

## Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January – Parent Council

**Attendees:** Angela Buchanan, Fiona Pentland, Mairi McGill, Jillian O'Rourke, Eugene -Paul, Kayleigh Laird, Neil Farren

**Apologies:** Katrina Livingstone

### **Agenda:**

1. Welcome and opening prayer
2. School report
3. Treasurer's Update
4. A.O.C.B

19:09 – welcome – Elanie

- Discussion about roles

### **School report**

**Fundraising** – Elf Games,

**P7 Transition** days – 5 full days (before August)

- 5 classes– 137 students
- Reasons for more students attending – behaviour/choice of subjects

**Prelim diet** – report issued week 3 of February.

- Last day of S6 (2026) is 20<sup>th</sup> April – likely – study leave and exams.
- S4- S6 will return in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of June for new school year..

**Christmas Concert** – festive concert (18/12/25)

**Pathways week** – options information evenings.

- Reporting and Parent Evening – S1 (14/01/26) and S3

**EAC Learning Visit** – Learning & Teaching and Leadership – positive feedback and praises from EAC.

**St. Andrew's carpark** – installation of bollards.

**Staffing** – Mrs Ovens appointed – 12/02/26. Mr Goldie teaching until then...

**Retiring** - Mrs Shearer is retiring 27/02/26.

### **Upcoming Events**

- 09/02 – Holiday
- 11/02 - S4 parents night
- 13/02 – options windows close
- 18/02 – Ash Wednesday service – 2:30pm
- 16/03 – Next PC Meeting

**Questions** – is education a devolved matter to Scotland? – Mobile Phones in school and should they not be allowed at all in schools.

Pilot for banned mobile phones in school – no system in place at the moment. Young people need to have phones for to and from travel. Most parents and carers are supportive of the phone ban... some are not.

19:36

### **Treasurer's Update**

Documentation handed in to Mrs Buchan and breakdown in communication and moving along with transferring the account for Neil to take charge of with Grace. Neil to be able to tell us how much money is in the account – incomings and outgoings. Link to app – fundraising app – Easy Fundraising – no cost for parents. Neil to find out about that. Amazon – smile? Links a percentage. £409 for the Nintendo switch.

Do we still owe money to the school – school leavers from last year – Unsure of the amount, maybe £100.

Mairi – does the fundraising money go into a separate pot? Donation for tea and coffee etc all goes into the school fund. That pays for buses.

Only parent council fund is for the parent council. Can be used when other avenues are exhausted (not always). Bottle stall was the last fundraiser that occurred.

### **Gift for Mrs Shearer**

Mrs Shearer gift from parent council. – send email to Parent council for ideas/options for gifts...

Buzzworks voucher or wine...

19:46 –

### **Bullying issue**

Safe use of social media / refresher of how to safely use social media.

Student struggling to attend school.

PC O'Donnell can be utilised

Safe Schools online.

Additional intervention from school if multiple events can be confirmed.

Discussion about types of bullying – Snapchat and group chats.

- Follow up with relevant staff.
- Proactive about addressing incidents including vaping and nicotine pouches.

## **Facebook Account – St Joseph’s Academy**

Facebook page will be used for Parent Council Issues.

- Mix up with fayre...
- The person that is using it, is not part of the Parent Council – they are sharing information that is quite good, but it isn’t relevant.
- Issue that parents are messaging the facebook page with issues that and they’re not actually getting through to the parent council.
- Parent Council should have control over the Facebook St Joseph’s council page. 221 followers.
- Mrs McLaughlin is not on the parent council and shouldn’t be in charge of it – can be confusing.

Email – handed out for everyone – bulk email to me

Closing prayer

Next meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026.