



Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday 10th November

7-8pm - Teams

Apologies; Amanda Hynd

Present; Fiona MacKenzie (HT), Susan Etheridge, Sarah Barry (chair), Catherine Macklon (vice chair), Penny Canning (treasurer), Alison Renfrew (secretary), Hazel Munton (uniform crew), Pamela Yule (fundraising lead), Andrew Doherty, Fiona McKenzie.

1. Head Teacher update

i) Mrs MacKenzie updated us on the status/plan of continuing with Sway as a platform for communicating class information with parents or if there was another platform that could be used. Seesaw is popular with the lower school.

Comment was made that perhaps the email addresses used to deliver links via parent pay were not always those most commonly used.

Action; can we explore sending the links via the parents facebook group as well as parent pay. Reminder to parents via group and newsletter to ensure email contact is correct and up to date.

ii) P7 transition work well underway. Going to Lockerbie Manor for residential and will have a prom this year.

iii) Festive events; options/menu sent home for festive lunches

iv) Christmas jumper day – option explored for jumper swap by the uniform crew

v) Infant/junior school concert will be strictly ticketed with tickets collected on the door. There were health & safety and fire safety concerns surrounding the number of people in the hall for some events at the end of the last session. While it is appreciated that families are keen to see their children perform, regulations must be adhered to.

vi) Health and Safety;

It has been brought to Mrs MacKenzie's attention that there have been an increasing number of lollipops being consumed by children who are then running around the playground.

Action; reminder to parents via newsletter reminders not to send children to school with lollipops due to the significant choking risk this can pose to children of all ages.

Noted that button batteries had been sent home as part of a class based craft. This has been noted as this may have led to some distress for parents with young children who would have been at risk of choking or swallowing these.

Action; Teachers to be asked to be aware when planning activities/crafts.

vii) Christmas fayre date is Saturday 10th December and NOT Sunday 11th as previously planned.

viii) Future events - planning underway for a world of work week in Spring term 2023. Information will go out via parent pay and newsletter.

ix) Fundraising – trim trail fund - good start and see Chair report.

2. Chair update

i) Co-op orchard fund live. Can we disseminate this to as many families, friend and staff. Miss Etheridge will work with the eco group to design a poster to be used for promotion locally.

ii) Trim trail fundraising – Donation from W H Malcolm of £1500. Scottish Leather Group have kindly agreed to work with the children to make keyrings that can be sold for approx. £4 raising approx. £500 which will then be matched by the Group, giving an approximate total of £1000.

iii) Pupil Council Visit by members of Parent Council was a success and a great opportunity to talk to the kids about issues affecting them. One item high on their list was road safety around the school and drop off and pick up times.

Action; can we utilize the pupil voice to liaise with the council regarding any additional measures that can be put in place. See further item below.

iv) Fencing – fencing – some concerns raised around the congruity of the perimeter fencing.
Action: Mrs MacKenzie was able to tell us council staff were expected imminently to assess the state of repair of the fencing and plan any repairs required.

3. Road safety

Yet again the speed and direction of vehicles on the approach to school has been commented on. While we cannot enforce the unofficial one way system there have been instances of excessive speed on the approach to school, the occasional carelessness of children using the crossings (not checking before crossing) and general chaotic parking, especially at pick up time.

Mrs MacKenzie is unable to enforce traffic/parking measures as they are outwith the school grounds.

Discussion focused on possible options;

- Can we petition the council for a lollipop person for one crossing point.
- Focus on road safety and how to safely cross at any crossing.
- Push for utilization of the school bus for those eligible especially for home time. Positives for both children (independence), parents (additional time on the end of the day) and the environment at school (less traffic congestion and pollution).

4. Christmas Fayre + artwork;

Artwork for Christmas fundraiser - sheets should be home and returned by Friday 18th November. Should bring in £1-£2 per item sold.

Fundraising group has 12 people recruited! Meeting in Hobbies to discuss fayre details.

Santa has been booked and grotto plans underway.

Aim for 10 stalls – external crafters and P7's. Plus baking stall etc.

AOCB – nil

Date of next meeting; 17th January 2023 7-8pm via Teams. Link to be organised by Mrs MacKenzie

