

# Parent Council Newsletter

**NEXT MEETING**

AGM - 7PM - 16/6/21

**ALL WELCOME!**

➤ A PLACE FOR ALL PARENTS AND CARERS TO KEEP IN TOUCH AND GET INVOLVED

## ✓ SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

### Equalities Forum

Netherlee Primary and Nursery have representation on the East Renfrewshire Council Equalities Parent Forum. The focus of the last meeting centred around child poverty and looking at ways of reducing the cost of a school day. We were reminded that there will be an increased amount of families that will face uncertain times, especially in light of the financial fallout of Covid and the Furlough scheme coming to an end.

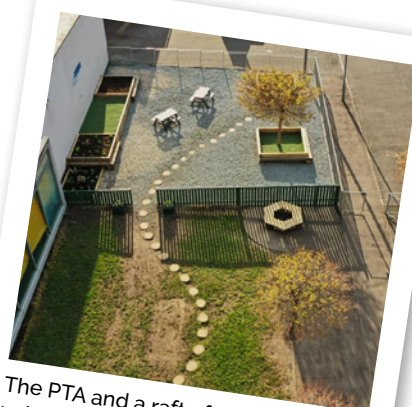
If a parent or carer with a child in Netherlee Primary and Nursery are facing uncertain times, or if you know of someone, there are support and resources available. You do not have to do this alone. Let us help you.

Please email Mrs Donaldson at [schoolmail@netherlee.e-renfrewshire.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@netherlee.e-renfrewshire.sch.uk). All communications to the schoolmail address

go directly to Mrs Donaldson and are handled in the strictest confidence.

Also we are seeking a parent or carer who is connected only to the nursery, to volunteer to be part of the Equalities Forum. It will only require attendance at a few meetings where you can contribute to the discussion. If interested, please contact Mrs Julie Roberts at [schoolmail@netherlee.e-renfrewshire.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@netherlee.e-renfrewshire.sch.uk) or Mrs Angela Kerr at [nurserymail@netherlee.e-renfrewshire.sch.uk](mailto:nurserymail@netherlee.e-renfrewshire.sch.uk)

We look forward to encouraging further discussion around these topics and finding new ways we can help.



The PTA and a raft of parent volunteers have transformed our outdoor spaces. Thank you!

## ✓ IN THIS ISSUE

### 02 Highlights

Highlights from recent Parent Council meetings

### 02 Head Teacher Report

An update from Mrs Donaldson on key priorities

### 03 Survey Results

You spoke and we listened. Find out all the results

### 03 Parent Priorities

What parents would like the school to focus on

## ✓ MEMBERS

### Chairperson

Tennant Stevenson (P5)

### Vice Chair

Adam Capek (P2 and P4)

### Secretary

Jenny Bryant (P3 and P6)

### Members

**Hannah Bayes** (P2 & P5),  
**Harriet Boyle** (P2 & P4),  
**Carole Chalmers** (P5),  
**Handri Cronje** (Nursery & P3),  
**Chris Fawbert** (P1 & P3),  
**Kaneez Fizza** (P5, P7),  
**Emma Gibson** (Nursery and P2),  
**Justin Haccius** (P3 & P6),  
**Trisha Hamilton** (P1 and P4),  
**Joanna Haw** (P5),  
**Fiona Khan** (P5),  
**Mike Law** (Nursery),  
**Fiona McMillan** (P1 & P6),  
**Richard Owen** (P3 and P5),  
**Victoria Pearson** (Nursery & P2),  
**Felicity Rose** (P4 & P6),  
**Jane Thomson** (P5).

### Working in partnership with the school leadership team

**Yvonne Donaldson**  
**Julie Roberts**  
**Lynn Sweeney**  
**Angela Kerr**

## PLEASE NOTE

MATTERS RELATED TO INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN SHOULD ALWAYS BE RAISED DIRECTLY WITH THE SCHOOL



**Netherlee Parent Council**

If you would like to contact the parent council you can reach us via email or by contacting a member directly.



[netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com)

## ✓ HIGHLIGHTS FROM RECENT MEETINGS

### School Improvement Plan

Thank you to all parents who provided their views, ideas and offers of help. Here's a quick summary of the discussions at our recent meeting.

### After School Activities

Parents are keen for after school sporting activities to restart and the school confirmed that as soon as restrictions are lifted these will begin again. More details on what will be available and how to sign up will be communicated in the new term. Discussions on the feasibility of other activities such as art, drama, chess etc are ongoing with the school.

### Music and Expressive Arts

It was clear from parents' feedback that music is seen as a vital part of the school and nursery curriculum with major benefits to children's wellbeing. The school is fortunate to have a dedicated music teacher and will re-establish music tuition, choir, ensemble and performances in the new term. Application for instrument tuition is now open and should be completed by 15th June. Support is available for families on low incomes.

### Parent / Teacher Partnership

Although the digital communications have been great, there is a strong desire for more direct communication between parents and class teachers. With the removal of restrictions parents will soon be allowed on campus again. Specific additional needs support groups will also restart in the Autumn term e.g. Dyslexia group. However, in the meantime, the school stresses that no matter is too minor so please don't hesitate to call or email the school.

### Local Playing Field

Investigations continue into opportunities for improving the local playing field.

### Road Safety

Following concerns about road safety on Clarkston Road the Parent Council has sent a letter to the council to lobby for a speed restriction around the school.

**The next meeting will be our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wed 16th June at 7pm. All are very welcome. Please email us [netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com) if you are interested.**

## ✓ HEAD TEACHER REPORT



**Recovery and renewal** continues to be the main priority. Children's wellbeing is paramount and it is clear they are very happy to be back in

school and nursery. Progress tracking meetings have been held and children are all making good progress in literacy and numeracy. At the moment, there is a planned return to the full curriculum in August. The nursery staff have also noticed children are more confident socialising in the new smaller groups.

**Transitions** are a key element of school and nursery life this term with lots of activities planned to support families. We hope that it will be possible for new nursery children and parents to have home garden visits. P1 children will visit their new classes and have a lunch tasting session. An outdoor Q&A session will be held for P1 parents. Teachers in all year groups conduct thorough handover meetings with the receiving teacher to ensure a smooth transition. Thankfully P7 children will be able to visit Williamwood and there are lots of fun activities planned for our final year children.

**East Renfrewshire parent questionnaires** will be issued shortly to gather parents' views on education.

The school has a **litter drive** on at the moment to help remind children to pick up their rubbish. Parents can help by reinforcing this message at home.

The school will be joining in celebrating **International Music Day** on 21st June when children will be invited to play their instrument at school or provide recordings of them playing at home.

## ✓ CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

This year's hybrid Edinburgh International Children's Festival consists of a digital programme available to watch between 25 May and 6 June, and a mostly outdoor programme presented over the Festival's first (29-30 May) and last (5-6 June) weekends.

[www.imagine.org.uk](http://www.imagine.org.uk)



The usual nine day festival has a jam-packed programme!



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Parent  
Council**

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### GET IN TOUCH

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT THE PARENT COUNCIL YOU CAN REACH US VIA **EMAIL** OR BY CONTACTING A MEMBER DIRECTLY.

# Survey Results

## THANK YOU!

WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR HELP AND HAVE TAKEN ALL YOUR COMMENTS ON BOARD

**Thank you to all parents and carers who completed our Parent Council survey.**

The response rate was good with 188 responses overall, representing over 1/3 of the children attending the school and all year groups were well represented. The majority of respondents stated they had not previously engaged directly with the Parent Council so we were pleased to be able to reach out in this way.

We've taken on board your preferred communication methods and will continue to develop these. For example, we have now created a parent council Whatsapp cascade allowing us to reach out to all class WhatsApp groups and raise awareness of up and coming meetings.

We are also working with the school to make it easier to find parent council information on the website.

Over half of respondents did not know how to **contact the Parent Council** ([netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com)) or how to access minutes of meetings.

**Minutes** are available on the school website and meeting highlights are summarised in our regular newsletters (See page 2). We aim to make this as easy as possible to access in future.

**Email** remains the favourite method for direct communication both to and from the Parent Council.

Class **WhatsApp** groups and attending meetings in person were also popular.

**Surveys** were recognised as good for gathering parents' views.

**Newsletters, Facebook** and **smartphone apps** were preferred methods for receiving information from the parent council.

## ✓ PARENT PRIORITIES FOR SCHOOL AND NURSERY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

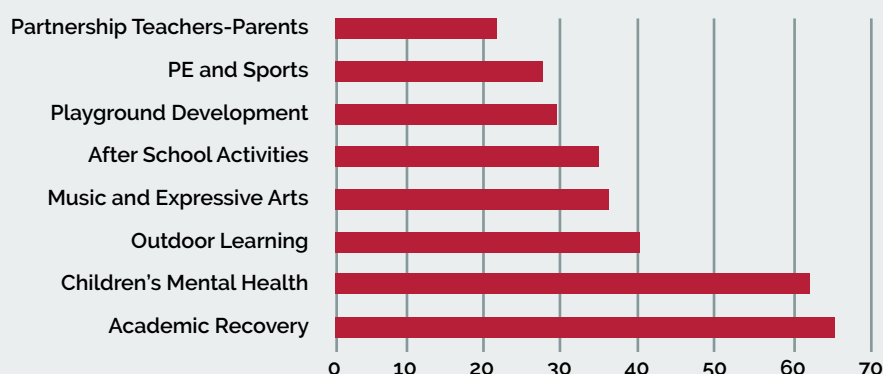
**Academic Recovery** and **Children's Mental Health** were selected by over 60% of respondents as top priorities. **Outdoor learning, sports and playground areas** were also popular choices. The school has already incorporated these into their improvement plan as key areas of focus.

We gathered more feedback from parents regarding the other three top

priority topics: **After School Activities, Music & Expressive Arts** and **Parent - Teacher partnership**. We discussed all of this with a variety of school staff and you can find a summary on page 2.

All of this information will help guide the **School and Nursery Improvement Plan (SNIP)** so thank you all again for your engagement. We will include a summary of the SNIP in the new academic year.

### SURVEY RESULTS BELOW



If you would like to contact the parent council you can reach us via email or by contacting a member directly.



[netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com)