

Newmill Primary Parent Council Meeting
6pm Wednesday 31st August 2022
Newmill Primary School Hall

Agenda: Christmas Fundraising & Summer Challenge
School Improvement Priorities
Banking update
AOB

Advance Notice given of AGM: Wednesday 28th September at 6pm in Newmill Primary School.

Attendees: Stuart Minnis, Gillian Stevenson, Amanda Buchan, Sonia Gerrie, Rachael Smith, Donna Shepherd.

Apologies: Karen Scott, Kerry McWilliam, Leanne Smith, Lisa Nicoll, Wendy Fettes, Jill Mearns, Jodie Mathers, Andrea Petrie, Ashley Inglis, Kim Morrison

Summer challenge - other recent holiday challenges such as the Easter Egg hunt were more successful. General feeling that a closed-format activity might have worked better. Feedback received - parents were unsure of what to do especially when asking for sponsorship, summer holidays were much busier than the last few years have been. A longer time frame to complete challenge or activities such as filling a smarties tube with 20p's could be tried out in future. Sponsored walk was discussed but a route from Newmill would be difficult. This would incur costs for buses.

Fundraising - Ashley passed her apologies with suggestions for further fundraising to cover annual costs (books as gifts/hoodies and hall hire). These included the sale of keepsakes, online raffles and a Santa trail. Ashley is happy to co-ordinate these. Miss Smith advised that the sale of keepsakes would tie in with whole school IDL enterprise project in term 2. Ashley & others to start looking for prices etc for keepsakes. Other fundraising will be put on hold until the AGM.

Banking - Alison provided a banking update prior to the meeting. The opening of new account is still on-going and will hopefully be up and running soon. Alison is to drop the books off at school for Katie Whyte to audit before the AGM. A small gift will be purchased as a thank you.

Current balance is **£5,443.83**.

School Improvement – Miss Smith discussed “Reading Schools” and details of how Newmill Primary are using this approach. Having class sets of books provides an invaluable resource to various literacy activities in school and would help with taking part in “Reading School”. Teachers have asked Miss Smith if parents would agree for the books gifted from PC at Christmas to be used in class in term 3 and then returned home.

This led to discussion about the school library and parent helpers. This is something that could be set up again but requires organisation of resources also kept in the PE cupboard. The school would benefit from a new shed for storage of items not being used regularly. An application to Tesco will be submitted through the Blue Token scheme. Further fundraising or support from the PC may be required.

Miss Smith is keen to have parents back into school now covid restrictions have lifted. An informal discussion was held about the format of these events which in general led to the feeling that parents are keen to be involved and find out more about what the pupils are

learning. PVG's will be required for parent helpers. Further feedback on this will be gathered from all parents.

Feedback - Donna to set a date and gather feedback on a number of areas relating to PC and school improvement.

School Trip - Stuart Minnis had an enthusiastic response from parents and RS about a school trip to RAF Lossiemouth. This could hopefully take place in term 4. More details to follow.

AGM

There is a minimum number of attendees required for this meeting. All families encouraged to attend on Wednesday 28th September 2022 in Newmill Primary School at 6pm.