



## Parent and Carer Council Agenda

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026

18:00hrs

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome, apologies and opening prayer IS

In attendance:

Committee: Ian (Chair) Jacqueline (Fundraising) Kathryn (secretary) Sarah (treasurer) Cheryl (Fundraising) Apologies from Lisa

Parents: Patrycja, Bronagh

Staff: Mrs Mullen, Mrs Hutcheon, Mrs Ryan

2. Minute of last meeting IS

No matters arising from last minutes.

3. Matters Arising IS/All

- Volunteers update/PVG – we have a strong Whatsapp contingency of volunteers, no real issues getting volunteers for the disco etc. Summer fayre is volunteer-intensive. We have had our first meeting about that. Otherwise we are ok at the moment for volunteers. We are trying to get some p1 parents involved when they join in August.
- PVG due by end of summer. Allowed 15, so there is a focus on longevity and active volunteers.
- P7 Hoodies update – all been rectified and P7s are very happy. Will use the same supplier next year, print on the hill. They are more expensive per item but it is a smaller year group so not as expensive overall.
- Bikeability scheme – Mrs Mullen met with Commercial and Bikeability person, Sheila. Agreed will be a group of parents from both schools. We will get a container for the safe storage of 15 bikes. If we get parents involved next year it can run every year. It could go out as an opportunity to any family member. It is basic road safety, learn how to ride the bike and progress onto roads. Used to be cycling proficiency – remind parents of this so they understand what it is. It used to be trained member of staff but that is no longer possible. We only need 4 or 6 trained parents. Might be 6/8 week block.
- Dunfermline Children's Gala 2026 – Cheryl's last year as coordinator. 120 kids signed up this year. Still time for kids to sign up until Monday 8<sup>th</sup>. Other schools use QR code

and money goes straight to the gala. It might be a way to do it in the future. It is difficult collecting cash; it is easier just to buy online. On the day it needs to be organised better in the playground. It might be helpful to do an email beforehand to set out what is expected of the parent helpers. More organisation. Cheryl has all of the contact information needed for the children. Parents need to sign out the children promptly at the end.

- Dunfermline Children's Gala future – position to be filled as Cheryl will be leaving. We need someone to take this over, otherwise the school will not be in the gala. Everyone enjoys taking part but we do need helpers. It isn't a huge commitment to be the gala rep. Packing the bags is the worst bit and P7s could do that next year. The school banner has not been sorted. It is fixed for this year but we do not have a new one. We need a new laminated banner for each class. A3 sheet, could still design around it. When we buy the plastic one can get mini ones for each class. P7s need to arrange games for the Glen. We could maybe put on the group chats that they have until 8<sup>th</sup> to sign up.
- PCC promotion/summary of spending and activity for end of term – not discussed – Sarah summarised spending and income later.
- Sub-group to consider purchase of school-wide Christmas/tartan/book day items. We have flags and bunting for the disco, can use it for the Scottish extravaganza. Happy to fund other things as and when.
- Subgroup to consider school trips – To make the minibus idea work we need drivers over a certain age or we pay to train people. If training people might we worth training parents of infant children so they are able to help for a few years.

Babcock trip for P6 didn't happen this year. We didn't hear anything from them. They might come out to see P6s at the school. There was a story in the press about how some boys had done the trip and then become apprentices.

Do we fundraise for trips? It's about £300 for a bus per class. Can offer parents to make a contribution? We could do an anonymous survey first to see if parents are willing to contribute. It's mostly P3,4,5 as P1 and P2 can go to park/around Dunfermline. P6 and P7 have trips.

Could we get locals and church people to come to a community café. Could get kids to make posters and leaflets etc. Could try to get local shops and businesses involved.

- Subgroup to consider PCC funding/gifts specifically to young carers

We have done that, did Easter eggs and school paid for the hoodies. At leavers assembly there could be awards specifically for the child who set up young carers. We have various awards already that it could fit into.

#### 4. Update from the Chair (IS)

Sports day café went very well, have learned from it with it being our first time. Having the boxes worked very well so people could take stuff home. Thank you to everyone who donated and bought things.

New disco 24<sup>th</sup> June silent disco. Ticket sales going well. 50 for small disco and 80 for large disco. We have covered the cost of the disco and the sweets so anything else is profit.

PCC banner – need a banner which is about £55-60. We need the information and it can be made into nice graphics for us on the banner.

New p1 parents came in and Jacqueline had a good chat with them. Was positive. We have AGM date set of 22<sup>nd</sup> September, that can be sent to parents so they are aware.

Summer Fayre – 5<sup>th</sup> September. Bouncy castles are booked. Had our first meeting online. Need to have another meeting and give out tasks. Need to change the food this year. Pizzas price has gone up. £3.50 for each tiny pizza. We don't want cakes as we have a cake and candy stall. We can try the hot dogs this year. We might have a baby belling. Rosemary is coming to do hair braids.

Thanks to Cheryl for all the years of effort of being the gala coordinator. Hundreds of children have been helped. And thanks for all the effort with fundraising over the years.

Thanks to Lynne for all the years of effort that she has put in, lots of time and effort over the years sorting hoodies etc.

Thanks to all the P7 parents who have helped and volunteered over the years.

#### 5. School update (Mrs Mullen)

Parent Wise/Pupil Wise/Staff Wise – a survey requested by Fife council in March that is done every 2 years. Not the survey I just sent out two days ago that is the school improvement plan.

Very strong response. Some key themes. 95% positive communication. Safety and security 92% positive. Digital confidence 91% talking about their children staying safe online. 86% said learning environment and progress in school was positive.

The negative themes were small numbers but 12% said they thought the pupils didn't enjoy being at school and 9% said they felt that they needed more support, more help with their emotional wellbeing and 7% felt their children should be given individual recognition.

The children said 98% of them feel safe in school and 93% feel welcome every day. 99% felt they were health and active and took part in physical activities. 97% felt they were making good progress and they knew how to get support. 95% had strong friendships and care in the school. That was positive.

The negatives there was 39% of the children felt we needed to celebrate their hobbies more. 20% felt they needed to be more confident and 13% maybe they needed to learn better.

A survey has been sent out for the school improvement plan as well.

Staffing is not back yet but for next year there will be 2 more staff, an additionality teacher, which is in agreement with the Scottish Government because in August 27 teachers are going to be given more non-contact time. To make that happen we will get a full time additionality teacher. Their work will be about raising attainment and targeted interventions. The second person is because a member of staff is pregnant, so that will be in October.

We are losing 66 p7 children and getting 43 p1 children. Numbers in Fife are falling and have been under 50 for the last 6 years. We are losing a whole class and next year will have 12 classes instead of 13. That means there will be composites. Some children will be moved into composite classes. We already have some composite classes but there will be more. It is done completely on age unless there are very specific additional support reasons. We will communicate to parents what a composite class means for their child ie homework, schedules, levels of curriculum for excellence.

AGM is pencilled in for 22 September.

Next year there is a plan to try to overhaul the quad area. The children with significant additional support needs use it for outdoor learning. This has been very positive and successful. The children are able to enjoy sensory learning. There is a plan to try to make the quad into a better learning area for them. Split it into two and the area that is garden to be astroturf. Taylor Wimpey may have some left overs they could donate? Then get an outdoor tent like they have at forest kindergarten. They are about £800 to buy. They could learn outside in all weathers. We could get them outdoor equipment like waterproof suits. Then maybe paint a road and get bikes and scooters for a road system. Costs are unknown at the moment but possible school could fund half and PCC fund half. May be able to use Amazon money. A visual has been made of the outdoor learning plan and the school improvement plan to help communicate those effectively.

P7 teacher managed to get pizza hut to take some money off the total bill for the p7s big night out. They are getting the meal for £3.50 less. P7s will be asked what they think should happen to the money.

7. Finance update (Sarah)

Nearly at a full year. Started the year with £6000, we are down about £2200 compared to previous year but we have spent a lot this year. We still have seesaw to come off which is £1250. This is where we are just now have some big things to fundraise. We can pull together a working budget for next year. One thing we also talked about was P7s doing a bit more fundraising. Hoodies were expensive this year and fundraising was not a huge amount.

We have £3800 in the bank. The fairs and Halloween disco are good to make money in the second half of the year.

7. Fundraising update (JS/CMcC)

We have made changes to fundraising. Fundraising post available now that Cheryl is leaving need a new fundraiser.

Election of Patrycja to fill the role of fundraiser. Thank you Patrycja.

Halloween disco will be Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

8. AOCB

Nothing arising.

9. Date of Next meetings

AGM on 22 September at 6pm

10. Closing Remarks and Closing Prayer IS

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**Opening Prayer;** May God Give us wisdom to decide what is fair, strength to uphold what is true and patience to work together for the to good of the staff and children whom we serve. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. **All: Amen**

**Closing Prayer;** Heavenly Father, your son Jesus came to share our life , to teach us , and to befriend us; we give you thanks for all who work to make St Margarets School a place of sharing , learning and friendship; especially among those who serve as Parent Council Members. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit may we encourage and uphold the values of fairness, dedication and respect for others, so that the school may be a place where children and adults may joyfully serve your kingdom; and may Almighty God bless us all in the name of the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit. **All -Amen**