# PC Meeting Minutes, Thursday 07/10/2015

## Attendance

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| **Attendees** | | **Apologies** | |
| Mrs Grace Hannigan (HT) | Jennifer McWilliams | Lesley Dickel |  |
| Mrs Maureen Black  (Staff Member) | Elaine McDonald |  |  |
| Mrs Pauline Kelly  (staff Member) | Frances Donnachie |  |  |
| Bernice McDonald (Chair) | Alyson Lockhart |  |  |
| Elizabeth Higgins | Lucy Roberts |  |  |
| Angela McGennis | Gayle McFedries |  |  |
| Kathleen Aitchison | Joanne Corr |  |  |
| Karen Petrie | Jane Horan |  |  |
| Maria Grazia Scarda | Steven Gatherer |  |  |
| Lyndsay McDade | Jillian Devlin |  |  |
| Anji McAleer | Elaine Manning |  |  |
| Michelle McElwaine | Rachel Delaney |  |  |
| Maureen MacInnes | Carol-Anne Kerr |  |  |
| Laura Kennaway | Marian Azpilaieta Zon |  |  |
| Yvonne Quinn | Colette Scotson |  |  |

## Welcome & Introduction

Welcome to all. Minutes from last meeting agreed.

## Head Teacher Update

### Nursery

Nursery under 3s room currently have 4 children, with 4 more planned to join after October. The capacity for the room is 10.

It has been noted that the 3-5s room appears to be in need of upgrade. It was raised that at the recent ladies night the blinds seemed unsafe & that the room appeared unclean. Mrs Hannigan re-assured that the blinds were safe but that replacement blinds have been ordered, and new furniture has also been purchased. All broken, unsuitable furniture has been disposed of. New sinks are being fitted during the October holidays and other upgrades will be considered in the future, depending on funding. Staff are currently working to re-organise resources & external containers will be moved to aid resource organisation & allow staff to be more responsive to children’s interests & needs.

### Changes

There will be adaptations made to P1 classes during the October holidays, with doors being added to enable the children to be dismissed directly from class.

Window blinds throughout the school are on the agenda for replacement, as the current blinds have been deemed unsafe.

### Notable dates

8th October: Non-uniform day, in aid of Save the Children. Council will match donations up to the value of £500

28th October: Solar panels are being installed

30th October: Flu vaccinations will be given to children who have returned consent forms

5th/6th November: All children going to Odeon Cinema at the Quay to see a film

4th November: Patron Saint Mass in Church. Parent helpers required to escort children

### IT

Mrs Black is looking at IT within the school. Smart boards are currently at end of life, and a phased replacement plan is being investigated. The budget for IT this year is £5294. To replace the smartboards throughout the school would cost £22,000.

The school website will be up and running by the end of October.

### Charity and Fundraising

Approximately £600 was raised from today’s Bring & Buy.

The children have expressed an interest in doing a Christmas Appeal which doesn’t ask for money, perhaps shoe boxes for the homeless which would be distributed to needy people by the SVDP.

## Thanksgiving Mass follow-up

Frances has suggested that after the First Communion Thanksgiving Mass on the Sunday morning that there could be breakfast for the children and (limited members) of their families in the Church Hall.

## Thank you

Fr Stephen wishes to thank the Parent Association for the gift he received on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee.

Mrs Marie Ward would like to thank the Parent Association for her leaving gift.

## Selling Alcohol at School Events

Without a licence, alcohol should not be sold on school premises, and additionally “No liquor to be sold or consumed on premises without prior consent from the Council”. Discussion on whether or not alcohol should be served at all at school events.

Vote was cast, results as follows:

* No children present at event – alcohol allowed – vote carried
* Children present at event – no alcohol allowed – vote carried

License to be applied for by secretary (Lesley Dickel), and needs to be displayed clearly, e.g. on the door, at each event where alcohol is present.

## Parental feedback from open evening

Feedback received was generally negative, but there has not been a high return. Turnout on the night was fabulous! Parents would like to see more structure around the open evening, with perhaps a presentation on current and future learning.

Parents stated that they liked being in their child’s classroom and seeing their learning environment.

Common thoughts indicated that February is too late for a Parent’s Night. Mrs Hannigan suggested that parents are welcome to call the school office and request a 1-1 session with their child’s teacher if they feel it is necessary. The interim reports will also be different this year, and will contain more detailed information.

It was suggested that an email account be set up to receive suggestions from parents, but this was deemed too difficult to manage.

Future meetings shall include the following:

* Information on the modern languages initiative
* New resources to support literacy development across the school
* Current reading scheme is old, it would be good to get books which are more interesting and exciting for the children

## Financials

The Parent Association are now no longer using SPTC for insurance. The insurance we have will carry through this year.

## Any other Business

Angela Magennis is a fully qualified first aider. Bernice will send an email to the parent body to determine if any other parents have a first aid certificate, so that they can be present at events as required.

## Next Meeting

4th November 2015, 18:30