Dear Parents and Carers,
I hope this message finds you well. I am delighted and honoured to have been re-elected as Chair of the Rochsolloch Primary School and Nursery Parent Council.

I would like to thank all parents and carers who continue to support the work of the Parent Council. Whether you serve on the committee, volunteer at events, donate prizes, help with fundraising activities or simply attend our events with your children, every contribution helps us create memorable experiences for our school community and raise much-needed funds for the benefit of all our pupils. Of course none of this would be possible without the amazing work and dedication of all the school staff who help make the events and meetings possible too.

The Parent Council is entirely dependent on the goodwill and generosity of volunteers. While the committee works hard behind the scenes throughout the year, our events simply could not take place without additional support from parents, carers, grandparents and family members who volunteer their time to help with set-up, supervision, refreshments, stalls, tidy-up and countless other tasks.

A Couple of Important Updates

Parent Council Constitution Update
The RPS Parent Council Constitution can be found on the school's webpage on the Parent Council segment. The constitution sets out the Parent Council's purpose, governance and accountability arrangements. Its role is to support partnership between parents, pupils and the school, represent parents' views, and promote pupil welfare. The Council comprises up to 18 parent members, meets at least termly, holds an AGM annually, and requires committee members to hold PVG membership. It also outlines office-bearer roles, financial controls, meeting procedures, member conduct, constitutional amendments and dissolution arrangements.

Your office bearers this year are:
- **Catherine Nixon**, Vice Chair
- **Helen McKee**, Treasurer, supported by **Lorna Dalberg-Andersen** as deputy
- **Lynsey Carroll**, Secretary

Your wider committee members this year are:
Dan Schoenhofen, Nadia Majid, Arlene Coleman, Stephanie Craig, Steven Craig, Lynsey Telford, Linzi MacKenzie, Rebecca Byers, Lorna McClory and Victor MacKenzie.

I am pleased to note that all of our Parent Council Committee members are a part of the legally required PVG scheme.

This year we have 3 openings and would welcome additional parents and carers who would like to get involved. Joining the Parent Council is a great opportunity to help shape school life, support fundraising and community events, and represent the views of families across Rochsolloch Primary School and Nursery. Whether you can contribute regularly or occasionally, your ideas, skills and support would be greatly appreciated. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more or attend a future meeting.

Volunteering and Safeguarding
As you will be aware, safeguarding and protecting our children remains our highest priority.
Parents and carers who volunteer regularly at Parent Council events should be members of our **Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme** register. If you regularly assist at discos, fayres or other events and are not yet PVG registered through the Parent Council, please contact us and we will be happy to guide you through the process.
We also recognise that many parents and carers are able to help only occasionally. If you intend to volunteer at a specific event on an ad hoc basis, we ask that you make yourself known to the Parent Council by email, Facebook message or WhatsApp at least a few hours before the event begins. This allows us to plan appropriately, ensure sufficient supervision arrangements are in place and maintain the highest safeguarding standards for all children attending.

Your cooperation in this area helps us deliver safe, enjoyable and well-managed events for everyone.

What Your Parent Council Does
The Parent Council exists to strengthen the partnership between home and school and to support the educational experience of every child at Rochsolloch Primary School and Nursery. We are a group of parents who exist for the parents.

In addition to organising fundraising and community events, the Parent Council meets regularly throughout the school year to discuss matters affecting the wider school community and to raise issues, suggestions and feedback on behalf of parents and carers. We work closely with the senior management team of the school to help ensure the parent voice is heard and considered in school improvement and decision-making. We always advertise ahead of our meetings with at least a few days' notice and call for any items you wish to be raised. Also every parent and carer is always welcome at every meeting of the Parent Council – you do not need to be a committee member to attend and express your views.

It is important to remember, however, that the Parent Council's role is to represent the interests of parents collectively rather than to address individual concerns. If you have a matter relating specifically to your own child, or an issue that requires an urgent response, we would strongly encourage you to contact the school directly in the first instance. In many cases, individual circumstances, confidential matters or pupil-specific concerns are not appropriate issues for the Parent Council to raise or discuss.

Funds raised through our events help provide additional opportunities and resources for pupils, supporting everything from learning resources and equipment to celebrations, activities and special experiences throughout the school year.

Every ticket purchased, raffle entered and volunteer hour given makes a real difference. Every penny you spend at any of our events goes either straight back to the school or into the cost of running the events. I am delighted that we now have two card machines at all our events, still take cash and offer the bank transfer option also:

💳 **Bank Transfer Details**
Sort Code: 80-22-60
Account Number: 15720467
Account Name: Rochsolloch Parent Council
Reference: Second Name and Class(s)

Events for 2026-27
We are pleased to share our planned programme of events for the year ahead:
🎃 **Halloween Disco Thursday 29 October**
Primary 1 to Primary 3: 6.15pm – 7.00pm
Primary 4 to Primary 7: 7.00pm – 8.00pm
Entry: £4 per child, but no child would ever be turned away.

Payment can be made in cash or by card on the night but we ask that if you can pay by bank transfer at least a few hours before the event that would really help with the queue on the evening and ensure the kids get the max amount of time with their friends.

I know your kid's first few disco's can be scary. It may even be the first period of time they have really been away from you/family members and you are more than welcome to offer to stay and volunteer so that you are nearby if your child needs you. Please do just make yourself known to one of the Parent Council committee members or inform us in advance if possible. Normally lanyards are distributed to parent helpers so we are easily identified.

🎄 **Christmas Fayre Sunday 29 November**
12.00pm – 3.00pm
A full family affair – bring your granny! Bring yir Auntie! No pets allowed though I'm afraid.

✨ **Christmas Supper & Party with the Elves**
Thursday 17 December – Early Evening Exact Time TBC
Again a party for the full family and an evening you don't need to worry about what you're cooking for tea! First come first served though!

🌟 **Dis-Glow Thursday 25 February**

🎶 **Summer Disco Thursday 27 May**

Further details, ticket information and volunteer opportunities will be shared closer to each event.

Staying Connected
Our class WhatsApp groups and private Facebook community page are an important part of our school community. While they are separate from the Parent Council, they help parents and carers stay in touch with one another and provide a useful way for the Parent Council to share news, event information and volunteering opportunities directly with families.

As the Parent Council is run entirely by parent and carer volunteers, we rely on these channels to help share information throughout the year. Whilst we ask the school to communicate key messages where appropriate, it would not be practical for every meeting, event or request for support to be shared through school communications alone.

We encourage all parents and carers to join these groups, where possible, and help keep them welcoming, positive and useful for everyone. As messages can be seen by a large number of people, please be respectful and considerate of others when posting. Remember that written messages can sometimes be misunderstood, so it is always best to assume positive intent.

If you have a concern about the school, a child or a member of staff, please raise it directly with the school. This ensures the matter reaches the appropriate people and can be dealt with properly, fairly and confidentially.

To help maintain a positive environment, we kindly ask everyone to:

- Treat all members with courtesy and respect.
- Keep discussions focused on school and community matters.
- Avoid discussing individual pupils, families, staff members or volunteers.
- Respect the privacy of others and avoid sharing personal information, photographs or screenshots without permission.
- Use appropriate and considerate language at all times.
- Let the Parent Council know as early as possible if you would like to volunteer at an event, helping us meet our safeguarding responsibilities.

Our shared aim is to create friendly, informative and supportive spaces that bring our school community together and help achieve the very best outcomes for all our children.

Get Involved
We are always looking for new volunteers and fresh ideas. If you would like to help at any event, join the Parent Council, or find out more about becoming PVG registered, please get in touch.

Together, we can continue to build a strong, supportive school community and create wonderful memories for our children.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best Wishes,
Nicola Rodger
Chair,
Rochsolloch Primary School and Nursery Parent Council
rochsollochparentcouncil@gmail.com