

St. Luke's High School Parent Council.

A meeting of St. Luke's High School Parent Council took place at 6-30pm on Tuesday 4TH February 2014 in the conference room.

Present.

Parent Representatives---P. Canning (Chair) H. Byrne (Vice Chair) C. Reeve, L Wilkie, Councillor T. Reilly, D. Cassidy, L. Young, G. Collins, S. Nicoll.

Staff Representatives.---Mrs. P. Scott (Head Teacher), Mr. C. Smith (Depute Head Teacher), Mr. I. McLean (Parental Involvement Co-ordinator).

Church Representative—vacant.

1. Prayer.

2. Apologies— J. Park, F. Woods, N. Morran.

3. Minutes of last meeting----approved—P. Canning seconded---H.Byrne.

4. Matters arising from the last meeting.

*It was agreed that the student presentation on World Youth Day in Rio was great and everyone felt the young people were a great asset to their families, school, community and church.

*Ian McLean informed everyone that J. Collins, ERC Quality Improvement Officer, would now be responsible for parental involvement.

5. Correspondence---The public performance report –showing where the school is sitting, doing well. Cluster primary schools also doing well. This information will be sent to parents from the primary schools and will be available on the school and council websites.

6. Cluster Quiz---was a great success with approximately 100 people attending. Thanks to Helen and Louise for organising everything so well and Chris as quiz master. The evening raised approx £739 and this was the best response to date. Funds raised will support the Cluster Primary Residential and the work of the Head Boy and Girl of St Luke's. The Primary School Headteachers appreciate the funds which will help pupils meet the cost of their outdoor

educational trip. An East Renfrewshire grant will also be used to subsidise costs.

Student activities--- Money to be raised for the Lourdes trip—opportunities for fundraising, such as coffee mornings. Trip will now be every two years with individual children applying to go. Some places still available.

Malawi ---Trip to be held in 2015 and extra help is needed to raise a lot of money towards the total. It was suggested that another parent fund raiser be held.

Young people will continue to fund raise organising coffee mornings etc.

7. Quality Forum Evening.

*Chris Reeves attended and gave feedback to the meeting. ERC Racist incident monitoring may be updated to include racist and religious abuse. Mrs Scott said all staff have been issued with information cards produced by East Renfrewshire on how to deal with such matters.

The school make bi annual returns on monitoring racist incidents and it appears that numbers have fallen, although across ERC it seems there is a small increase at P1 stage.

*Commonwealth Games--- ERC will organise an open day in May with all schools involved.

8. School refurbishment.

*The new pitch is still in progress---the weather has not helped.

* Windows replacement—the new windows are being fitted in the music and technical departments, and these will make a great difference. These will be followed by the English and Maths rooms with the rest to follow.

No central funds are available for upgrading / replacement of furniture and fittings eg carpets, furniture, painting etc. This work has to be funded from school budget savings.

Mrs Scott said that all lighting throughout the school was in need of an upgrade as it is very out of date. These costs cannot be met through school

saving and require support from the centre. Mrs Scott has inquired with the Head of Service, if this work could be considered as a capital bid. This has been raised on a number of occasions. Councillor Reilly said he would have a look at the budget and see if he can raise the matter at council level.

9. Student Activities 2014.

*The web site has being kept up to date.

*There are many opportunities for all the young people.

*Two of the senior pupils made a visit to Auschwitz and made presentations at the ERC Holocaust Memorial day event, in addition to presentations within the school.

*Skiers and snow boarders are off on a trip to Boston.

*Maths and numeracy group are going to Euro Disney. Pupils will look at the finance and the running of the park.

* Modern languages have organised a cultural trip to France at the end of June.

*Paisley Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place at the end of term and staff will continue to work and support the young people who are taking part.

10. New National Qualifications.

* Updated information has been produced by the National Parent Forum. All information can be seen on the web site or on the S.Q.A. web site. Materials produced by the S.Q.A. will be forwarded to parents at the forthcoming Transitions evening. There is a link to the SQA site on the school web site.

11. A.O.C.B.

Scottish Catholic Education Service.

*Derek Cassidy gave a report on a seminar which he had attended. The group was looking for ways to support catholic parents and schools who feel they are isolated. Faith schools are continuing to be under attack. Michael McGrath has stated that there is a proposal for a Scottish Bill----that church

representatives should be removed from Local Authority Education Committees. The challenge to this right gives grave cause for concern.

Faith awards—There is a pilot scheme, with St. Thomas's PS being part of it, for an award for P 6 children. This will be called Pope Francis Award which will encourage and promote opportunities for faith development, morality, respect for others .

The proposed ERC Joint Campus will house a Jewish and Catholic Primary School. The church will be fully involved with these developments through their representation on the Education Committee.

*Parents stated that congratulations were in order for the school show.

* Paul will attend a meeting of Parent Council Chairs people on 12th February 2014.

* Cluster mass will take place in St. Thomas's Church on 25th Feb. at 7-30.

Next meeting - 4th March 2014 at 6-30 in the conference room in St Luke's HS