

Coltness High School Parent Council

27/01/15

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

Apologies Ms Strachan.

Approval of minutes Due to illness, no minutes were available

Head Teacher's Report

Mr McGilp showed the Parent's Council a signed portrait of the former Rangers football player Fernando Ricksen, this portrait was painted by S5 pupil Lindsey Struthers. The school plan to auction the portrait at an up and coming fund raising dinner in aid of ALS (motor neurone disease). Cllr Taggart offered an opening bid of £500. The school also intend to have the portrait copied and will try and sell the copies for the same worthy cause. The school hope to make this an annual event and next year they intend to have a pupil paint a portrait of a Lisbon Lion and have this signed, again for the same worthy cause.

Medical work experience – Staff from Wishaw general will attending the school's career convention. NHS Lanarkshire will hold two open evening, one in Wishaw General and one in Hairmyres Hospital to assist pupils who wish to pursue a career in the medical profession. There would also be a talk by a young doctor who has recent experience of going through the UKCAT and interview process.

Exchange Visit – Mr McGilp discussed a proposed exchange visit with 40 pupils from a private school in Denmark.

Sense Over Sectarianism – The funding is fully approved for the school trip to Belfast.

The school were successful in their bid for £5000 for camera equipment for the senior pupil's photography club.

The school received a £500 donation from Scottish Gas Networks towards football kits

Mr McGilp reported that there were no major issues with the prelim exams.

Polar Expedition – The parents night was a success, the expedition is now only 10 weeks away. The school and the Parent Council would like to thank the former Deputy Head Teacher Mrs. Wilson for her hard work and support in arranging for the 5 pupils from

Coltness High and 5 pupils from St. Aidans High to go on this expedition. Both sets of pupils have worked and trained hard for the trip and have formed a strong team.

Next year will be the 50 year School Anniversary. Mr McGilp intends to form a working group from members of staff, senior pupils and the Parent Council to decide how to celebrate this important milestone. Mr Waddell expressed an interest in joining the working group. Cllr Taggart suggested approaching the Education Officer for funding.

AOCB

Dr Macfarlane enquired why the council gritter was turning at the school gate and not clearing the school car park. Cllr Taggart advised that this would need to come out of the Education Budget not the Environmental Budget and there was also a question of insurance. This is the case for all schools in North Lanarkshire where the janitorial staff is expected to clear the paths and roads.

Dr Macfarlane asked if anything could be done to control the traffic at the school gate, particularly in the morning as many cars were not stopping to allow pupils across the road. Cllr Taggart offered to ask the planning department if it would be possible to have a Zebra or Pelican crossing installed.

Date of next meeting 24th February at 7.30 pm.