

Coltness High School Parent Council

24/02/15

Present Mrs Mitchell, Mr Waddell, Mr Hughes, Mrs Taylor, Cllr John Taggart, Mrs Walker, Mr Farr, Mr McGilp.

Apologies Ms Strachan, Dr Macfarlane, Mr Anderson, Mr Sneddon, Rev. Murdoch, Cllr Mckendrick.

Approval of minutes Mr Waddell, Mrs Taylor

Mater Arising

Cllr Taggart advised that the council was unable to paint zebra crossing lines at the school gate, however road signs warning “children crossing” would soon be installed. Cllr Taggart agreed to go back to the council and request speed bumps at the school gate.

Head Teacher’s Report

The school is considering different options for fund raising events in memory of a former pupil, Andrew Aitken who sadly died last week. Mr McGilp intends to speak to Andrew’s parents to ask what they would like to do with the funds raised in Andrew’s memory.

Former deputy head teacher Mrs Wilson is currently back working in the school 2 days a week to help with the staff shortages in the H.E., however Mr McGilp has been advised that permanent staff would soon be in place to eliminate this shortage.

Mr McGilp stated that the Education Department want all pupils going into 3rd year to continue to study a modern language, this is to address a weakness in the curriculum identified at the last HMIE inspection. The Education Department has also promised to have enough modern language teachers in place to allow this to happen.

The body of the parent council were very much against this decision, as they believed the current 2nd year pupils had already lost too much tuition time in modern languages due to staff shortages. The consensus of opinion was this change would be better delayed until next year. The parent members of the parent council all agreed to write to the head teacher outlining their personal opinions in regard to this decision.

The parent council also wished to thank the head teacher and the modern language teachers who have given up their free time to offer after school support for modern language pupils who have lost out due to staff shortages.

AOCB

Mrs Taylor asked for more notice for up and coming parents' evenings and curriculum meetings, Mr McGilp stated he is hoping to get the school website updated to show all future meetings.

Mrs Taylor asked if the maths department could put study notes on the website similar to the excellent study notes provided by the science department.

Mr Waddell would like to thank Mr Lang who looked after his step daughter when she fell ill and had to be taken to hospital during an Outward Bound weekend at Loch Eil.

Mrs Mitchell stated she was attending a course run by Seasons for Growth and asked if this could help the school.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 31st March at 7.30 pm.