor Carpenter
Mairead Lambert
Barry O'Leary
Anne Wallace
Patricia Hackett (nominee on Board of Management)
Owen Hillary (nominee on Board of Management)
Amy Cotter (staff representative)

Text messages to the Parents' Council may be sent to the following mobile phone number which is held by the secretary - 087 9354634

Parents' Council Update - 28 March 2011

1. We are pleased to announce that Eilish Culleton, Barbara Foley, Meike Wald and Bernadette Cullen have now joined the Parents' Council and are enabling us to have links to 1st year parents.
2. We have been approached by Ms. McDonald (teaching staff) for help with mock interviews for Transition Year students. The aim is to give the girls interview practice and feedback. The interviews will take place on Tuesday, 24 May between 6.30 and 9.30 p.m. approximately. A timetable will be drawn up giving any parent willing to act as interviewer specific times. Interested parents should contact Ms. McDonald via a note or phone call to Betty at reception.
3. Day-to-day issues - such as classroom heating - and other housekeeping matters have been brought to the Parents' Council for discussion. These matters should be reported by students or parents directly to Mr O'Shea at the time, so that they can be addressed immediately. Parents' Council reporting of these issues to Mr. O'Shea can be up to 5 weeks after they occur!

4. The Parents' Council has conducted a survey of the weights of schoolbags. The results will be posted here soon.
5. The improvements to the Lunch Room are very welcome. We are grateful on the students' behalf.
6. A reminder: national news related to Parents' Councils is available on www.npcpp.ie .

From October 2010 to date the Parents' Council has been involved in discussion/implementation of the following:

- Dried fruit has now replaced chocolate in the school vending machines
- A Cervical Cancer Vaccination programme for students in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 was spearheaded. The first of three vaccines was given to students in December. The programme should be completed by June 2011. 136 students took up the offer. Anyone with enquiries about the vaccine should contact the providing company, Point of Care, directly.
- A plan is in the making to gather data on the weight of schoolbags borne by Loreto students in Wexford. The council will provide scales for this purpose.
- Continued to be involved in school development and planning and the updating of school policies.
- The 'Home School Financial Liaison Officer', to take over from Sr. Christine will be Ms. Gay Brennan. Anyone experiencing difficulties in paying school expenses should contact her in strict confidence.
- Helping to pay for Peadar Maxwell's talk to the parents of Leaving Cert. students. Feedback from this talk was very good.
- A Christmas lunch, attended by members of the Parents' Council, was provided to all the members of the Students' Council in the school. A good time was had by all.
- Members of the council were shown the new showers by Ms. Cotter. All agreed it was a tremendous improvement on heretofore.
- Parents are reminded that the school website should be accessed regularly. Web texting has proved to be particularly useful for making urgent announcements to parents.
 - » A voluntary contribution to the Parents' Council of €30 per family will be sought after mid term. This is the Parents' Council only source of funding.

The Board of Management agreed report is available on the school's website.

A donation of €100 was paid by the council to Ms. M. Jordan to fund books for the paired reading programme to help improve literacy in the school.

From September 2009 to June 2010 the Council was involved in the following:

- Contributed funds to support book allowance.
- Consulted and worked closely with the school in response to concerns in relation to the Swine Flu.
- Annual Christmas lunch with the Students Council in December

- Provided funding towards the school musical "Fiddler on The Roof".
- Part funded a school video on bullying.
- Provided a water cooler for the school.
- Was Represented on the green school committee
- Continued to be involved in school development and planning and the updating of school policies
- In association with Taste restaurant, continued to provide hot lunches for the girls at lunchtime.
- Replaced two of the George Foreman Grills in the lunchroom
- Sponsored 13 sports prizes at this years' prizegiving ceremony.
- A representative from the parents council was one of the interviewers for the posts of head and deputy head girl.
- Provided a blessed Candle burning in the foyer throughout the examination period.
- First day of state exams- healthy snacks and bottled water were distributed to all students

The following retired from the parents council in September 2010 . The council wish to express their gratitude to each and every one of them for their services to the school: Glenda McKiernan, Isobel Mahon, Kathryn Birmingham, John Cullen and Laurena Kent