

Crookfur Primary School Parent Council



Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/parents/parent-council/>
Email: CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com

Minutes

DATE: Wednesday 26 January 2022 at 8pm
LOCATION: Zoom Call
CHAIR: Mrs Denny Henderson
PURPOSE OF PARENT COUNCIL: The Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 required every school to have a Parent Council. The main aim of a Parent Council is to try to represent all parents/carers, help the school community be successful and support improvement where needed.

1. Welcome and opening remarks

Denny welcome everyone present to the meeting.

2. Present and apologies

Role	Name	Present	Apologies	Role	Name	Present	Apologies
FC	Catherine McLatchie	x		P5	Laura Crichton		X
P1	Krys Kujawa	X		P5	Michelle Wilson	X	
P1	James Campbell	X		P5	Beverly Stoner	X	
P1	Jenni MacKinnon		X	P6	Allyson Gilchrist	X	
P2	Amna Munir	x		P6	David O'Gorman	X	
P2	Maaham Ahmad	x		P6	Kari Gillies	X	
P2	Sarah Penny	X		P7	Denny Henderson	X	
P3	Lynsey Williams	x		P7	Gillian Plews	X	
P3	Ailsa Munro	X		P7	Fraser Strachan	X	
P3	Melanie McPhail-Smith		X	HT	Sheena McGuigan	X	
P4	Dawn Jamieson	X		DHT	Kimberley Slorach	X	
P4	Jenny Andrew	X		DHT	Claire Jamieson	X	
P4	Conor Murphy		X	CLLR	Tony Buchanan	X	
				Staff	Mrs Lamont	X	

3. Minutes of previous Parent Council meeting

- 3.1 *Approval of the previous minutes* – these are available on the school website and were approved.

3.2 Actions arising from previous minutes, **all completed**

- Thank you for those who managed to recruit some new members of the Fundraising and Social committee, the next meeting is 17th February, any more volunteers would be appreciated.
- New paints have been ordered, hoping they will cause less staining, more aprons have also been ordered.

4. Recent meetings and events

4.1 Equalities Forum (26 January 2022)

There was a presentation by Judy Ferguson from Woman's Aid about misogyny and gender-based violence and its effects on children and young adults. A lot of young people don't realise that domestic violence can happen to them, it doesn't just happen to older people. Diversity group will keep looking into gender equality.

Fiona Shaw from Education Scotland is looking at gender identity and gender bias. She had given a presentation to the school Equalities Coordinators about this and introduced a number of self-evaluation/audit tools that schools can use to assess their practice. The diversity group think that this is an area of interest to parents and a curriculum evening will be arranged looking at gender bias.

5. Financial Report

Statement		IN £	OUT £	BALANCE £
Balance at 7 December 2021				8,257.19
Money out	Disclosure Scotland for Volunteer		101.00	
	Sports equipment		2,334.45	
Money in				
Balance at 26 January 2022				5,821.74
Cheques still to be cashed	Nursery leavers books		281.50	
	Christmas crafts		57.45	
	P1 Christmas gifts		60.00	
	Buses for Nativity		300.00	
Available to spend at 26 January 2022				5,122.79

5.2 Spending approved out of meeting

- A request from a new club, the "COP club", for litter pickers to help keep the playgrounds clean. Approved.

5.3 Funding requests from school / family centre

- Visualiser for every class plus some spares, a great tool for showing pupils how to do something on the virtual board. (Approved)
- Mr Weir has offered to set up and run a chess club as there is an interest for that. There is a request for donations of old sets that aren't needed any more. If they don't receive enough sets, then there may be a request to buy some more.

6. Planned extension to the school

Mrs McGuigan met with Ruth Adams and the Architect to discuss the design. They will arrange to meet with the Staff next and PC Chair. Main points regarding design are:

- Extension will be built over 2 floors
- 6 additional classrooms will be created as well as additional facilities (toilets etc)

- Staff room extension
- New parking area for staff and blue badge holders
- Following the extension, there will be enough classrooms for 3 classes per year group
- A STEM room
- Reclaiming the current Multipurpose/IT room which is currently a classroom
- Extension will be over the current parking bays at the side of the school/infront of lunch hall
- The Style Academy will be relocated to provide new parking area for staff
- Entrance lobby and Staff room will be the only rooms affected during the building phase
- School Office will temporarily move to Office at the P1 entrance

7. Remembering Mrs Rattray

Thank you for all the kind messages to the Staff following the news of Mrs Rattrays passing. There is a desire from the school community to honour her memory and years of service at Crookfur. Those interested in contributing to this discussion will be welcomed, to discuss suitable ideas. Eastwood High School will be included in this invitation.

ACTION	Gather volunteers and ideas for a Memorial to Mrs Rattray	Denny
--------	---	-------

8. Head Teacher Report

- 495 current school roll
- 147 current intake at Family Centre
- Currently looking to fill position of Business Support Manager for Eastwood cluster
- Issues at Family Centre with staff absence (Mrs Walker, Mrs Scoular and Miss David have been covering these and spending a lot of time on Nursery Floor)
- New Family centre uniform not yet available but Stevensons have now done a mock-up of the new badge and hopefully uniform will be ready soon.
- Complaint from local resident about the school traffic using Abercorn Road, damage being caused to resident cars, cars travelling too fast and using this road to avoid the Harvie avenue lights
- Parking on Lomond drive on the double yellow lines

ACTION	Reminders about where to park and where not to park, a link shared to the Parent council page on school website with more details	Mrs McGuigan
--------	---	--------------

Forest School

Mrs Lamont joined the meeting to talk about incorporating Forest School as part of the children's learning at school. She gave a presentation about the benefits of Forest School which include:

- Holistic approach to teaching, great for Mental Health, resilience and development
- Offers risk in a safe environment (this is developed over time in a controlled way)
- A long-term process with frequent sessions
- Suitable for all ages and abilities
- Encourages self-worth and confidence
- Helps motivate and concentration

Mrs Lamont is working towards the Level 3 Leader training (along with some Family Centre staff) which is necessary to lead a Forest School. As part of this training, she will complete a 6-week trial session with some children. Once she has completed her training, Forest School will be something that all children at Crookfur will start to take part in and will build up their skills over their years at school.

Recovery

The staff are continuing to assess how best to support the children post-lockdown. Mental wellbeing is at the forefront of their work. Working alongside Healthier Minds, CAMHS and Family Health Services.

Staff are continuing to work on;

- Relationship building
- Growth mind set
- Increasing self esteem
- Building resilience
- Targeted support

Primary 7s have created "Kit Bags". A group P7s have become Ambassadors and are working to support pupils by offering out these bags which include resource materials for relaxation and self-care and are offering the opportunity to talk to their peers. This is going well, and it will be extended into Primary 6 as well.

Mrs Slorach has approached the East Renfrewshire HealthiER Minds to ask whether there is a possibility for them to come in and work with groups or classes and initial contact seems positive.

Councillor Buchanan said that the Council have agreed to extend the funding for the Family Wellbeing Service, because they also feel prioritising Mental health is important just now.

ACTION	Standing item in the Agenda to discuss Mental Wellbeing and Recovery at every meeting	Denny
ACTION	Create an information leaflet for parents about the various Mental Wellbeing strategies that are currently being used in school e.g. bounce back.	Mrs Slorach

9. Correspondence with Parents and Carers

Nothing raised before meeting apart from the complaints about parking on Lomond Drive.

10. Subcommittee updates

10.1 Fundraising and social committee

Next meeting being held on 17th February

10.2 Diversity Group

There was a meeting on 12 January and another planned in February. The subgroups are working on a number of initiatives and communications for parents. The subgroups are: Cost of the school day, Race Equality, LGBT inclusive practice and gender bias.

10.3 Climate Group

Still not allowed in person meetings yet due to Covid, however the pupil members are working away behind the scenes on ideas.

11. Any other business

Mrs Slorach is still keen to create a group with a focus on identified needs, but she is wondering if this should be a parent led group with Teacher representation in it as opposed to School led. She asked for ideas regarding setting up this group and what to call it. She is hoping some parents may form a group and create a flier to advertise it to the school community, she herself would love to be involved in it. The group will focus on Neurodiversity and everyone should feel represented.

Next meetings

- Parent Council Chairs Forum - Wednesday 2 February 2022
- Diversity Group – Wednesday 9th February 2022
- Fundraising and Social Committee – 17th February 2022
- Parent Council – Tuesday 8th March 2022

Denny Henderson

Chair – Crookfur Primary School Parent Council