

# St. Andrew's Primary School Parent Council Report Annual General Meeting - 10 October 2016



#### What is the Parent Council?

The Parent Council is the Committee appointed by the Parent Forum (all parents/guardians with a child attending the school) to run matters on its behalf.

The Parent Council of St. Andrew's Primary was established in 2006, replacing the old School Board. The Parent Council is designed to be less formal and friendlier to encourage more and different parents/guardians to get involved in the life of their school.

The Parent Council hold at least 8 meetings in the year to discuss a wide variety of issues surrounding the school. Our agenda often includes the organisation of fundraising events, purchases for the school and discussion regarding concerns or suggestions passed on from parents/guardians.

## Who are the Parent Council?

The Parent Council committee members are:

Louise White - Chair (to resign - post open) Carolann Shields - Treasurer Maria Timoney - Secretary (now resigned - post open) Elaine Johnston - Church representative

Our sub-committee members are:

Frances Bath - Minute Taker Alison McCool Donna Shaw Kelly Goldie

### What does the Parent Council do?

The role of the Parent Council is to:

- To promote partnership between the school, its pupils, its parents/guardians, the Roman Catholic Church and the wider community to ensure that all pupils develop their full potential.
- Support the school in its work with pupils.
- Represent the views of all parents/guardians and report back to all parents/guardians in the school.
- Encourage links between the school, parents/guardians, pupils, pre-school groups and the wider community.
- Play a role in the appointment of head teachers and depute head teachers.
- Support the school and pupils during school inspections.

### **Parent Council Report**

We are now into the third month of the new school term and, as such, no fundraising events have yet taken place. However, dates have been confirmed in our fundraising calendar and these are as follows:

31 October 2016 - Halloween disco 6 February 2017 - Parent Council Run Disco 15 May 2017 - Parent Council run Disco

Our school discos are very effective at bringing in funds with not a lot of outlay and, more importantly, the children thoroughly enjoy them.



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Our one big annual fundraiser each year was the Christmas Fayre. However, this school term the PC and school will be focusing on a series of fundraising events throughout the year and, in particular, in the lead up to Christmas.

Previous fundraising activities have allowed the Parent Council to help the School in the purchase of various additional resources. To give contrasting examples: the purchase of 10 mini iPads in the Spring of 2014, contribution towards the new sound system in June 2015, and on a smaller, but equally as valuable scale, the purchase of 90 hi-vis vests for school trips at the beginning of the new term in August 2015 and various classroom resources. Last school term we also purchased and gifted the P7s with the newly designed senior school ties.

Other Parent Council purchases have included Christmas pantomimes, tracksuits, magnetic boards, purposeful play resources, High School ties for P7s and the annual graduation disco.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Parent Council have successfully opened a bank account with Airdrie Savings Bank. The current signatories are Louise White, Carolann Shields and Frances Bath. Louise White will officially step aside from that role at the end of this AGM following her resignation from the Parent Council.

As at October 2016, the Parent Council's bank balance is £865.84.

#### Issues addressed during the year

The Parent Council has always been a forum for parents/guardians to bring specific issues with which they are concerned regarding their children at school. In addition, the Parent Council meetings can address factors which can influence the way in which our children are educated. The Parent Council have addressed and discussed extensively a number of issues, such as the following:

Parking at the School.
Homework.
After school clubs.
Language by adults in the school yard.
Dogs in the yard.
School trips.

# Looking forward 2016/17

At the end of this AGM, the current Chair, Louise White, will formally resign from the Parent Council. Our former Secretary, Maria Timoney, resigned at the end of the 2015/16 school term.

The positions of Chair and Secretary are now officially open, as is the new position of Vice Chair. The current Chair formally invites volunteers to fill these roles. Any parents/guardians of a child at the school can volunteer to be a member of the Parent Council. In the event that the number of volunteers exceeds the number of places set out in the constitution, members will be selected by ballot. In the event that the relevant positions are filled without the need to ballot, then in accordance with the 2006 Act, there are still many opportunities for enthusiastic parental involvement at all levels of commitment. Involvement with the Parent Council is encouraged and such an invitation to be involved is extended to the wider Parent Forum.

Louise White, Chair 10 October 2016



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