

## Parent Council Meeting

24<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### Attendees

- Claire Logue (CL) (Chair)
- Charisse Oneill (CO) (Secretary)
- Daniella Kamrat- Pietraszewska (DK)
- Aynsleigh Ponsonby (AP)
- Jackie Lowe (JL)
- Brenda McGinley (BM)
- Edward Anderson (EA)
- Jenny Clark (JC)
- Siddu Muragundi (SM)
- Carla Nixon (CN)
- Emily Reid (ER)

### Apologies

- Cecile Mondeke (CM)

### **Head Teacher Update:**

Staffing Update – Over the last 4 weeks there have been several factors affecting the staffing levels at school – coming from the GCC cuts.

Miss Martin explained that in February each year she must predict what the school roll will be in the following August and the staffing numbers are based on this.

For the 24/25 session there was a predicted school roll of 468 students, and a staff allocation of 22.2 heads.

GCC review the actual school roll and staffing numbers in the September and potentially decisions are made to change the staffing levels.

In September the school roll was 450, which is less than what was predicted and because of this GCC reduced the staffing allocation and as a result St Francis lost 2.7 members of staff.

Miss Lynch wasn't replaced, and Miss Martin appealed that decision with GCC – and there is now a 0.5 backfill.

P7 teacher – we have 1 long term sick, and have a 0.7 replacement

Overall losing 1.5 heads from teaching staff

Ongoing discussion with the council about this matter.

In addition to this Mr Bradshaw left on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, and GCC took the decision that he would not be replaced, but there is now a supply teacher coming into the school. If this had not happened GCC suggested reclassifying across the school - meaning that 4 classes would be disrupted through changes to reduce by 1 class in total (18 to 17).

This won't be necessary if the supply teacher remains.

Miss Martin explained that she has been working constantly in the background to ensure that there as many staff allocated to school as possible.

This reduction in teaching staff will mean that

- Principal Teachers are now teaching half the week
- Conceivable have times where only 1 SLT is available to families and parents.
- Loss of small group support
- There is no slack to cover sickness, and as we approach the winter season there could become a situation where all senior members of staff will be in class teaching.

### **PEF Funding Breakdown**

PEF allocation 24/25 is £229, 074 with a carry forward from 23/24 of £120,832. The PEF funding is being spent on:

3 teachers

2 PT differential in salaries

0.4 Support for Learning Worker

1 Family Support Worker

Discussion amongst PC about what PC can do to publicise the impact of the cuts and pressure on children at school. And it was agreed that the PC would do a post on twitter with an infographic of the affects of these cuts on the education of the children and their overall experience at school.

EA asked what about volunteers in the school?

JM - explained that it can be difficult process, especially where its parents that are involved.

It's never been reestablished after covid

EA asked would school consider re introducing.

Miss Garret explained that it's a big commitment and historically they have found that people commit to it but can continue and it becomes hard to sustain and ultimately falls apart and isn't valuable to the children.

There was a discussion about what impact volunteers would have and it was agreed that School should look at what is the ideal volunteer and how does that volunteer be involved and what commitment is required and then review whether its worth exploring.

## **Breakfast Club Grant – Kellogg’s (Miss Garrett)**

**£1,000 grant to help improve the breakfast club** – looking at different ways to make the breakfast club more engaging – whether that’s games or activities.

November Kellogg’s are paying for a visit to London to be presented with the cheque at the house of commons. They will also get to spend some time sightseeing.

19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and two children who have attended the breakfast club since P1 will be going along.

## **Outside Space – Edward Anderson**

EA along with other parents have been looking at the outside spaces and how the PC can help make them more accessible for all children and make use of the Coo-op funding.

They have identified that it would be beneficial to have a path on the grass area at the front of school to allow the children to access the play areas and tables. There are parents who can help with the labour, but the group lack the experience of how to lay the path and what materials would be needed.

PC to tweet out asking for help and also include the request in the newsletter.

In addition, the L shaped space outside the office could be used as a Growing Space – plans being worked on to spruce that up.

## **Treasurer Update:**

		£		
	<b>BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>£ 3,113.50</b>	30th June 2024	
		<b>INCOME</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
05/07/2024	GCC Annual Payment	£ 400.00		
22/08/2024	Easy Fundraising	£ 26.94		
22/08/2024	P7 Ties		£ 464.00	
30/08/2024	Booker - Soft Bar for Family Fun Night (Paid to Claire Logue)		£ 80.21	
30/08/2024	Face Painter - Linda Smith for Family Fun Night		£ 220.00	
02/09/2024	Sundries - Bonnypack (paid to C Oneill)		£ 36.60	
02/09/2024	Crisps for Goody Bags (paid to C Logue)		£ 15.00	
	SEPT Goody Bag Contents to be paid to Daniella Kamrat		£135.18	
	SEPT Cash Deposit from Family Fun Night	£ 1,643.45		
	SEPT September Meeting LET		£ 51.52	
SEPT	Food bank Donation		£ 108.79	
14/10/2024	October Meeting LET		£ 51.52	
		£ 5,183.89	£ 1,162.82	
		BALANCE	£ 4,021.07	17/09/2024
		Less Co op fund	-£ 1,776.13	
		PC Monies	£ 2,244.94	
				240 circled for Music Broth
			£ 2,004.94	

## **Vote on Annual Funding Causes:**

The PC discussed what they could support the school with for the 24/25 session and based on the same as last year the main items would be:

<b>PTC Funds</b>		
Balance as at 22/10/2024		£4,021.07
Coop fund	deduct	£1,776.13
<b>PTC monies for spending</b>		<b>£2,244.94</b>
<b>Potential spending*:</b>		
P1 Santa trip (full funding)		£1,169
P7 ties (full funding)		£464
P7 trip bus		£200
P7 residential help		£150
Foodbank (maximum)		£200
Music (already agreed)		£240
Total		<b>£2,423</b>
<b>Balance shortfall</b>		<b>-£178.06</b>
<i>*This is based on last years costs with full funding and no more active fundraising by the PTC for the remaining school year</i>		
<b>Further income from:</b>		
Tuck shop which is circa £100 monthly (dependent on volunteers)		
potential bonus ball - income of £147.50 each time		
xmas cards / gifts £188 (based on last years sales)		
easy fundraising income which varies		
<b>Other potential funding requests:</b>		
PTC ideas i.e. music / tuition / other		
Other trips for year groups - bus / funding help		
Adhoc requests - as and when management asks		
Xmas / summer discos - fund DJ		
Bingo night - initial outlay costs		

All causes voted on with PC voting to support everything except the P7 bus trip. This would bring the total cost of supported activities down to £2,200 which would be all of the current PC monies.

Ongoing fundraising will be required to support new/additional events or ideas within school.

## **Upcoming Fundraiser**

Christmas Jumper Disco

Christmas Ticket £2.00 - £3.00 a ticket

Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> with 2 discos – upper and lower school

PC fund DJ and run a tucks shop

## **Rewards and Certificates:**

CO asked the school for an overview of the different methods of rewarding children in school.

They explained that the main way of rewarding children and through

**Praise Certificates** which celebrate Personal Achievement (curricular and wider) and are awarded weekly at assembly. The reasons why they got it printed on the certificates

**Gospel Value of the Week award** – On a Monday the children are told about the gospel value of the week and given an explanation of how they act to those values. There is an award presented at the end of the week for children who display the values.

As part of the schools **Rights respecting work** – Children can celebrate their personal successes – there is a wall where children can display their achievements outside of school.

**House Systems** – points given out every day by staff to children for good acts, work or behaviours.

The PC suggested that some peer recognition scheme might be a valuable lesson for children.

School explained that there are Recognition boards in classes.

### **Music Broth**

EA provided an update on Music Broth.

Costs have increased from the initial discussions to £340 for the planned sessions (see previous minutes). This increase in cost will be covered by a donation from an individual.

EA will work with Miss Johnston on making arrangement for them to visit school

### **Minibus Utilisation**

DK asked for an overview from school of what they plan to use the Minibus that was purchased with PEF Funding.

### **Term 2**

- Agreement with Holyrood for enhanced transition and the bus will be used for that
- Football Tournament (Monthly) from November
- Choir – 2 visits to Silverburn and St Enoch
- P1 (D) therapeutic play
- Hampden School Partnership
- P6 (21<sup>st</sup> Nov) going to St Mungo – 4 trips
- P4 (14<sup>th</sup> Nov) Pop Art and Colour Workshop in St Mungo

### **AOB**

At the last PC meeting school discussed the funding shortage and how that can impact the purchase of materials used for class work and playground equipment.

CO/JC have suggested creating an amazon account for school/pc where a **wish list** could be created for parents and local businesses to purchase items which would be delivered straight to school. School is working on a wish list.

EA raised the point that Amazon are not a sustainable company and there will be parents with the same view who would not want to purchase from there and asked for a separate list to be distributed and shared where parents could source the items from somewhere they were comfortable with.

**Membership**, we have new parents who would like to join the PC, and that are attending meetings and contributing. We have a full membership just now but there is one member who hasn't

attended meetings regularly or communicate with the group, therefore in line with the constitution their voting place will be revoked and offered to another parent.

Following the draw after the last meeting we have 2 parents that didn't get a place and therefore they will be contacted to confirm if they would like to be considered again in a draw.

### **Next Meeting**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 6.00 pm

### **Actions**

- School to consider the use of volunteers, what makes a good volunteer and what would the commitment be
- School to provide a wish list of items that parents could purchase to help support the running of the school.
- PC to create an Amazon Account and set up the wish list (CO/JC)
- PC to create and share the links (CO/CL/JC)
- PC to create and share an alternative list
- School to consider peer recognition over and above class recognition boards.
- PC to organise DJ for the Christmas Discos
- PC to create an info graphic about the impact of the GCC cuts on our school and share with wider parent form