

Balmerino Primary School

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING – Tuesday 7th October, 2-3pm

Minutes

Present:	Louise Cole - Parent/Chair	Sarah Proudfoot - Parent/Secretary
	Hannah Mackins- Parent/Treasurer	Lucy Jess- Headteacher
	Blaise Davidson - Parent/Communications	Donna MacIvor - Parent
	Alison Smale - Parent	Kassandra Stewart - Parent
	Hilary Mudie - Parent	Nicole Willis - Parent
	Claire Douglas - Parent	Lynsey Robertson - Parent
	Katarzyna Softys - Parent	Nathalie Jordan - Parent
	Lucy Ryden - Parent	Sally and David Lockwood - Parents

	Agenda Item	Action
1.	Welcome from Chair LC welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for such a great turn out to the meeting.	None
2.	Fundraising and Spend -LC gave a run through off the PC accounts - PC Bank Balance: £2,658.38 - Cheque Paid In (4th July): £1,333.83 - £1,026.28 – 5K Challenge - £122.34 – Sports Day - £185.21 – End of Year Bake Sale - Float Held by HM: £100 - Third Wheel Donation (Library): £100 (received 12th June 2025) - Tesco Grant Budget Remaining: £80.56 towards LLG - Additional 5K Funds: £65 handed in (LC has) - Nursery Corner Update: £100 taken out ATM given to AK (10th Sept 2025) LC explained how AK will be renovating a corner of the library - Discovery Point Trip Contribution: £80 transferred to school fund (Sept 2025)	LC - to email parents with a summary of the year PC contributions to school

3.	Tesco Grant/ Live Literature and 500 Books - Remaining Budget: £80.56 (to go towards Live Literature fee) - Author selection needed for Live Literature visit by March 2026, narrowed down to two. LJ stated she will discuss further with teachers and get back by the end of the first week after October hols. Dates/Times that would work and would it be a full school event. Potentially World Book Day, National Storytelling Week or do we want this sooner. - Alastair Chisholm - He has written three picture books, a sci-fi middle-grade adventure, and countless puzzle books. Also works with a charity that produces workshops and creative programmes to get young people excited about writing. - Alison Murray - events are interactive. They involve: live drawing, getting the children to help illustrate the story, a reading of at least one of my picture books and a hands on art activity. - - School 500 Book Challenge • LC asked how it was progressing, LJ advised lots of books recorded but awaiting sponsorship money.	LJ - to advise the 2 authors to teachers and get feedback as to who we would like to visit. Also decide on potential dates LC - email and invite author
4.	Halloween / Christmas Planning • No Halloween event planned by PC but NW discussed that MDH will be having an event and BD and HM will potentially provide sweet treats •  Christmas Disco Proposal: ○ Date: Friday 19th December 2025 ○ Time: 3:00–4:30 PM (Hall to be booked 2–5 PM) ○ Entry: £2.50 (includes juice & sweetie) or donation on the door ○ Parents must stay, no bake sale ○ Discussed that hall capacity is 80 people, will we get people to register for tickets in advance so we know numbers but take a donation on the door ○ Discussion about music ○ NW has said we could borrow lights and LR has speakers for the event. The PC also has disco lights.	LJ to extend time of hall booking to 5pm LC - arrange another meeting in term 2 to confirm plans and then send email out to parents
5.	Committees/Clubs ○ A question was asked as to why there was no library committee this term after PC set up a school library. The PC wanted to check if the library was being used. ○ LJ explained that the library was being used but there was not a committee. LJ explained the children were not enjoying running the library as much and committees had to lead learning involving change and since the library was set up there's no change to take place. ○ It was discussed by parents that there is a need for a library committee to look after the library which has been made. LJ said	LJ - to email parents asking for volunteers and also talk to staff and children about the library again to ensure it is being used.

	we could ask for parent volunteers to open the library at lunchtime or after school. There was discussion that children should have responsibilities and it would be good for them to look after the library during school time . • A question was raised as to why there were not more clubs like arts club, dance, and library for the kids to join. LJ explained there is now a Cross Country Club and a girls Football Team.	
6.	Class Behaviour ○ Several parents had complained directly to Parent Council about behaviour in class ○ LC explained that LJ had called her and advised parents to get in touch with her directly about individual cases which PC passed on to parents. ○ PC asked LJ to share some information on Behaviour Policies their implementation and record keeping. ○ LJ discussed the school improvement plan in detail and the policies for Relationships and Behavior and Bullying. Stating these were available to read in full on the school website. ○ Several parents raised concerns that there was a general concern of class behaviour not just individual cases. ○ Mrs Jess was asked for a reassurance that the classrooms are safe and productive and she confirmed that they are.	LJ - to send her report to PC to share with parents
7	- Internet Safety - There was no time for this to be discussed at the meeting but LC spoke briefly to LJ at the end of the meeting stating we should possibly arrange a workshop with Carolyn Berry again. It had been talked about before to have one as a workshop with p5-7 students.	LJ - to email CB
8.	Grants Update - There was no time for this to be discussed at the meeting • LC applied for Persimmon Home Grant for playground improvements, no word so far • LJ suggested reapplying for Tesco Grant, something we can apply for in the future maybe for School Ground Improvements	
9	School Grounds Improvement - There was no time for this to be discussed at the meeting • JR is going to run a brainstorm with pupils • Ideas: refresh playground walls, improve garden • P5 class requested a wildlife mural for the heat pump ○ LC briefly spoke with LJ about this after the meeting.	LJ - check with JR about brainstorm LC - talk with LB about wall mural and place in playground it could be

	• LC discussed contacting artist Pacograff with LB ○ LJ says she checked and we could have painted on the heat pump but now there is a gate around it we cannot.	
10	AOCB -	
	<u>The next PC meeting TBC</u> The meeting was closed with thanks to all attendees	