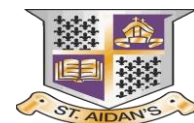


# St. Aidan's RC Primary School & Nursery Class Parent Council Newsletter – November 2017



**Welcome** to the first newsletter of the 2017/2018 school term from the St. Aidan's Primary School & Nursery Class Parent Council, issued to update the Parent Forum on the work and efforts of the Parent Council, details of forthcoming events planned and general information. Please read, take note of dates and let us know your views.



## Parent Council Members

Chair – Gemma Henry (Nursery & P2 parent)  
Vice Chair – Yvonne Lowe (P4 parent)  
Treasurer – Cheryl Thompson (P2 parent)  
Secretary – Claire Kirkwood (Nursery & P1 parent)  
Member – Donna Anderson (P6 & P3 parent)  
Member – Joanne Donaldson (Nursery parent)  
Member – Pauline Fyvie (P5 parent)  
Member – Derek Murphy (P2 parent)  
Member – Stephen McAuley (P3 & P5 parent)  
Member – Lynn McCrum (P7 parent)  
Member – Seana Preston (P3 parent)  
Member – Drew Russell (P2 parent)

The Parent Council includes Mrs McLean as the Professional Advisor, Miss McGregor as the Staff Member and Father O'Connor as Parish Rep. Our local elected members also support the PC.



## Parent Council Meetings

The Parent Council meeting dates are as follows:-

- + 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017 – staff room
- + 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018 – upstairs meeting room St. Aidan's Church Hall
- + 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – upstairs meeting room St. Aidan's Church Hall
- + 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – upstairs meeting room St. Aidan's Church Hall
- + 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 – upstairs meeting room St. Aidan's Church Hall
- + 29<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – upstairs meeting room St. Aidan's Church Hall

These meetings are open for **all** parents to attend and all are welcome. Minutes of the meetings will be uploaded to the School website for all parents to access and view. Any comments welcome, however please address any comments direct to the Parent Council via the communication mediums note herein.

## Forthcoming Events - Details

+ **Discos - P1-P4 disco will be from 6.30pm – 7.45pm and P5-P7 disco will be from 8.00pm – 9.30pm. As per the recent Halloween disco, the school car park will be CLOSED so churches/alternative car parking to be used. Cost of entry £2 per child. There will also be a payable tuck shop and glow sticks available and we suggest a max. of £5 in total be given to children. Children will be issued with a ticket which is to be completed with an emergency contact number. The ticket must be completed and handed over at the disco to gain entry. Entrance to both discos will be via the reception area and children can be collected from both discos from Room 9/10 door. Please note that no child will be allowed to leave the school premises unless accompanied by an adult. Parent helpers are always needed to run the discos, so please consider putting your name forward to the Parent Council for the following events:-**

- + Valentines Disco – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018
- + Shorts 'n' Shades Disco – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018

+ **Christmas Fayre** – In conjunction with the school, we are hosting our first Christmas Fayre which will be held in the school on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2017 from 10.00am – 12.00pm.** Each class within the nursery and school have been making Christmas themed items in their Enterprise lessons and each class will have a stall to give parents and family members the opportunity to buy their child's work. Other stalls with items to purchase for Christmas gifts will also be available, together with a raffle, letters to Santa, Christmas café, computer games room and of course .....**Santa's grotto** .

+ **Spring Event** – After last year's Race Night success, the Parent Council will be hosting another event (theme still to be agreed) on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in St. Aidan's Parish Hall: 7.00pm – 11.00pm. Details of the event, ticket prices and sale of tickets will be confirmed in due course.

+ **First Communion Party** – The Parent Council will hold a party in St. Aidan's Church Hall for all First Communicants to celebrate them making this Sacrament. The P4 parents will be canvassed for their preference on the date of the party, either Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018 or Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 and we will proceed with the majority decision. The party will be held after 11am Mass, finishing at 2.00pm. First Communion outfits are **OPTIONAL**. Children will receive a snack at the party and a party bag for taking home. We look forward to seeing all the children there. Children will be issued with an invite, RSVP and a ticket. The RSVP is to be returned by the date given and the ticket is to be completed with emergency contact number and brought to the party. **No child will be allowed to leave the hall unless accompanied by an adult.**

+ **Movie Night** – We are working hard to provide good quality fundraising events. The discos have always been successful, however we hope we are improving the experience for the children with the changes we have made to the games etc. Whilst we recognise the children enjoy the discos, we would be willing to host a movie night if there was sufficient interest.

## News Update



### + Grant Applications:-

- + The Parent Council were successful in their grant application to Tesco for their Bags of Help initiative and we were lucky to be awarded the top grant of £12,000. The project is Green Hands Together in alliance with Alzheimer Scotland.
- + The Parent Council submitted an application for £9,995 of grant funding to the National Lottery for an outdoor science club and were awarded £7,497.

Both grants will provide the children with invaluable learning opportunities and resources, which otherwise would not be possible via the school budget. You will have seen the combined sensory garden and science club project emerging since the summer holidays with the groundworks being completed, the installation of the polytunnel and erection of the summerhouse and planters. The greenhouse for the science club is now underway and has been erected in the quadrangle area following the garden clean up. The science club equipment is being finalised with the teaching staff and will be purchased shortly.

### + Fundraising:-

- + **200 Club** – We have already commenced the 200 club sign-up at the recent Parents Evening and two further opportunities to participate will be available at the forthcoming Rookie Rockstars performance on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 and the next day from the school office after 3.00pm. Pick a membership number (subject to availability) for a one-off fee of £10 which enters you into 10 draws which will be made at assemblies etc. throughout the school year. Prize fund will be 50% of total amount raised, which will then be evenly split between each draw, with the remaining 50% raised going to Parent Council funds. The greater number of participants, the higher the prize fund. Please consider participating. The funds raised from the 200 club are being put towards the much needed replacement of the school cross country kit and also the strips for the school football team.
- + **Feature Wall** – Due to other fundraising events/grants last year, we decided to put this on hold until this new school year. Discussions will re-start with a local company regarding the installation of a feature wall, located externally outside of room 10. The wall will have decorative tiles which are engraved with a personal message. Details are being finalised with the company regarding design, cost etc. and there will be a letter issued to parents once all details are finalised.
- + **Football Kits**– As above, the funds raised from the 200 club are being put towards the replacement of the school cross country kit and also the strips for the school football team. Notwithstanding this, a sponsor is also being sought for the football strips - If you have a business or you think your Employer would be interested in sponsoring the strips, then please contact the Parent Council or Miss Jones. The business name or logo would be printed on the strips in recognition of the sponsorship.

## Donations/Fundraising

The Parent Council fundraising efforts in the last school year have been a huge success and we would like to thank all Parents for their support. Funds (profit) raised to date from August 2016 from various events etc. are as follows:-

- + 200 Club (2016-2017) - £490
- + 2016 Halloween Disco - £ 546
- + Christmas Calendar - £1,173
- + Race Night - £1,972 (put towards £2,574 cost of new Promethean board in Room 13 which PC funded)
- + Valentine Disco - £ 519
- + Easter Raffle - £377
- + Shorts 'n' Shades Disco - £359 (profit after deducting school let which required to be paid for this disco)
- + Summer Fayre - £1,440 (profit after deducting school let, £1,500 donation to school for new Nurture Room facilities)
- + 2017 Halloween Disco - £582

The Parent Council recently donated £1,000 to fund the balance of the cost for the mud kitchen for the nursery and other much needed resources in general for the nursery.

Profits raised from further events etc. will be targeted and the Parent Forum will be consulted on what they would like the funds to be used for.

## Comments and Suggestions



The Parent Council is very fortunate to receive great backing from the Parent Forum re. the work of the Parent Council and support for the events which are organised. Notwithstanding this, some parents may have comments and also suggestions to make. Any feedback and suggestions will be greatly received and can be made:-

- + to the Parent Council facebook page via private message. Please like our facebook page and share posts to widen the audience viewing the posts.
- + to any of the Parent Council members (as noted overleaf)
- + to the school staff members of the Parent Council:-
  - + Mrs McLean
  - + Miss McGregor
- + by e-mail to:- [StAidansPS.ParentCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:StAidansPS.ParentCouncil@gmail.com)



We have a Facebook page giving info. – St. Aidan's Primary & Nursery Parent Council - Please follow the page and like, comment and share posts. We also have a Twitter feed – Parent Council@StAidansPcou, so please follow the link and like and re-tweet tweets. We can also be contacted by e-mail, please note our e-mail is [StAidansPS.ParentCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:StAidansPS.ParentCouncil@gmail.com)

