

St. Clements Parent Council News

Parent Council Meeting

The fourth Parent Council meeting of this school year was held on Wednesday 4 2011 and was attended by Mr Macgregor, 2 staff representatives and 3 parent/carer members. This newsletter highlights the main issues discussed at the meeting. Our last meeting date this school year is on Wednesday 15 June 2011 please come along if you wish. Everyone welcome. All meetings take place at 6.00 p.m.

THE NEW SCHOOL PROPOSALS

There have now been 7 Project Board meetings in connection with the new school and representatives of the Parent Council continue to attend each one. The update from this meeting is attached and the Parent Council will continue to keep you informed. The next meeting is on Friday 24 June.

We would like to remind everyone that the proposal is for 2 separate and distinct schools with some shared facilities on the same campus. Under the proposal St. Clements Primary School would retain its own identity, with the current Lochee and Charleston primary schools merging.

FUNDRAISING

The next Bingo Fundraiser will now be on Thursday 12 May 2011 'eyes down' at 6.30 p.m. ...please come along and support this to help raise funds for the school whilst having some fun in the process. Funds raised so far have been used to replenish the school book stock which will benefit our pupils literacy projects. Mr MacGregor is looking for a parent/carer to volunteer to join the group which monitors the use of the School Fund so please let him know if you are interested.

Parents and carers can continue to drop in to their children's class on a Wednesday morning or may be interested in joining a Parents Group in the school with Taletta Jamieson Dundee City Council's Parental Involvement Officer which next meets on Thursday 12 May at 2.00 p.m. Please remember you can contact Mr Macgregor or your child's teacher at any time though!

Remember you can follow the latest updates from the school on a regular Blogand on Twitter!

Mr Macgregor has made a plea for more Twitter followers to 'tweet' to so sign up when you can!

Mr Macgregor advised that there have been 32 new Primary 1s enrolled for next school year so the school roll will be increasing as 21 Primary 7s will be moving on! The Induction Afternoon for new Primary 1 Parents/Carers will be on 7 June.

HOMEWORK POLICY

The school still plans to take this matter forward following the Homework Survey undertaken last year but again need parents/carers to get involved in the development of this policy. Let the school know if you are interested.

INTERNET SAFETY

It's important that we are aware that our children are using the Internet safely. There are briefings by the Internet Safety Partnership on Tuesday 10 May 6.30 p.m. at Ardler Community Centre and Thursday 19 May 6.30 p.m. at Douglas Community Centre to find out more.

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"The New School Supplement"

The latest meeting of the Project Board for the new school site was held on Thursday 28 April at St. Clements Primary School. Mr McPhee from the Parent Council was in attendance and provided the following update on the issues discussed:

- Graham Storrie from the City Engineers gave a detailed briefing on the Soil Investigation (which is necessary before building works start) and the Traffic Impact Assessment.
- Assurances were given that the soil investigation highlighted no risks to human health from the soil investigation and that there no risks in the water environment. The Lochee Burn which flows near the school will be re-routed by SEPA prior to work commencing.
- Numerous queries were raised regarding the Traffic Impact Assessment as concerns are raised about the potential increased volume of traffic to the area. The new site will have 4 pedestrian access points but only 1 vehicular access point. The Director of Education gave assurances that he would ask his officers to look at the concerns raised in detail before the next meeting although schools would be actively involved in developing required Travel Plans. If anyone has any innovative suggestions to reduce the flow of traffic to the school or for suitable parking options nearby let the school know!
- Enabling Works on the site are awaiting approval by the Council's Committee on 23 May before the contract can be awarded to allow the contractor to mobilise in June and start in July. This will be the start of a significant period of upheaval at the school and everyone will be required to show patience and understanding whilst this is going on. Assurances were given that details about the works and the impact for our children will be notified before the school breaks up for summer. The safety of our children is of paramount importance and those managing the project have experience of making sure this is the case at other school builds. Please let the school know if you have any specific concerns.
- Tenders for the Design Development Stage of the news buildings will be returned by August 2011 and assuming approval process is followed a completion date for the new build would be January 2013.
- A Local Implementation Group will commence in August 2011 which will involve representative parents and staff from all the schools concerned. If you are interested in joining this Group please discuss with Mr Macgregor.
- Remember the Site Plans are available in the school if you wish to refresh your memories!