

Parent Council Meeting

04.09.2024

**NEXT
MEETING**

7PM ON WEDNESDAY
20TH NOVEMBER

ALL WELCOME!

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

✓ TOPIC ROUND-UP

After school care provision We discussed news that increases in local hall hire prices were likely to lead to price increases for after school care. Rising childcare costs during difficult financial times will be a concern for many working parents. Mrs Donaldson confirmed that it is an East Renfrewshire Council decision whether to allow after school providers access to school premises to deliver their service. This would impact on the range of after school clubs the school can provide. We understand the Council is currently considering its position and if the school premises are made available, there will be an open and fair process to determine which after school care provider is invited to take on the let.

Smartphone free childhood We heard from a member of the parent body about a local parent-led movement to delay giving children smartphones and reduce the peer pressure around buying smartphones for children. It's connected to a UK-wide grassroots movement called **Smartphone free childhood**. Its mission is to "change the cultural norm that children are given smartphones, and challenge Big Tech's ever-increasing colonisation of childhood." There is a local Netherlee SmartPhone Free WhatsApp chat parents can join for more information see links below



netherleeparentcouncil@gmail.com

USEFUL LINKS (please click on text)

- [Smartphone Free Childhood](#)
- [Netherlee SmartPhone Free WhatsApp](#)



CALLING ALL EVENT ORGANISERS

The PTA would love to hear from anyone who can help with organising and delivering fundraising events. They have plans to deliver a few events between now and the Christmas holidays, including school discos, a family friendly quiz night and supporting the school Winter Fayre.

None of these events can happen without planning and organising support from people behind the scenes. Please get in touch with netherleeepta@gmail.com if you can help.

The PTA's fundraising efforts make a vital contribution to the school fund, which last year helped pay for things like Sumdogg memberships, P7 leaver events and the end of year colour run.

✓ HEAD TEACHER REPORT



Mrs Donaldson highlighted the great start to the school term with the new nursery children, P1s, and new families in the school more widely settling in well. She and the staff team updated on a few developments: Mrs Roberts confirmed that the cage update project is back on the agenda. A school-wide design competition is coming soon with a 'diversity in the community' theme.

Mrs Toman is delighted to be the school's outdoor ambassador and is currently working with the P5s and P2s on a joint project to develop the **school gardens**. The school has been in touch with local businesses for support and is looking for volunteers from the school community to help with maintaining the school gardens. You can email: schoolmail@netherlee.e-renfrew.sch.uk to get involved.

Mrs Roberts updated on progress with the **digital wellbeing award**. The P7s are working on a self-assessment to ensure pupil voice. This award will be a key priority in the School and Nursery Improvement Plan this year. Check out the new section of the school website for more information on digital safety: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/sandnc/online-safety/>.

The staff team is currently finalising the **School and Nursery Improvement Plan (SNIP)**. They will share the plan with the parent council for feedback and then with the wider parent body. The parent council was invited to select SNIP topics for 'deep dive' sessions at its meetings. Last year this included presentations from teachers on specific topics and in some cases pupils. It was a great way to get a better understanding of the school's priorities for improving learning and teaching.

The nursery is currently operating out of the Saplings building only. This is due to the smaller intake at this stage of the year. Mrs Sweeney emphasised that this isn't necessarily a permanent change as the nursery roll can change throughout the year due to new intakes each term. Being all together in one building has been great for the staff and children and the nursery still has access to the Acorns building and garden space.