

# St Angela's Parent Council

Minutes of Parent Council meeting on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 6.30p.m.

Present – Natasha Mirza, Siobhan Gibb, Mishka Poma Krad, Paul McIlroy, Mrs Thompson, Mr Kerlin, Fiona Rich, Eabhna Ní Laighin, Aqsa Imran, Rachel O'Malley.

Marie & Mandy visiting From St Vincent de Paul.

Apologies – Jaqueline, Nicola, Mo, Thomas, Asmara.

Minutes of the last meeting -Approved by Eabhna and Paul.

Fiona opened the meeting by introducing herself. Everyone else introduced themselves.

Mr Kerlin opened with a prayer.

## **St Vincent de Paul**

Marie and Mandy introduced by Mr Kerlin.

Mandy - We are here to financially support both the school and individual parents in the school community with anything they might need e.g. Food bank support, Trips, Toys, Projects, and Events.

Marie – We want to spread the word that we are here and available to parents and the school and we would like you to spread the word to all families.

Fiona – This should be highlighted in the newsletters sent out to parents, possibly with a QR code linked to SVDP website.

Marie – What we have done before is set up a confidential box for parents, who don't want to come forward, to tell us what they need support with. It does not matter the families background. We help everybody.

Siobhan- Do you need a referral to gain access to a food bank?

Marie- All you need is identification to show you are from that certain area. Carnwadric covers this area.

Mandy – We will send all this information in a letter out to parents.

Mr Kerlin – Thank you both.

## **Head Teacher's Report**

### **Staffing Update**

Mr Kerlin - The Head Teacher post is to be advertised on 18<sup>th</sup> October and is closing on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. The interviews should take place mid November. The Parent Council representatives will be involved in the letting. A presentation from the Parent Council will be requested. Father Joe is invited as well as the PC.

Eabhna – If Father Joe attends will only 1 member of the Parent Council be needed?

Rachel – I am sure we can have 2 or 3 members.

Mrs Gellan will be returning to work after her absence at the start of the new term. I'd like to thank Mishka who has been taking over in Mrs Gellan's absence. She has been a valued member of staff.

## **Family Events**

Homework club has been very well received since the return to school. It is a lovely atmosphere for pupils to work with their parents.

## **CIV**

Teaching and Learning visit took place Tuesday and Wednesday this week focusing on how we meet learners' needs. We are in a good place if inspectors were to come. During the teaching and learning visit they spoke to pupils and the feedback from the students was very positive. The pupils mentioned SALTIRE.

## **Parent's Night**

Taking place on 7<sup>th</sup> of November.  
P4 split over two evenings (5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Nov)

## **Parent Portal**

Uptake at the moment is 209 children out of 357. We need everyone signed up. Parent's Night planning is being hindered, alongside excursions, photo permissions and data checks. Jennifer is trained in the use of Parent Portal so will be available for parent's who need support signing up. Photos can't go on Twitter until all families have returned the forms. Siobhan- I had an issue, and I phoned the office, and they sorted it for me that day. Mr Kerlin – Jennifer is very experienced and can help any families experiencing difficulties accessing it

## **Playground Draw**

Autumn Hamper donated by a Parent is to be raffled after the October Week and drawn on the 30<sup>th</sup> October at the Autumn Disco.

## **Pupil Committees**

The committees have now been chosen, and meet monthly. This year we asked the children to make a 30 second video which received significantly positive feedback. There were 190 applicants for only 60 spaces. Pupil committee boards are around the building. Thank you to all the families that supported the application process.

## **Panto**

Day 1 – P1 and P2 – 103 children and 11 adults – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
Day 2 – P3 and P4 – 100 children and 11 adults – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December  
Day 3 – P5 and P7 – 106 children and 11 adults – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December  
Day 4 – P6 – 47 children and 5 adults – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December

P7 are not on their own as they have an event on with Darnley.

£6 a ticket for children  
£1400 for a bus

## **Christmas shows**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery and P1 – 9.30a.m. and 2p.m.  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December – P2 and P3 – 9.30a.m. And 2p.m.  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – P4 – P7 – 9.30a.m. and 2p.m.

There are no evening shows as kids sometimes don't show up in the evenings. We will give parents as much notice about this as possible.

Siobhan- You will get backlash from parents who work during the day but I understand your reasoning.

Mr Kerlin – I will explain the reasons for no evening shows to the parents

The week before will be busy with practice for all the classes except from the P7's who are away on their residential.

## **Blairvadach**

Information event took place this afternoon (9<sup>th</sup> Oct)  
9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> December

Thanks to Mandy for her work organising this.

## **Building**

Delay in P1 playground due to asbestos being discovered in an area that wasn't on original drawings. Pre start meeting tomorrow (10<sup>th</sup> October)

Hazmat suits will be needed so this part of the work will start on Monday and continue through the October week. Other construction will continue after the October week.

## **SAPC Update**

Football Team up and running.

Area partnership applied for, to cover transport. Confidant we will get it.

Thank you to families that have donated on the local giving page.

Eabhnat: We haven't heard anything about the Area Partnership bus application yet.

## **Standards and Qualities Report**

Draft provided for PC to feedback on at the meeting and in advance by email.

It should be parent/carer friendly and accessible

Paul – I read it and it was good.

Once it has been approved it will be sent to the wider parent body.

## **Treasure's Report - Aqsa**

Aqsa - Total in account - £3940.21

PC money - £1558.22

SALTIRE money - £1751.10

Nursery playground - £630.89

Money out from PC

- Paid Labhaise for Sept Minutes
- Paid Aqsa for Sept Let at Darnley Community Centre
- Paid let for Autumn Disco

## **Events and Fundraising - Fiona**

### **Autumn Disco**

Mr Kerlin - There will be posters sent out several times a week.

Fiona - We will need to set up a group in the entrance hall to collect emergency contact numbers.

Mr Kerlin – We can't rely on staff to be the adults. We will be there but it is a parent event so must be sufficiently staffed by parent/carer volunteers. We also need greater volunteer numbers as without the teachers there would not be enough adults present. Pupil to volunteer ratio is 1-10.

Eabhnaid – We have a policy specific to disco protocol which I can send out after this meeting.

Fiona – Are there any specifics you would like to add e.g. building access, toilets.

Mr Kerlin – We have small toilets outside the hall but that is not enough. We can have other toilets open, with someone placed outside.

Fiona – Anything else about Autumn Disco.

Aqsa – I think we should wait to decide specifics until we know pupil numbers.

Eabhnaid – Have you sent out a letter about needing volunteers?

Fiona – We can. We will have an arts and crafts table for kids who need space and a break from the crowds. Are we doing decor?

Aqsa- There are some, but we would need to find them.

Fiona – Are we selling anything?

Aqsa – Would mean more volunteers needed

Rachel – We could wait and see nearer the time in case we have a lot of volunteers.

## **P7 Leaver's Hoodies**

Parents are requesting that pupils receive hoodies earlier this year so that they can use them during Blairvadach and appreciate during winter.

Mrs Thompson – It is a big job, and it requires a lot of back and forth with pupils and parents.

Aqsa – Could we do the hoodie measuring with parents during parents' night.

Mrs Thompson – Very good idea.

Mr Kerlin – The kids would have to come to the meetings. Should also ask supplier what their turnaround is.

Rachel – I will contact the supplier.

## **Christmas Fayre**

Eabhna – Do we need to think about it now as next meeting isn't until 20<sup>th</sup> November which is 10 days before the Fayre. We already have emails about stalls.

Aqsa – We were charging £15 for the stalls at the Christmas Fayre but at the Eid Bazaar they were £40. Could we ask for £40 at the Fayre?

Mrs Thompson – Would people from the Eid Bazaar come to the Fayre?

Aqsa – Yes.

Mr Kerlin – Do you have contacts for them all, Aqsa?

Aqsa – Most of them. I can send them an email to see if they're interested.

Fiona – Will need a poster with details soon, so we need to decide details tonight?

Aqsa – I want to keep the Eid Bazaar at £40. We were in profit before we began.

Mr Kerlin – We will have 7 pupil stalls at the Christmas Fayre.

Aqsa – Will need to contact the Santa. He seemed happy to do it again.

Mishka – As a back-up my dad has done it before so I'm sure he would be happy to do it again. I will ask him.

Mr Kerlin will contact Lisa from the Nursery to confirm if they are able to do the grotto again this year.

Aqsa – For the let how much space would we need? It cost £206 for the let last year – 1 classroom and Assembly Hall.

Aqsa will repeat the same let as last year.

Aqsa – Would like to charge £50 for the stalls at the Eid Bazaar.

Paul – Only one person complained about the price last year.

Aqsa – We can charge per size of the stall.

Agreed to charge £25 for a small pitch (one table) and £40 for a large pitch (two tables).

Fiona will create the poster for the Christmas Fayre.

Aqsa – We can do bring your old toys for the Fayre. Makes good money and is nice for the kids.

## **Panto Support**

Fiona – Sounds like some support is needed from the PC for the Panto.

Mr Kerlin - £6 ticket and £10 Family ticket. Looking for some potential support. I checked if they've kept the price the same and thankfully, they have. I gave a guide price on parent pay. St Vincent De Paul have given us £500 to support families. Would be happy to put that money towards £1400 buses to reduce prices. No parent has come forward looking for financial support but if they do, we always have ways of getting more money e.g. St Vincent De Paul.

Eabhnat – Are you doing hampers this Christmas which are given out as prizes?

Mr Kerlin – We did a reverse advent calendar where staff brought in things and we sent Hampers to specific families.

Fiona – What are our thoughts on donating money towards the Panto?

Aqsa – We don't have the funding right now but we will after the Christmas Fayre

Mr Kerlin – Definitely don't want you to feel any pressure.

### **Expenses before Christmas**

Rachel – The only expenses would be hoodies if we go ahead

Eabhnat – And a donation to the Nursery for their Christmas party.

### **SALTIRE REPORT - Eabhnat**

03.09.24 Adult Storytelling Workshop with the Village Storytelling Centre which was very successful and enjoyable.

Rachel – Was a very nice experience.

01.10.24 Planning meeting with volunteers and Mrs Shaw to set up SALTIRE timetable for the year.

### **Term 2:**

Composting

Workshops for Adult Volunteers and Steering Group as well as a whole school assembly. Aim to set up a whole school composting scheme to turn food waste into compost for our allotment. Second Jora Composter being purchased with funds to purchase composting bins for classrooms or other equipment as needed.

Adult Workshops are being planned without funding this year and Calendar of events will be shared with families once complete.

Pupil workshops will begin in term 2, all pupils will get the opportunity to work with volunteers over the course of the year.

Raised beds will be cared for over the winter in preparation for planting in Spring.

Mr Kerlin – SALTIRE came up in a visit today in a very positive way.

### **Funding:**

- Unsuccessful in Corra grant for Family Play Sessions though they have said they will keep our application in file if more funds become available.
- Applying to Barchester Charitable Foundation for same.
- Applied to Area Partnership Fund for People of Colour only workshops with Steering Group girls, exploring identity and empowering the girls in their leadership roles. Application delayed and should have decision by early Dec.
- Wellbeing Fund reopened and applying for further Adult Wellbeing Workshops, Family Play Sessions & development of the allotment
- Also applying to Community Food Grant & Miller Homes Community Fund for support completing the allotment area.

## **Class Reading Material - Fiona**

Parents are requesting a review of what the pupils are reading and the books.

Need funding for updated books.

Mrs Thompson – We spent a lot of money on a new reading scheme for the infants. We bought a bank of non-fiction books for the upper school. A lot of children only read Non-fiction.

Mr Kerlin – We have identified this as an area for investment however it is very expensive. PEF is the best opportunity to get funding for books, however our budget is small and already allocated for this year. We will need to audit what books we have to identify gaps and get a price list. It'll take time as well to get funding. We need books which engage pupils.

Fiona – Could we get pupils and parents to donate books?

Mrs Thompson- Yes. And we are specifically looking for inclusive books.

Fiona - We should have P7's set up with their young Scot cards before S1.

Paul- Could we set up a parent meeting to help parents set up the cards.

## **AOCB/Matters Arising**

### **Newsround**

Aqsa – How often do they watch Newsround and what do they do after they've watched it.

Mr Kerlin – Some classes do it as a plenary. I'm always concerned about safeguarding but it is BBC so it is safe in that aspect. We're open to having a conversation about its educational value. We will make sure its content is appropriate and relevant.

Siobhan – My child was having nightmares about something they saw during Newsround.

Aqsa – Yes, kids can get upset with the more sensitive content, but it is great for children to see the outside world.

Mr Kerlin – we will discuss this with upper staff to ensure that time is always given to allow children to discuss topics if they are sensitive or perhaps only watch part of the news if using it for note taking etc.

### **Pupil Self Assessment**

On the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> October, pupils will have no homework apart from the pupil self assessment.

## **Minute Taker**

Labhaoise is unavailable on 20<sup>th</sup> November. Eabhnat happy to take notes and Labhaoise will type them up. Everyone was in agreement.

**The meeting closed at 8.10p.m.**

**The next PC meeting will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm.**