

Crookfur Primary School Parent Council



Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/parents/parent-council/>

Email: CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com

Minutes

DATE: Thursday 25th April 2024 at 7.30pm
LOCATION: Eastwood High Sports centre
CHAIR: Kari Gillies
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

Kari welcomes everyone present to the meeting.

2. Present and Apologies

Role	Name	Present	Apologies	Role	Name	Present	Apologies
P1	Laura Imrie	X		Fc/P5	Melanie McPhail-Smith		X
P1	Fiona Obhi	X		P5	Jenny McLellan		X
P1	Preeti Fordyce		X	P5	Ailsa Munro	X	
P2	Cindy Paton		X	P7	Laura Crichton		X
P2	Samra Naureen	X		P7	Beverly Stoner		X
P2/6	Catherine McLatchie	X		P7	Michelle Wilson	X	
P3	James Campbell	X		Co-op	Kari Gillies	X	
P3	Krys Kujawa	X		HT	Sheena McGuigan	X	
P3	Jenni MacKinnon	X		DHT	Kimberley Slorach	X	
P4	Maaham Ahmad		X	DHT	Claire Jamieson	X	
P4	Amna Munir	X		CLLR	O'Donnell		X
P4	Sarah Staff	X		CLLR	Buchanan		X
				CLLR	Morrison		X

Online – Michelle, Preeti, Sarah, Amna, Samra

3. Minutes of previous Parent Council meeting

- Approval of previous meeting minutes –

- Actions arising from previous meeting:

ACTION	Keep trying to recruit new members for fundraising committee	PC Reps
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- Actions outstanding from earlier meetings:

ACTION	Find out about getting access to Heartstone books	Mrs McGuigan
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Still outstanding highlighted in yellow. All others completed.

4. Recent meetings and events
Eastwood Parent Council

Talking about East Ren destination leaving reports. Eastwood is sitting at 98.2% as the Highest in Scotland. Looking at attendance and league stats. National recording changes of bullying. Eastwood is being used as a test school as they have a high level of recording.

5. Financial report

5.1 Financial report since the last meeting

		IN £	OUT £	BALANCE £
Balance at 13/3/24				9,879.39
Money in				
Money out	Christmas Party food		102.03	
Bank balance on 24/4/24				
Money already assigned				
	New Outdoor area		5,000.00	
	Mrs Rattray fund		579.06	
	Charity boxes		17.00	
	Coffee jugs		50.00	
	Basketball kit bags		151.05	
Available to spend				3980.25

5.2 Spending approved out of meeting -

- Colour run supplies
- Ice poles for discos

5.3 Funding Requests from the school -

- End of term items such as Primary 1 bags, P7 leaver items. Money was spent on Culture week from the standing PC allowance, if it doesn't quite cover what was spent, there may be a request for the remaining amount.

There have been quite a few requests for sponsor money/donations from the school recently and Mrs McGuigan is conscious of that, they wouldn't usually choose to have so many requests within a short space of time. This should be considered next year regarding planning. There may be school trips planned for this term as well, this may be an additional expense as well.

6. Parental engagement and involvement

- 6.1 Developing our School Community**
- 6.2 Connect online sessions**

7. Learning through Football Programme (Mr Atkinson)

Relaunched recently, primarily set up by GCC and SFA, how to engage various children of different backgrounds in to learning using football as a tool. Extending beyond the core councils into a larger area. Mr Atkinson is keen use and promote this, though its still in its infancy. Linking each curricular area into several lessons, linked to diversity, maths and literacy. Scotland is doing well in the football so its a good time to be taking this forward. A nice way to finish the school year by introducing this to the children. How it is used in Crookfur will depend on time (its a busy term with lots of events). This is a way to bring the Euros over to Scotland and bring it closer to home and to use it as a context to learning whilst it is so relevant. It will be used in ways that are right for peoples classes. Because its linked to the curriculum it can be used across the whole school.

8. Digital Learning: Microbits demo – Mr Atkinson

There has been a lot of training this year for teachers in digital learning. New IPads and Chromebooks were bought this year. Miss Lamb has led the development of digital learning this session. Ipads being used extensively and new Apps to aid learning. Spheros being used for Coding lessons, Johnathan Hull (PT Digital) visited the school to lead some digital learning sessions with children. Upscaling the children early on so they are prepared and know how to use digital learning safely and properly before high school. Micro:bit can be used for many different purposes such as step counting how to take temperature, create tetris and Ping-Pong games and much more. Used flexibly across classes at first and second level. Empowers students to think creatively. The technology is that similar to a pocket sized computer. Its has an LED display, buttons and microphone, sensors and input and outputs. You can only be exposed to these at school.

Mr Atkinson has been using them with his class, some of the uses have been; dice games, heart counter, name tags, sending radio/coding messages to each other, more advanced use can be using it with guitar. On the google classroom there is a link to the microbit page. Here there are lots of apps/lessons to choose from. They are funded for by the BBC, once you have completed the training course. There are 2 class sets in Crookfur. Accessories are also available to be bought from the website to go with these but they are very expensive. If any break they wont be replaced until the next full set is sent out. Using Micro:bits provides opportunities for children to lead their own learning, supporting the recommendations of Education Scotland.

Johnathan Hull launched digital strategy for the authority, ensuring that children are achieving standards by the right time. The staff at Crookfur have been giving up a lot of their time to learn digital learning and attending drop in sessions to continue their learning. Crookfur came second in the regional final for the K'Nex competition and are off to the Grand final at Kelvinhall. They are into the final 20 from around 5000 entries.

9. Attendance

All local authorities are focussing on this at the moment. Since Covid there has been a large increase in absences. There is data from the government looking at attendance statistics. Data suggests those from deprived areas and those with ASN are more likely to have higher absences. If your child sits at 90% attendance, by the time they reach 3rd year in high school it is the equivalent of missing 1 year of school. At the most recent East Ren review, this year is starting to see an increase again. Crookfur however has the best attendance in the local authority, though there is a core group of children whose attendance is chronically bad every year. As you move through Primary school (and secondary), there is a gradual drop off of attendance from the start till the end. It highlights the attainment gap. Data suggests lower attendance for some ethnic minority children as well as those with ASN and those with caring responsibilities. The school/nation are looking at what can be done to change the numbers. Whole school approaches – ethos of care, rights and relationships, strong learner voice, prioritise belonging, inclusion and wellbeing, giving the children things to look forward to, offering afterschool clubs to those who would most benefit from them, connectedness (diversity group), the total curriculum comes together to help support all of the above.

How to improve - Identify the children, gather info about the reasons and help to address. Initiating support from early on stops the sliding scale that leads to school drop outs.

ACTION	Send out link to full report for those interested	Mrs McGuigan
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Head Teacher Report

9.1 School roll: Crookfur 509, Family Centre - 144

Staffing

Most of permanent staff will be back in post next year, don't know NQTs yet, one fully funded will be provided by the school. We don't know yet if Mr McMillan will be returning from his secondment to St Ninians. Mrs Dickie will be returning from Mat leave.

Process of financial year end is ongoing so we don't know about cuts and funding yet.

News and event

Break the rules, culture weeks, colour run next week and entries for Crookfur's got talent. Busy term with P1 transitions and P7 transitions being planned at the moment. Eastwood teacher visited the P7s this week. Sports week will be towards the end of term (later than last year). Date for celebration of achievement will be the 7th June, due to the Prom at Eastwood being the 6th this year. Lockerbie Manor residential will be before that and the P7 school show.

10. Questions from the Parent Forum

P7 Residential enquiry about how many nights it will be for. Used to be 3 nights but most recently has been 2. They still have the same number of activities though.

11. Subcommittee Update

11.1 Fundraising and Social Group

11.2 Diversity Group

Havent met since our last meeting

12. Any other business

- none

Date of next meeting

- Parent Council – Tuesday 11th June 2024
- Diversity Group – Tuesday 14th May 2024 (online)
- Parent Council Chairs – 22nd May 2024
- Fundraising and Social Group - TBC
- ERC Equalities Forum – Wednesday 8th May 2024
- New East Renfrewshire Equalities Forum - TBC

Kari Gillies

Chair – Crookfur Primary School Parent Council