

## Fenwick Primary & ECC Parent Council AGM

23 August 2022

### ATTENDING

Donna Vivers	Chair
Jamie Houston	Head Teacher
Rhona McKillop	Deputy Head Teacher
Rebecca Batchelor	
Carol Brown	
Patricia McMillan	
Jennifer Chalmers	
Antonia Percival	
Claire Hynds	
Lorna Muir	

### Guests

Deborah Kerr  
Lesley Anne McMillan  
Lynsay Wilson  
Mary Welsh  
Susan Montgomery

	Discussion	Action
	<p><b>Apologies</b> – Lynsey Barnaby and Chris Duncan</p> <p><b>Minutes from last meeting:</b> Approved – DV Seconded – RB</p> <p>Welcome back to current PC members, school staff and welcome to the new parents who have joined us tonight.</p> <p>Fenwick PC is a very active PC and has representation from every class – from ECC to P7. We meet once a term and have been doing this through teams for the past few years, which has been working well but we could look at face to face meetings if that is the preferred method. We use Facebook to communicate with the parents and have instructions on how to use the app on Facebook. Our main aims are to support communications from the school to parents, support what is happening within the school and fundraise for resources.</p>	

We are given a list of needed resources from the school to fundraise towards.

We are not there to take on individual family issues/challenges, that is the role of the school.

**Names and classes:**

- Donna Vivers – P2/3 Oscar
- Rebecca Batchelor – P3/4 Abbie
- Carol Brown – P6/7 Callum
- Patricia McMillan – P7 Susan & P5 Douglas
- Jane Chalmers – P5/6 Harriet & P2 Henry
- Claire Hynds – P2 Esme & P4 Archie
- Antonia Percival – P2 Ethan
- Lorna Muir – ECC Annie & Nola
- Deborah Kerr – P3 Lily
- Lesley Anne McMillan – Jacob P1
- Susan Montgomery – ECC Aaron
- Lynsay Wilson – P1 Luke
- Mary Welsh – P1 Emily

**Report of the year from Chair**

**Overview**

2021-22 has again been far from business as usual again for the Parent Council (PC) and Fenwick Primary & ECC. With the constraints easing in general, it seemed as though the education system were the last to relax covid practices, but we know that this was for the protection of our children and the staff even though it was difficult to accept at times.

Personally, I have never been in my son's class for the entire time he has been at school and I for one am really looking forward to this experience.

As always, the PC were encouraged by the commitment of the school and the teachers to continuously improve the learning environment for all children while we were in such challenging times and more recently have been grateful to Mr Houston for the opportunity to give our views on areas for improvement or development that we as parents would welcome.

The Head Teacher will share the schools **Strategic Implementation Plan** of which the PC and wider parent body will feed into. We look forward to the plans for the year ahead and as a parent council will strive to support the school in realising school objectives.

Looking back at last year's objectives and how we supported where we could, remembering the challenges we have faced.....

**PC Objectives for the Year 2020/21 & Outcomes**

**Objective 1**

*Contribute to the school's resources and environment including*

*maintenance of the school garden*

### **Garden Area**

Parent Council continue to support the maintenance of the school garden and planters and volunteers use the summer to tidy up

- Provided hanging baskets for the main gates
- Made 'tyre guards' for the jubilee celebrations which are now planters

### **School resources**

- Raised funds to purchase sports equipment for the whole school
- School uniform donations which provided the school with much needed spare clothing

### **Objective 2**

*Represent the parent forum and ensure strong and interactive engagement/communication between the parent forum and the school*

- All PC members continue to have separate social media groups with their class parents to share updates and communicate any issues with the PC
- We have used the Facebook page to connect more than ever with restrictions still in place this year
- The PC were very vocal in the development of the new ECC space and are pleased to see this coming together

### **Objective 3**

*Work closely with the School and Local Authority (where appropriate) to enhance its implementation of the School Improvement Plan*

- The Chair of the PC attends the Local Authority Parent Steering Group and fed back any updates from Head of Education during the year. This focussed mainly on covid restrictions and guidance again

### **General Fundraising**

Even though we were unable to fundraise in the usual manner the PC were hugely successful in raising funds to support the school this year.

We were able to buy Christmas selection boxes for all pupils and arranged for a virtual Santa visit which was beamed into classes up to P3/4 during their parties.

We gathered amazing prizes for our Christmas raffle, mainly through donations from local businesses and raised funds through the raffle.

The PC were also able to fund the P7 yearbook at the end of the year and purchased school ties for all new P1 pupils and help out with the cost of the end of year trip!

Thanks to all the hard work of those involved in fundraising this year. Let's hope we can get back to business as usual now and provide lots of great events for the school family.

### **Thank You**

The Chair would like to thank all the PC members for their active participation over the past year and ongoing commitment to Fenwick Primary School & ECC

The Chair would also like to thank all the teachers for the hard work over the past year and as we wished Mrs Davidson fair well, we also welcomed Mr Houston who has already been a breath of fresh air and we look forward to many years of success under his guidance!

We look forward to a successful year ahead.

### **PC Elections/Resignations for 2022/2023**

Donna Vivers remains Chair

Carol Brown remains Treasurer

Rebecca Batchelor remains secretary

### **Treasurer's Update**

May 2021 - £264.50 in bank

May 2022 - £777.93

Money Spent

P7 Handbooks - £166

Ties - £63

Insurance - £122

Christmas - £93

Sports Equipment - £462

Books have gone for audit

Currently have £1215.89 in bank but £1080 is allocated to Fenwick Foxes so actual amount in bank is £135.89

### **Head Teacher Plans (Mr Houston)**

Thank you to Donna and the PC for their support.

It has continued to be a challenging year, main challenge has been parents not being allowed into the school – but this year we should be back to normal.

**School Vision, Values & Aims**

Updating this is the number one priority and the school had a 70% engagement from parents from the survey that was sent out. Children are working on identifying the values that they think are important.

The school will soon have new ways of working.

**Assessment**

Looking at a more robust way of assessing the pupils.

Mr Houston and Mrs McKillop have met with a rep from GL Assessments.

This form of assessment is used authority wide by other authorities and in some schools in EAC but not all.

Mr Houston believes this is a useful tool and will be looking at the budgets for this.

It has an on-line platform to know where the children are in their learning. <https://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/>

**Homework**

Mr Houston is aware that parents have different opinions when it comes to homework. He will be looking to do some consultation with parents to see what would work best.

We were restricted during covid but have the opportunity to make the homework policy more flexible

**Things we will look at in school:**

- Link into the visions, values and aims – making this more purposeful
- Wellbeing Wednesday – Mrs Ross spends a lot of time working on this and producing the weekly updates. Are these useful and worthwhile?
- Bug Club – a very useful tool during covid but it isn't used often by parents. Is it worth it?

**Open Afternoons**

These will be starting again, meet the teacher afternoon to be arranged for next week.

Parents Evenings- looking at the options of online or school appointments

**Rights Respecting School**

Working towards the Gold award

**School Calendar**

Term 1 dates – organising events: Halloween, Nativity, Xmas Fair

**Covid**

New dynamic risk assessments are in place

**School Improvement Plan**

Was submitted to EAC in June, no feedback as yet

**ECC**

Work ongoing

Numbers are going up with only 2 spaces left and enquiries for next session.

This will lead to an increase in the school role.

**Report Cards**

Antonia asked if there should be 2 report cards rather than the one that was given out last year.

Mr Houston confirmed that there will be a minimum of 2 reporting formats – either face to face sessions or report cards and he will be discussing this with the staff.

Claire Hynds commented that report cards from other EAC schools were different to Fenwick's and more personal.

Mr Houston agreed that they should be more personal and will be investigating that.

If any parents have any questions, then please contact Mr Houston.

**Afterschool Offering**

Starting tomorrow at John Fulton Hall – Wednesday/Thursday only. Antonia, Deborah and Donna from Lainshaw Lions will be in the hall.

John Fulton Hall is run by a sub committee and are looking for helpers – ideally looking for people from Fenwick as the majority of the committee don't stay in the village.

**Preparations for In Person Events**

Looking to start arranging fun events for the kids. First one would be Halloween – starting the disco again.

Looking for members to lead the disco organisation.

Will there be a Halloween parade in the school?

**Next Meetings**

11 October 2022

20 December 2022