

Parent Council Newsletter



St Clement's Primary School Prize Bingo Night

It was "eyes down" at St Clement's Primary School as Parent Council, staff and pupils recently organised another hugely popular Prize Bingo Night, which was attended by nearly 250 family and friends of the school. The event raised a whopping £549.16 for school funds. Head teacher Andy McGregor praised the organisers and thanked everyone for attending another enjoyable evening.

Craigowl Primary School Playground Equipment

Some pictures of the Craigowl Playground equipment that the Parents Council was able to install with the help of Dundee Partnership funding and Lottery funding. The younger years' playground equipment was opened by Pupil Council Rep – Oliver Bruce in P3A, and first down the slide was Duncan, the youngest pupil in the school (nursery pupil). The Trim Trail was opened by pupils Lauren and Connor, and Kyle, the oldest pupil in the school, was the first to cross the equipment.



THANK YOU from Taletta

"Well, here we are again at the start of the Summer Holidays. This year seems to have gone by so fast. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all the work that you do to promote parental involvement and the support you give to your school. I have enjoyed again the opportunity of meeting with you over the past months whether it has been at meetings, visiting your school or attending school events, you have made me very welcome and it has been great to see the marvellous work you are doing. I have no doubt that the active involvement of parents and carers in the life of the school can help promote a learning community in which pupils can engage positively with school staff and their peers. Schools benefit from developing positive partnerships with parents by involving them in all decisions affecting their children's education and learning and I have seen this in action throughout Dundee as I have met with you. Do have a wonderful holiday, I hope the sun shines for us all and I look forward to meeting you all soon at the start of the new academic year. Best wishes, Taletta"

Taletta Jamieson, Parent Involvement Officer

**“Farewell”
from the
Director of Education, Dundee City Council**

I have had the great privilege of managing aspects of service delivery in the Education Department since 2000, first in Support for Learning, then in secondary education, and latterly leading the Department for the last two and a half years. As I approach the end of my working career I look back fondly and with a deep sense of gratitude over my time in a job I have always wanted to do and which I have found hugely rewarding.

The rewards come when you see young people so obviously enjoying the work they are doing in class, a young person developing in confidence to the extent of being able to sustain a major role on stage, staff and pupils enjoying a new school, a youngster with additional support needs finding success, a member of staff seeking and gaining promotion, or an NQT who has grown very fond of Dundee and its schools and is desperate to remain here. The list is endless.

I was born in Dundee and educated in Dundee. I have spent the majority of my working life in this city and it holds a special place in my heart. From my time as a fledgling teacher right through to my final post of Director of Education, I have always been fiercely ambitious for Dundee's young people. I have wanted to drive our young people and have been determined to see them achieve to their highest potential. It always saddened me to see some of our young people failing to derive tangible benefits from their time in education, but I am equally delighted that we have turned that corner and are now seeing real sustained improvements in attainment.

The city of Dundee has many challenges it must face, but it is doing so with spirit and verve and the positive results are there to see around us. That is the case as much in education as it is in wider Dundee society. Our implementation of the Curriculum for Excellence is powerful, our devotion to the needs of the more vulnerable in our society is sound, our nurturing of our very young and our appreciation of the need to give them the most secure start if life is unquestioned, and our care and attention to the personal and academic development of all our young people is unstinting.

I have always maintained that we are, alone, unable to achieve all we set out to achieve, especially in these demanding times. Our various partnerships have therefore been very important to us, not least that with parents. The vast majority of parents want their children to do well, and want to work with us to help them do well. I have been so proud to have helped develop such a successful partnership with the parent body, and I have appreciated the cooperation and assistance of parents. Our partnership has been mutually beneficial, as it should be.

These are momentous times in the world of education. It is doubtful if there has ever been a time when so many major initiatives and plans and reviews have either been undertaken or are currently on the stocks, and all at a time when the financial context is difficult and unlikely to improve. I joined a profession and I have tried to act professionally through my working life. If all our members of staff continue to show that strong sense of professionalism that I see as I go around Dundee's schools, we will adapt to changes and we will not lose sight of our *raison d'etre*, which is to support young children to develop into responsible adults ready to take their places in society.

I may be retiring from an active role in education, but I can assure you I shall watch with great interest educational developments in Dundee. I offer each and every one of you my sincere best wishes for your success and happiness in the years to come.

Jim Collins

<http://www.dundee.gov.uk/education/>

Dundee Schools Music Theatre

Back to Back PRESENTS

“Our House”

The Madness Musical

Dundee Rep Theatre, Wednesday 17 to Saturday 20 August 2011 at 7.30pm

This high energy musical love story is set to the sound of Madness. All of their well known songs including "Baggy Trousers", "Driving in My Car", "Wings of a Dove" and of course "Our House" feature in this fun and poignant musical which tells the story of Joe and his girlfriend Sarah who live in modern-day London and shows two different courses his life could have taken following a petty crime.

S3/S4 PRESENTS

“All Shook Up”

The Space, Dundee College, Wednesday 24th - Saturday 27th August 2011 at 7.30pm

All Shook Up is a new musical comedy built around a number of songs made famous by Elvis Presley. It takes place in 1955, somewhere in middle America, where one girl's dream and a surprise visit from a mysterious leather-jacketed, guitar-playing stranger help a small town to discover the magic of romance and the power of rock & roll. Among the classic songs featured in the score are "Heartbreak Hotel," "Love Me Tender," "Don't Be Cruel," "Can't Help Falling in Love," and of course the title tune.

S5/S6 PRESENTS

“Me and My Girl”

The Whitehall Theatre, Thursday 1st to Saturday 3rd September at 7.30pm

Bill Snibson, a Lambeth costermonger, is revealed to be the new Earl of Hareford and his newly discovered aristocratic relations are horrified. Bringing him to Hareford Hall, they attempt to educate Bill into the ways of the gentry and to separate him from his cockney girlfriend Sally. Chaos of the most comical kind ensues! A host of hilarious characters, witty one-liners and toe-tapping, uplifting songs including the famous "Lambeth Walk", "The Sun Has Got His Hat On" and "Leaning On A Lamppost" make this show a real treat.

Show	Dates	Venue	Ticket Prices	Tickets from
Our House – the Madness musical	17th-20th August	Dundee Rep	£11/£8	Dundee Rep Box Office 223530
All Shook Up	24th-27th August	The Space	£11/£8	The Space Box Office 834934
Me And My Girl	1st-3rd September	The Whitehall Theatre	£11/£8	Dundee City Box Office 434940