# Maryfield Spring Clean Saturday April 5th 2014

In conjunction with the National Spring Clean initiative and An Taisce, the Maryfield School Community participated in its fourth clean up day on Saturday April 5th.

The early morning rain did not deter the 80+ volunteers who made their way to the school throughout the day to do their bit for the school. Indeed the sun emerged by kick-off time and the day turned out to be mild and mostly dry....perfect conditions for work!

Participation in the event increased this year, 42 Maryfield students and 40 parents, teachers, members of the Board of Management, ancillary staff and caretakers registered in the Gymnasium throughout the course of the day. The volunteers seemed to enjoy the work and there was a great sense of achievement experienced by all who took part. Many volunteers were heard to say, “See you again next year!” There is truly a sense of camaraderie in evidence within the school community.

Refreshments were provided by our dedicated catering crew throughout the day and the now famous homemade burgers and hot-dogs provided the hungry workforce with welcome sustenance!

Below is a list of what we did. So much was achieved on the day and the build up of 4 years work is truly in evidence at this stage.

**CLEARING AND CLEANING**

* Litter removal from around the perimeter of the school
* Weed removal from the bicycle shed and outside the gym.
* Clearing of the area behind the railings including the removal of a mattress....again!
* Gracepark Heights perimeter area
* Power hosing of the main entrance.

**GARDENING**

* Hedge pruning and clearing
* Pruning, clearing and mulching of the rockeries in front of the school
* Edging of pathways and weed removal
* Planting of new alpines, heathers and ceanothus
* Weeding and planting of the two granite bays in front of the school
* Top-dressing of bay trees at the school entrance
* Pruning and clearing of the shrubberies at the front of the school and at the gym
* Pruning and securing of the pyracantha plants to the railings.
* Replacement of 2 hebes in Boiler Courtyard and weeding and top-dressing of containers.
* Planting of 2 Olive trees in Maryfield Blue pots to enhance the student entrance
* Planting of Maryfield Blue pot for the Memorial courtyard

**PAINTING**

* The windows and doors along the west side of the gym.
* The large metal gate into the canteen courtyard
* The entrance gate
* The external windows of the religion room and kitchens.
* The railings along the ramp up to the student entrance and up to the main entrance.
* The external side door facing Charlemont.
* The 7 picnic tables
* The outside of the student gate
* A section of the Charlemont perimeter wall.

**THANK YOUS!**

* **Sincere** thanks to all the volunteers who turned up on the day and worked so hard to make this year’s Spring Clean such a success.
* To the Spring Clean Sub-committee for making it happen.
* To the Parents’ Association for their work and for funding the purchase of paint, plants, equipment, food etc.
* To the Principal, Maree O’ Rourke and the Board of Management of Maryfield College for their support.
* To Fiona Moore and, Dublin City Council for providing us with brushes, bags, pickers, gloves etc. and for the collection of the rubbish.
* To An Taisce and the National Spring Clean initiative for their advice and Clean –Up kit
* To Charlie Treacy, C & T Philipsburgh Ave. for his generosity in providing refreshments for the day.
* To Woodies, Coolock for giving us discount on plants and materials.
* To John and Declan, Caretakers, for their preparation and hard work on the day.

As I mentioned last year, the Spring Clean provides us parents with a means to actively support our daughter’s school in a practical and useful manner. It also provides an opportunity to meet other like-minded parents.

*The Maryfield Meitheal is alive and well!*  Do join us next year!

*Siobhán Conroy*

*Maryfield College Parents’ Association*