

Dalbeattie Primary School Parent Council Meeting

10th September 2026

Present:

Mrs Duncan – HT(ED)

Valerie White (VW)

Amy Bell (AB)

Davie Stitt (DS)

Faye Murray (FM)

Alex Howie (AH)

Paula McMinn (PM)

Helen Stone (HS)

Demi Burgess (DB)

Michelle Houston (MH)

Jenna Whalen (JW)

Apologies:

Lyndsay Sloan (LS)

Jane Porteous (JP)

Wendy Murray (WM)

Ian Blake (IB)

Kim Lowe (KM)

Brenda Clayton (BC)

Liezl Lesser (LL)

Welcome and Introductions Chair

AB welcomed the members to her first meeting as Chair. No new members attended.

Notes of last meeting

AGM notes – no matter arising

Headteachers Report

All classes are back and settled. P1 have been doing amazingly coming in almost all from day 3 by themselves.

Staffing

Miss Rodger has returned from mat leave and is sharing with Mrs McLean phased retirement

Mrs Moylett has started as our new ASL teacher

Mrs Drennan mat leave at October holidays

Mrs Lumsden Acting DHT - Interviewing for DHT tomorrow.

Playground Supervisor Needed & Class Teacher 0.8 FTE temp until June.

Nursery

New staff Miss Kelting EYSA

Miss Harper – Trainee EYSA

Miss Jackson – EYSA (temp)

Attendance has started in a positive way well and pupils are looking smart in uniforms which is positive

Improvement Plan

Share parent friendly version – will send this out tomorrow.

Due Care Inspectorate Visit in nursery in not too distant future. Links to questionnaires have gone out to parents.

Attainment

Staff are using hand over info and carrying out assessments to plan and support learning and teaching moving forwards and progress for learners.

Pupil Equity Funding

Fund some staffing, Quarriers support (waiting update), trips for pupils may need.

Active Schools

Amy Nivens our co-ordinator again this year and plans have started for the year ahead.

Ross Cunningham from active schools is with us again at Thu lunchtimes

Pupil Reps

Sports, House, Pupil council, eco, JRSO, Sports committee, Rota Kids, RRS all been selected for classes.

Plans this term

Sponsored Walks, Operation Safety P7, Open Afternoon, Active Travel Breakfast, Bikeability, Bike Skills.

Eco/ Fair Trade

Playground work to be finish. Mrs Howie has plans for this.

Reapplying for both Fairtrade and Eco awards this year

Reading Schools

Achieved our Bronze award last term. Now working on Silver. Mrs Lumsden is leading on this.

Tesco

Fruit for School £1200

Smoothies Mrs H P7 and other plans

Smoothie Bike

RRS Silver Award

Being assessed on Wednesday 16th. Would like to have a parent representative join us. Mrs Mclean has put out two requests, however no one has come forward.

Anyone available to consider joining us would be much appreciated.

Treasures Update

Balance from last meeting £1,626.86

- Service Charge £9.27
- Hall Hire (Bingo) £11.80
- Service Charge £5.82
- Servicer Charge £4.25

Current Balance £1,595.72

The group discussed how best to use the funds within the school and agreed to retain the money for now, allowing the balance to build towards a larger project. Mrs Duncan will ask her staff for their thoughts on the most appropriate use of the funds.

PVG update

PM to take over responsibility from VW and will be added as a signatory.

FT to complete PVG application.

Application for BC still outstanding. AB to double check she is still wanting to be a member of the PC.

Fundraising

- Halloween Disco
 - To be held on Thursday 29th October.
 - DJ required – JW to ask Ross or see if there is a High School Pupil that could help.
 - Discussed purchasing disco lights for future events. Valerie will apply through the NHS Scotland Community Benefits portal to see if they can provide some lights, but this not guaranteed. Mrs Duncan will ask Stewartry Headteachers whether any schools can lend lights for the Halloween disco.
- Coffee Morning
 - Date changed to the 6th March 2027. AB to book the hall.
- Bingo
 - 6th May 2027. AB to book the hall.
- Other ideas (Car wash)
 - JP has spoken to Allana at the Fire Station. They would take half of the money raised. Potentially hold the event in May 2027. Can also include a tea and coffee station.
 - Discussion on fundraising through the Tesco blue token scheme. AB to look into a potential application – could use the money for school reading books.

Parent Forum Update

No update.

AOB

- Small lottery license – to be renewed in November.
 - Agreed the license is no longer required, and we will not be renewing the license.
- Healthy snacks
 - Look at ways at promoting healthy snacks.
 - Discussion on how other schools help the promote healthy snacks and how we could introduce this i.e. dojo points given for bringing in fruit & having free fruit stations outside of classrooms.

- Mrs Duncan to introduce Healthy Fruit Fridays with the fruit and veg budget, for kids to help themselves. Potential for the P7's to help prepare the fruit.
- Mrs Duncan to discuss with staff and in assembly to ask the pupils for their ideas.

AOB

- Consider approaching Sainsbury's for funding, as they are newly established in Dumfries.
- Swimming lessons discussed – there is funding available for lessons, however Mrs Duncan advised that there is not enough staff to cover this. Anyone who could help would need to be PVG checked.
- Curling was also discussed - however, it is too expensive for buses.