


## Pupil Council Minutes 2024-2025

Date: 10.09.2024		School	
	Primary	Saint Joseph's Members	
	P1	Kianna-Leigh	
	P2	Liana	
	P3	Kamran	
	P4	Katie	
	P5	Ava G.	
	P6	Ross, Ava W.	
	P7	Joanna, Ry	
	Staff	Miss Lisi	

**Welcome** – Miss Lisi welcomed our committee to our Term 1 meeting.

**Previous Actions** – Everyone agreed that all actions from the last school year have been signed off and we achieved our Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award. Miss Lisi thanked the committee for completing these.

**Pupil Consultation Feedback** – Pupil council consulted both classes to gather any issues or suggestions for our meeting. The points raised are included in our minutes.

### SHANARRI/Wellbeing

- **Healthy (Physical Activity and Nutrition)** - The pupils discussed the desire for more P.E. sessions to help everyone stay active and healthy. The children already receive the 2 hours per week that they are entitled to, but are keen to do more. They also suggested having fruit salads, starting Fruit Fridays, and organising a special Smoothie Day. Miss Lisi will ask Ms. Whorlow about the Smoothie Day. Golf and Rugby have been organised for next term.

**Action - AW/MP to make leaflets to send home to ask families if they can bring fruit on Fridays for snacks.**

- **Nurtured (School Environment)** - The idea of planting more trees and flowers was popular, and the children thought a gardening club would be a great way to help the school and the environment. The Parent Council are busy working on ideas for installing raised vegetable planters.

**Action - RH/JR to start a sign-up sheet for students interested in joining a gardening club.**

- **Safe (School Grounds and Cleanliness)** - There were concerns raised about safety in the wildlife garden, as some people have been coming in at night and causing trouble. They also thought it would be important to set up a litter-picking rota to keep the school clean, particularly since litter has become a problem due to people coming in after school hours. They suggested moving the sheds into camera view and possibly getting metal sheds to better protect them.

**Action - RR/AG/LM to create "No Litter" posters to place around the school and in the wildlife garden, reminding everyone to keep the area clean.**

- **Active (Physical Activity Opportunities)** - The pupils expressed a strong interest in getting the outside equipment they won, including a climbing wall. Parent Council have planned to come into school in Term 2 to meet with the children in assembly to seek their ideas and suggestions.

**Action - Ms. Whorlow and Donna to arrange a whole school assembly**

- **Responsible (Health and Safety Awareness)** - The pupils want to receive first aid training for themselves, not just for school staff. The children believe this would empower them to help peers in emergencies and promote a safer school environment. We are pleased to say that our Health and Wellbeing curriculum includes 1<sup>st</sup> Aid and Emergencies as a topic for the boys and girls. Miss Lisi will enquire about this.

**Action - Primary 7s are currently undergoing Playmakers Training which will equip them with interpersonal skills. Mrs Copeland will assist the P5-7 class in designing a Playground Wheel of Choice to help children make good choices.**

### Learning and Teaching

- **Achieving (Access to Resources)** - The pupils expressed a desire for improved digital resources for their learning, including iPads for everyone and better laptops and computers. They believe that having access to updated technology would enhance their educational experience and support their

learning across various subjects. Ms. Whorlow and Parent Council are trying to find funders who might be able to help us get money to buy iPads.

**Action - Pupils to discuss with school staff the possibility of acquiring more iPads and better laptops for learners to enhance digital learning.**

- **Active (Outdoor Learning Opportunities)** - The pupils are enthusiastic about the outdoor learning experiences currently offered and would like more school walks to explore nature. They enjoy these activities and feel they contribute positively to their learning and well-being. There are plans for vegetable patches and more planting. The Unexepected Garden team have been in to talk to staff on what we might be able to do going forward.

**Action - Teachers to plan additional school walks and outdoor learning sessions to provide more hands-on experiences for pupils.**

- **Responsible (Support for Learning)** - The children expressed a strong interest in establishing a homework club to help them with their studies. Additionally, they would like more after-school clubs, such as cooking and gardening, to provide opportunities for creativity and skill development outside of regular school hours.

**Action - Explore the feasibility of starting a homework club and additional after-school clubs like cooking and gardening.**

#### **Any other Issues/Ideas**

- **Respected (Leavers' Experience)** - The Primary 7 pupils expressed a desire to choose their leavers hoodie colours individually, allowing them to personalise their farewell attire and feel more included in the decision-making process. They believe this would make their leavers experience more memorable and special.

**Action - Pupils to consult with school staff about allowing Primary 7 pupils to choose their leavers hoodie colours individually.**

- **Included (School Connections and Activities)** - The pupils would like to visit Portpatrick School as part of their efforts to connect with other schools, particularly their partner school. They also expressed interest in more school trips to broaden their learning experiences and create lasting memories. Ms Whorlow plans on taking St. Joseph's Digital Leaders and House Captains out to Portpatrick so that the pupils can work together on initiatives for the school. This is planned for term 2. Ms. Whorlow is looking at trips for this year and already has a plan for the P5 - 7 trip along with pupils from Portpatrick.

**Action - Pupils to ask to plan a visit to Portpatrick School and explore opportunities for more school trips.**

- **Active (Competitions and Events)** - The Primary 7s are eager to hold competitions, such as baking contests, to foster teamwork and school spirit. **Action - Pupils to consult with school staff about the possibility of organising competitions, to foster school spirit among the pupils.**

#### **Rights Respecting Schools**

- **Achieving (Recognition of Accomplishments)** - The pupils expressed their pride in achieving the Rights Respecting Schools Silver Award and are excited about the challenge of working towards the Gold Award. This accomplishment reflects their commitment to promoting the rights of children within the school community.
- **Included (Actions for Improvement)** - During the meeting, the pupils reviewed the actions required to reach the Gold Award and set specific goals for this term. They plan to create a rights mascot to represent their commitment and develop a pocket-book of rights to share with families, helping to spread awareness of children's rights beyond the school.

**Action - KR/KA and LM to create a RRS Mascot competition for the whole school.**



**Action - AW/RR to work on beginning a 'Pocket Book of Rights'**

#### **Leading Change**

- **Included (Pupil Voice)** - The pupils enjoy being consulted on ideas for our school. Ms. Whorlow will meet with pupil representatives from each primary to seek their views on how we do things.
- **Respected (Personalisation and Choice)** - As mentioned previously, the pupils emphasised that after-school clubs should be determined by pupil choice, ensuring activities align with their interests and creating a more inclusive environment.

**AOB** - Miss Lisi thanked everyone for their time and hard work

**Date of Next Meeting** - To be scheduled

 	Pupil Council Actions	Who by?	When by?
	Ask Ms. Whorlow about a Smoothie Day	Miss Lisi	End of T1
	Create leaflets to send home asking families to bring fruit on Fridays for snacks	AW/MP	1 <sup>st</sup> November
	Start a sign-up sheet for pupils interested in joining a gardening club as improving school grounds is a priority	RH/JR	ASAP
	Create 'No Litter' posters for the school and wildlife garden	RR/AG/LM	8 <sup>th</sup> November
	Ms. Whorlow & Donna to arrange a whole school assembly to seek children's views on play equipment	Ms. Whorlow/Donna	4 <sup>th</sup> Nov
	Design a Playground Wheel of Choice	Mrs Copeland	End of T1
	Discuss acquiring iPads and better laptops for digital learning	All Pupils	1 <sup>st</sup> October
	Plan additional school walks and outdoor learning sessions	Class Teachers	Now and throughout the school year
	Pupils to ask about the demand for a homework club and additional after-school clubs ensuring they are determined by pupil choice	All Pupils	1 <sup>st</sup> October
	Consult about allowing Primary 7 pupils to choose their leavers hoodie colours individually	Primary 7 Pupils	1 <sup>st</sup> October
	Plan a visit to Portpatrick School and explore more school trips	All Pupils	1 <sup>st</sup> October
	Enquire about organising competitions	All Pupils	1 <sup>st</sup> October
	Create an RRS Mascot competition for the whole school to take part in	KR/KA/LM	ASAP
	Start a 'Pocket Book of Rights' project	AW/RR	ASAP