

Parent Council Meeting Highlights - 27.10.22

NEXT MEETING

7PM ON TUESDAY
13 DEC ON **ZOOM**

ALL WELCOME!

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

WELCOME

We returned to an on-line venue for our second PC meeting of the school year. We hope a mixed, or hybrid, approach to our meetings will allow as many interested parents and carers to join us. Our discussions centred around all the topics of the day and I was really glad that we, as a PC, were able to represent a range of views on those topics from all the fantastic input we have received. Your views are being heard and I hope you will continue to support the work of the PC – you can always reach us via our email [netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com] or come along to the next meeting.

Thanks, Adam Capek (Chair)

PARENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The **headteacher's report** was, as always, really informative and covered a range of areas which demonstrate just how committed the teaching staff are to developing and enhancing the learning experience all our children have.

We had an excellent discussion on the **new homework system**. The overall impression was one of positivity from parents, teachers and pupils. We all agreed that any change is not always easy, and parents and pupils value as much communication as possible. Some specific challenges which have been raised by parents were discussed and the school team will look at all of this. Mrs Donaldson shared how the feedback sessions worked and the school has agreed to share more about this with all parents. Mrs Donaldson also stressed that the school staff are always happy to discuss specific concerns with parents at any time.

We have heard many of the concerns around the new **jewellery policy for PE** and are grateful to the school for their help in making some temporary changes. We raised this with East Renfrewshire Council and received a detailed and informed reply which makes their position very clear with no changes to the new policy being considered. I know some parents will be disappointed and we would encourage you to continue to give us (or the school and or council) your feedback.

A reminder for parents of children in nursery who are considering a **deferral from Primary 1** – we would encourage you to have early discussions with the nursery staff to help inform your choice although they are not involved in the formal registration process. We have asked East Renfrewshire Council to revise the current policy on their website which is a few months out of date.

The Scottish Government have launched a **National Discussion on Scottish Education** and we would encourage as many parents as can to complete it.

A refresh of the **School Handbook** is on-going and we encourage anyone to contribute ideas or comments to help us shape it in the coming months.

HEAD TEACHER REPORT



It has been simply amazing for everyone at Netherlee to be able to welcome parents and guests back to the school. Hosting open classroom sessions,

meet the teacher events and hosting many other groups and individuals has been so important and rewarding for everyone. I hope it has been for you too.

We have run our first **chatter café** which was a huge success. Some of our pupils helped us serve tea and coffee and they also served everyone some tasty treats that they had baked themselves in school to entice you in (which seemed to work!). We found the time invaluable in having those informal but informative chats we have so missed over the past couple of years. Watch out for the dates for the next one and we hope you can join us.

Our last **in-service day** was a great opportunity for the staff to focus on their development and how it can help them. We discussed a range of topics including a fascinating presentation on English as an additional language, so that we can better understand the needs of those pupils for whom English is not their first language. We also explored our recently launched Development and Implementation Groups which will involve the pupils and teachers. These will focus on the following four areas from our Improvement Plan: Digital, Drama & Dance, Writing and Everyone Matters.

Finally, we are planning on running a series of **information sessions** in the coming months and we would like to hear from you about what you want to know more about – please email the school with your suggestions.