

Note of AGM

Friends of Loanhead Parent Council

Monday 17th September 2018

7:00pm – 9:00pm

School Investment Update

Key points

Investment work includes a major refurbishment of the existing building, a new extension to accommodate an early years centre and investment in the external area to provide a mixed landscape playground.

Work will commence in the summer of 2019 and will be complete by August 2020. Plans have been submitted and feedback is due from Ayrshire Roads Alliance due to the anticipated increase in traffic for the early years centre.

Due to the scale of the work, children will be decanted from the building during the course of the work. The former Kilmarnock Academy building is not an option for the temporary location of the school. This is due to the extensive investment work scheduled for this building.

Three schools including Loanhead, Dunlop and Crosshouse are all on the future capital programme and require pupils to be decanted therefore alternative options and additional budget are required for all three. EAC officers will submit a report to EAC's Cabinet by the end of the calendar year to request additional budget to facilitate these moves and make recommendations on locations for the decants.

Options discussed include:

Silverwood – this building requires significant investment to bring it up to an acceptable standard for the children to occupy.

Kirkstyle – this is occupied at the moment. Although the fabric of the building is in good condition, access is an issue.

St Joseph's – this has capacity for the school and is a functioning building. This is currently within the catchment area for many of the pupils.

Parents are invited to submit their thoughts and ideas for consideration either via the school or the Parent Council. Please do so as quickly as possible as the preparatory work for the cabinet paper will be commencing imminently.

Early thoughts from the group indicated that St Joseph's was the preferred option.

Transport will be offered and agreed in conjunction with the school staff once a decision has been made.

School staff are now attending monthly meetings relating to the work and will take forward our ideas and concerns at this forum.

Note of AGM

Friends of Loanhead Parent Council

Monday 17th September 2018

7:00pm – 9:00pm

Events

Following a commitment of assistance from the group, it was agreed that a Halloween disco will take place after school on Wednesday 31st October. The Parent Council will take responsibility for paying for the hall let and refreshments etc. There is a strict child to adult ratio to be maintained therefore we require as many helpers as possible otherwise we cannot progress with this event.

We will be in touch with you all soon to ensure we have the correct numbers in place.

The Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday 24th November 10am-12pm. This is the main fundraising event of the year and again, we need your support. We have ten external stall holders already committed so we are just about at our maximum. We will also have our own stalls such as tombola, home baking, bottle stall etc. We will require volunteers to help with arrangements and the stalls on the day.

Cllr Barry Douglas provided a fabulous banner to advertise our Fair last year and has kindly offered to update this for us.

Head Teacher Update

- The +1 language is French with additional languages including Gaelic and Spanish being undertaken in the school.
- Literacy – there has been an upsurge in attainment of reading
- Improvement in numeracy is evident
- Additional laptops were purchased to support literacy and numeracy
- Mental health support – including conversations about how the pupils are feeling and use of Ice Pack
- Three priorities for the school are literacy, health & well-being and digital technologies
- Blogs will be developed and GLOW will be used as a resource to access wider tools to help with learning
- Attendance is an issue and having an impact on the school with pupils being taken out of school for holidays outwith the allocated holiday periods. In some instances this can happen several times for some pupils over the academic year.
- P1s are settling in well. Polite and a light-hearted notice to parents, please do not over pack the lunch box, pupils are rather worried that they need to eat everything and have no time left to play 😊
- Year planner will be issued in the forthcoming week

Note of AGM

Friends of Loanhead Parent Council

Monday 17th September 2018

7:00pm – 9:00pm

- Dogs are not permitted in the playground, please ensure they are also kept away from the gates to allow free entrance and egress
- Reminder that some children do have a peanut allergy so please consider what lunch or snacks your children are bringing to school
- The school is grateful for all those who have offered their services as volunteers. A good return this year!

Treasurer's Update

Kaz gave an update on the account and an overview of income and expenditure. We were previously saving funds to invest in the playground however we were successful in getting this work incorporated into the capital budget so funds are available for other activities such as events and to further support the school.

Election of Office Bearers

Elected office bearers are required to ensure the smooth running of the group and act as a link between the school, EAC and parents. All four existing office bearers agreed to remain for the next academic year. Ann Ross kindly volunteered to join the "official bearers".

AOB

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for calls for assistance at forthcoming events. We need your support and ideas to help make the school the best possible experience for every child.

Office Bearers

Craig Hume	Chair
Carrie Hope	Vice Chair
Karen Johnstone	Co-Vice Chair
Kaz Hume	Treasurer
Ann Ross	Secretary

Councillors in Attendance

Councillor Barry Douglas