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# Good Counsel College

## Parents Council Newsletter

Issue No. 3, November 2017

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Reddysland, New Ross, Co. Wexford

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Check out Parents Counsel New Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/GoodCounselCollegeParentsCouncil>

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Dear Parents

We are already half way through this term and have elected our new Parents Council Committee. To the parents of new students to the school, welcome. We hope you will get involved with the Parents Council and we look forward to meeting you at our monthly meetings and events.

This is our first newsletter of this school year. We use our newsletter to keep parents informed of our activities and to provide you with contact details of your Council committee members. We have a change of officers this year with Carmel Somers as Secretary, replacing Sheila McAuliffe, Siobhan Furlong as Treasurer replacing Maria Lindell and Susan Warren replacing Lorcan Kinsella as PRO. Our thanks to Sheila, Maria and Lorcan for all their hard work last year and our best wishes to Sheila and Maria who have been nominated to serve on the school's Board of Management.

We are also very fortunate this year to have two representatives from the teaching staff, Pauline French and Mags Cushen on our committee. We are very appreciative to Pauline and Mags for their involvement.

We finished our last term by hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> Year Barbeque, which coincided with the school's sports day and was a great success. We are now planning our activities for the year ahead and welcome all ideas and suggestions to add to our programme.

Our meetings will be held in the school on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month and we encourage all parents to come along.

With best wishes for the coming year,

Mary Lou O'Kennedy

Chairperson

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### Updates

#### Good Counsel College Parents Council Constitution

Our new constitution was ratified at the AGM and is available to view on our Facebook page and the website.

### Dates for your Diary

#### **Wed 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

##### Good Counsel College Parents Council Meeting

Meeting Room Villa Nova @8:00pm.  
All Welcome.

#### **Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

##### Mass

Fr Michael Collender will have a mass in the College Church @7pm for deceased staff, students and family members of the school community. All welcome.

#### **Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017**

##### CAO Information Night

An information evening for parents will be held regarding CAO applications as part of the College Awareness Week @7pm.

#### **15<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

##### Careers Night

Careers Night will be held again for all 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year students. If you are available to talk about your chosen career path your support would be welcome on the night. Contact a member of the committee for info.

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## Annual Report 2016-2017

The first meeting of the Parents Council was held on 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. An Annual Report of the previous year's activities was presented. The main projects supported were:

- Funding of €12,000 from the Friends of Good Counsel fund towards the fitting out of the Ostia unit.
- Developed proposals on the administration of ongoing school costs.
- Established a Parents Council Newsletter issuing two newsletters with the intention of issuing one newsletter each term for the future.
- Set up a Parents Council Facebook page and What's App Group for ongoing communication.
- Supported the running of the school Careers Night in January 2017.
- Supported the Well Read school initiative which is a credit to the hard work of the teachers involved.
- Reviewed a number of Study Skills Initiatives.
- Became affiliated to National Parents Council Post-Primary.
- Reviewed schools new Discipline Policy.
- Liaised with the Student's Council on their Green Schools Project.
- Provided financial support for new Social Inclusion Fund administered by Fr Collender.
- Held the Annual 6<sup>th</sup> Year Barbeque. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make it a great success.
- Organised the Spring Gathering fund raising event with a view to it becoming an annual event. The committee, parents and staff who were there were thanked for their help on the day and those who donated beautiful cakes, tarts and buns for the coffee morning.
- Reviewed the Good Counsel Parents Council Constitution for presentation to the AGM for approval.

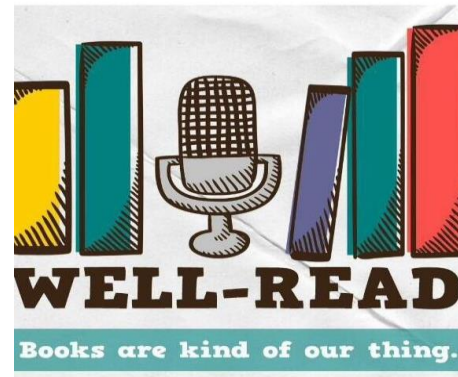
## New Junior Cycle Curriculum for 1<sup>st</sup> Years

First Year Students in Good Counsel College will experience the new Junior Cycle Curriculum in the following subject areas: English, Science, Business, Gaelige, Spanish, German, Art and CSPE&SPHE (now included under WellBeing). If you would like information on Junior Cycle please visit our Facebook page or <http://jct.ie/publications> where you can access information for parents as well as information on each subject and how the students will be assessed i.e. Classroom Based Assessment, Assessment Task and State Exam.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Year BBQ

The 2017 6<sup>th</sup> Year Barbeque as held on 26<sup>th</sup> May. With four barbeques burning we succeeded in cooking 300 burgers and 200 sausages, with great flair and fun! With sun, strawberries and ice cream for desert, all diners, teachers and students alike, appeared to enjoy the occasion. The barbeque is a special day to wish the 6<sup>th</sup> year students well as they prepare for their leaving cert exams and to thank their teachers for their consistent hard work and dedication throughout this important year. And for those boys on the sports field who availed of the many trays of extra burgers on the day, that was a bonus!

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### Contact Details of Committee Members:

**Mary Lou O'Kennedy: Chairperson**  
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