



St Brendan's  
Primary School and Nursery  
45 Barons Road  
Motherwell  
ML1 2NB

## Parents Council Meeting

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Date : 06/06/23

Time : 18.00

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Meeting chaired by : Donna Matthewman

### Distribution of Minutes:

All attendees  
Catherine Sweeney  
Motherwell Cllrs

### Attendees :

- Mrs Oates (HT - MO)
- Miss Burns (MB)
- Donna Matthewman (C - DM)
- Lisa Hewitt (VC - LH)
- Lesley-Ann Henderson (SEC - LAH)
- Collette Feeney (CF)
- Kate Anderson (KA)
- Kenneth Duffy (KD)
- Martin Grey (MG)

### Apologies:

- Mrs Colton (MC)
- Mrs Cassidy (Clerk - MCA)
- Adelle Douglas (TRE - AD)
- Amy Dornan (AD)
- Lynne Kellas (LK)



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| <u>Reference</u> | <u>Comment</u>   | <u>Action by</u> |
|------------------|--|------------------|
| 1.00             | <u>HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT (MO)</u>  |                  |
| 1.01             | <p>Staff Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Miss Hill and Miss O'Neill have both been redeployed to other schools. We wish them well on their next chapter.</li><li>• Stephanie Bridge will no longer be in the St Brendan's budget (0.6 of a full time teacher). She will continue to work in the Pedagogy Team but not dedicated to our school</li><li>• Staffing for the next school year based on the budget will be tight and MO won't be able to have anyone out of class full time in a support capacity as per previous years but we will be able to use the cluster staff for additional support (the cluster is a resource pool covering a number of schools).</li><li>• If everything goes to plan with budget etc, the existing P3 (the new P4 from August) are going to be split into 3 groups for the new school year. This is something new that MO is trying by making 3 x smaller groups. This age group were the 'covid PIs' who missed out on so much given the restrictions that were in place at the time. MO has identified that they would benefit from smaller groups to aid their development through smaller class numbers. MO hopes this will be welcomed by parents as she believes this will really benefit the children.</li><li>• With the planned headcount for August, NLC are suggesting 10 classes but MO is hoping to be able to proceed with 11 classes, again to keep numbers per class low.</li><li>• The management team will consist of 1 x Head Teacher and 2 x Principal Teachers (one of which Miss Burns will continue as Acting PT).</li></ul> |                  |
|                  | <p>Uniform Update</p>  |                  |
| 1.02             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Parent Council have issued a uniform newsletter that was shared on the school app. We hope it shares some tips on keeping the cost down of the school uniform.</li><li>• The school were very kindly given donations of brand new school uniform items (with tags on) from Asda. This was an initiative that Asda was doing to help local schools in the area. Many sizes are available. These items were shared with parents of the new PIs at their induction day and the other items will be available to all parents on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June at our Summer Fayre. All items are free and it would be wonderful to see as many families as possible take advantage of this kind gesture.</li></ul>   |                  |
|                  | <p>P1 Induction Afternoon</p>  |                  |
| 1.03             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The parents of our new P1 were welcomed to the school recently. Two members of the Parent Council and a member of the Parent Fundraising Group attended the induction session to share information with the new parents.</li></ul>   |                  |



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| <u>2.00</u> | <u>ACCESSIBILITY/SAFETY IN THE SCHOOL YARD</u> |  |
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| 2.01 | Some parents raised they had heard about a potential incident around the school vicinity and wanted to check there wasn't a potential safety issue or risk around access to the school yard. MO confirmed there hadn't been any incidents relating to the school, the yard or the safety of the children and there is no known safety risk to children or staff. |  |
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| <u>3.00</u> | <u>SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN</u> |  |
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| 3.01 | The school always has an improvement plan which incorporates improvement actions for both the school and nursery. This year, the nursery will have its own standalone improvement plan so that dedicated focus can be placed on the output from the HMIE report. |  |
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The school improvement plan will focus on the following priorities:

1. Health & Wellbeing
2. Curriculum refresh
3. Writing

For Health & Wellbeing:

- the school will use 'Emotion Works' which will help children to identify and understand different emotions and will teach self-regulation strategies to help children to cope with their emotions.
- The school is working towards its gold rights respecting award.
- Eco Schools Award – now working towards reapplying for our Eco Flag.
- Big focus on cyber resilience and internet safety. This has always been a big focus in the school but now taking it to a higher level.
- Playground – the children have loved the new additions to the yard that have been built/made (stage, houses, bus etc). Looking to enhance the play facilities further. Bid has been submitted for funding for an outdoor classroom so fingers crossed for that.

For Curriculum Refresh:

- Creativity and Innovation, specifically how children can showcase some of their work and giving them different ways to do this.
- Profiling – Seesaw won't be used next year as it's no longer supported by NLC so we're currently looking for an alternative.

For Writing:



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- Attainment is generally good in this area but we're putting enhanced focus on writing this year. We will be looking at ways to increase the amount of writing that children do to make the transition to high school a bit easier. We'll be encouraging more 'free writing.'

For the Nursery improvement plan, the main priorities will be nursery planning and pathways, profiling and starting pathways for literacy and numeracy.

4.00 SUMMER FAYRE

4.01 Thank you to all the staff, parent helpers and the fundraising committee for all their hard work in the lead up to the school summer fayre on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June. Prizes/Donations will be gratefully received (kids tombola, raffle, tea room donations etc)

5.00

5.01 **ROAD SAFETY MEETING**

The Parent Council have had road safety as an ongoing priority on their agenda, particularly on Barons Road and the stretch of road leading to Muirhouse Primary (where the pencils are). A meeting with Clare Adamson (MSP) is scheduled for 09/06/23 at the school. This is the second meeting, held jointly with Muirhouse PS where key people have been invited to join the discussion (council representatives, Police Scotland etc). Now at the stage of deciding appropriate next steps as a group. NLC won't extend the zig zags. There was previous discussions with NLC around potentially creating a drop off zone but these discussions seem to have halted (Cllr Duffy picking this up for us). Potential to have the air quality team visit the school area to measure pollution in the area, specifically focussing on exhaust fumes and the impact on the health of our children. The campaign is ongoing, but we respectfully ask again for parents/carers not to use Barons Road and park in the church car park as an alternative.

6.00

6.01

**AOCB**

- Thank you to all the staff for their efforts in the preparation of the school show.
- Thank you to all staff and to the parish for the beautiful service for the First Holy Communion recently.



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- School Transport Proposal – discussion on how it looks as though the proposal to withdraw school transport services will go ahead but individual routes will be assessed if deemed unsafe to walk
- Next year's PC dates – TBC by the school

Our channels are:

[www.facebook.com/groups/stbrendanspcfc](http://www.facebook.com/groups/stbrendanspcfc)

[Twitter.com/stbrendanspcfc](https://twitter.com/stbrendanspcfc)

PC Mailbox – [pcstbrendansprimaryschool@northlanarkshire.npfs.org.uk](mailto:pcstbrendansprimaryschool@northlanarkshire.npfs.org.uk)

All are live now and we encourage parents to invite other parents to engage.