

Kilbarchan Primary School Parent Council

Minutes of 30th August 2016 meeting.

Present: Karen Hamilton, Fiona Thompson, Clare Brown, Kirsty Maclean, Cllr Andy Doig, Astrid Janssen, Ruth Mitchell, Susan Duff, Graeme Stockton, Liz Sommerville

Apologies – Selina Hutton, Suzie Smith, Suzie Christie, Lynsey Walker and Mrs Robb

Head teachers report

Several new members of staff have joined the school. Mrs Sommerville is going to produce a letter with pictures of the new staff so the parents know who is who. This will be issued in the September newsletter.

Mrs McGowan going on maternity leave and will be replaced by Mrs Black.

Mrs Robb has been appointed as the new Depute Head.

The council have provided more staffing hours until October.

A homework review meeting with parents has been arranged for the evening of the 20th Sept. Feedback from the parents has been that homework is not challenging enough. The Government have set new benchmarks for numeracy and literacy and also a guide for the teachers on what to do and what not to do. This can be found on the Education Scotland website.

This years numeracy and maths focus is on mental agility.

The local authority have money for family learning and Kilbarchan primary are planning to put in a bid for some funding.

This year should be the 3 year all school trip to Kelburn Country park

A decision requires to be made regarding having another 'go to school' night. The last one was 2 years ago and was well attended and was a great success. It was discussed whether doing this every 2 years was suitable, and it was decided it was a good idea. This is now planned for May.

Liz reminded parents that there are how to videos on the Kilbarchan primary website – it was agreed that she should put a note in the newsletter.

A discussion was held regarding the need for a training night for parents to help with the glow website. This was suggested for before Easter.

Uniforms

A parent had asked that this question was asked at the next parent council meeting "Would Mrs Sommerville consider changing the colour of the school uniform?" as they had found it particularly hard to buy navy this year.

Mrs Sommerville said that there were no plans to change the uniform colour as there had been a full consultation regarding colour. A few parents commented at the meeting that they too had found there to be less navy in the local shops this year.

Dates for future events

Discos Halloween 27th October.

Valentines discos - 9th February. First one 6.15pm to 7.15pm second one 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Joanne is happy to run them but will need help.

Summer bbq to be replaced by "Hog Roast Hoedown" , depending on availability. It was agreed that an after school event would be more successful than a weekend date and is planned for after school on Friday 12th May.

Christmas coffee morning 10th December.

Fundraising Focus

It was agreed that our main Fundraising focus would be to update the sports field by hopefully building an astroturf pitch and all weather running track around it. An ambitious plan but before we can start to promote the idea we first need to meet with the corporate landlord. We will then have a better idea of what is possible and an idea of costs. It was agreed that the council should try to recruit a project group bringing together parents that may not play a part in the council but may have experience or interest in sport.

A.O.B

It was noted that some people did not receive minutes of meetings last year. We need to collate a full list of active parent council members however it was suggested that to ensure everyone gets to see the minutes they are simply posted on the school website for all parents /guardians to see. A reminder signposting parents will be put in the newsletters monthly.

Asked why the lower school are not lining up anymore Mrs Sommerville explained that when they were lining up and going in one line at a time so as not to cause a jam in the cloakroom, it was taking some of the classes 20 minutes before they could get started. Doing it this way has cut down that time and meant that lessons can get started quicker. There will be an explanation in the newsletter.

The lost property box will be getting checked and emptied at least once a month by Fiona Thompson and Ruth McLeod. The recycled clothes will also be sorted and labelled.

Future Parent Council Meetings

25th October – Morning 9.15am
29th November – Evening 7.15pm
31st January – Morning 9.15am
28th March – Evening 7.15pm
23rd May – Evening 7.15pm