



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

Parents Council Meeting

Date : 12/11/24

Time : 18.00

Meeting chaired Lisa Hewitt
by :

Distribution of Minutes:

All attendees
Catherine Sweeney
Motherwell Cllrs

Attendees :

- Mrs Oates (HT)
- Miss Burns
- Father Ricky
- Lisa Hewitt (Chair)
- Donna Matthewman
- Lesley-Ann Henderson
- Louise Curley
- Chloe Robertson
- Karen Nailen (Secretary)
- Natalie (P1 mum)

Apologies:

- Collette Feeney (CF)
- Kate Anderson (KA)



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Council
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1. Welcome

Lisa welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending her first meeting as Chair. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Previous minutes and review of actions

There were only 2 outstanding actions of which has been addressed: -

Father Ricky attending tonight and will be the Parish rep.

The parent council had agreed to dedicated to this meeting homework but agreed due to delay in meeting we would focus on the usual business.

Mrs Oates had advised that they had planned to survey all parents and pupils on homework so it was felt the homework session could take place when they results are ready by next meeting. All agreed.

3. Scottish Governments new guidance on school uniform and clothing

Mrs Oates was pleased to note what is being suggested in the guidance a is a lot of what we are doing which includes uniform swap shop, giving other colour alternatives that will be cheaper and look at providing information and facilitate local suppliers at best price. Blazers or winter school jackets are not enforced. Mrs Oates further explained that she was in discussions with other local schools to wear brown and they are writing to M&S and Asda to challenge the withdrawal of the brown. Mrs Oates suggested a letter from PC would be helpful and Lisa agreed to do this.

There was a recognition that the brown can be expensive and difficult to source. The green shirt is only one insisted on, but rest is quite relaxed with grey given as option to brown. It was also noted that the uniform is highly regarded amongst parents and a strong school identity.

The SG consultation also mentioned badging, the school does say items don't need to be badged but most parents do that.

After discussions agreed that it would be useful to remind parents of the uniform policy and of the swap shop in the school.

Suppliers

B School wear in Wishaw is now closed

Scot Crest in Hamilton may be an option, and they appear more cost effective.

M&S and Asda no longer supply brown.

4. Car Parking

It was noted despite several attempts over the years the parking / congested drop off areas outside the school continues to be a major issue. The school have also received complaints from residents nearby they can't access their drives etc. It is also causing problems with bus drop off and now the bus needs to almost park at the shops to drop kids off causing



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further health & safety issues and the teachers have to walk up pick kids up and walk them back, the bus should be able to drop off outside school.

Parents over the years have received several communications about this, the kids have done a clean air protest, and the problems has been highlighted at parents' evenings. Despite this the problem has never been solved and seems to be getting worse with added school bus issues. All agreed it was major health & safety concern.

Father Ricky suggested opening gate up in car park next to Parish. Some options were discussed but seems like the problems seems to be greater in the morning that this is open in morning only. The PC thanked Father for his suggestion. All agreed to trial this, and parents will be communicated with.

5. Fundraising committee update

In Kate absence she sent a report. The Halloween disco raised £940 which is more than has on previous occasions, but ticket prices bit more expensive, and most kids attended the discos, they were great success.

Kate is doing a final push on the 50/50 draws and anyone wants a number should let her know asap.

On 6th Dec Kate will have stall at the Christmas fayre to sell leftover jewellery from summer fayre

Mrs Oates reported that the Parish donated £198 which paid for some of the kids to go to panto and she has had some donations for snacks etc.

Lisa reported all financial information has been handed over to her husband who will take over the Treasurer position for committee.

Primary 7 residential

There have been some efforts made to raise funds for this, but the bongo's bingo was cancelled due to lack of interest but may be rearranged. Was noted that people are very busy so is perhaps the reasons why some parents are not being as proactive to raise funds but in past years fundraising has significantly reduced the costs. Some parents are progressing ideas to get some business donations and doing some other activities that will hopefully raise some funds.

6. Head teacher update

Mrs Oates gave an update in staffing and was pleased to report for first time in a very long time she will have full staffing including lunch time supervisor. Mrs Dickie has now retired and received the education award and lots of lovely gifts.

The library is now open and is looking great.

Catholic education week, the children has been engaging in lots of learning on this and there will be a special mass on Sunday.

Nursery continues to have staffing challenges due to sickness and they are being supported to get through this and are doing great work.

The usual school photographer is off sick now so these are being delayed until next year and all agreed due to its dedication and commitment to school and great service that another short delay will not be an issue.



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7. AOB

Glee auditions took place and was very popular and talent was high so some disappointed children, but all were congratulated for their efforts.

Noted success on cross country and football teams – well done everyone – lots of talent within the school.

Confirmation date will be 14th May.

Action list

Action	Who
Issue homework survey to parents and pupils and bring results to next meeting	Mrs Oates
Reminder on App school uniform options and swop shop	Mrs Oates
Letter to uniform suppliers	PC Lisa
Communicate with parents about gate been open between parish and school in morning	Mrs Oates
PC to remind parents about H&S issues	PC Lisa
Continue efforts with P7 residential	P7 parents