

St Paul's Parent Council Meeting – Wednesday 1st June 2016

Present:- Councillor Eileen McCartin, Mrs Maher, Mrs Nesbit, Yvonne Moohan, Lesley Ramage, Marion Morrison, Karen Copland, Kirsty McLean, Louise Allan

Apologies – Angela Elliott, Lindsay Ford

- Accounts Update – The current balance is £3147. The cost of the ties for the P7 leaver's gifts came to £87. The disco held took in £157 and the outgoings for it were £138. £150 was given to Fr Frank towards the cost of the First Communion/Confirmation celebrations. £100 has been paid for the P7 prom deposit with £273 still to be paid. £264 is expected to be taken in from the sale of the Communion pictures, 50% of that will cover the cost of printing etc. £500 has been agreed as the amount to donate to the school for the Heads of Ayr trip, and it was also agreed that £50 be donated to each class (rounded up to £500 for whole school) for them to purchase new play equipment. The unit money remaining will be spent on garden resources. Marion and Yvonne sign both cheques for these donations.
- Mrs Maher's Update – Mrs Maher informs us of the in-service day that all teaching staff attended. School improvement plan and national improvement framework have more up to date versions. The nurture programme has been successful to date, and how this will be carried forward. The idea of introducing a greater scale family learning (with regards to homework etc). A questionnaire to be issued to parents to ask for their opinions on homework. School committees – letters to be issued for new committee selections for pupils. And instead of meeting every 6 weeks, committees will now meet monthly. The children have suggested some new ideas including a dinner hall committee. Golden time will now be every 2 weeks instead of weekly, and will be for 1 hour instead of half hour. The behaviour policy has been updated and a new copy has to be issued. A suggestion of playground detention for bad/inappropriate behaviour was made, an area has still to be confirmed for this. School reports – reporting format 1 interim report between Nov-Feb and 1 end of term report between May-June, with 2 parent's evenings. Some parents had suggested 2 interim reports but this would be too much of a work load to produce as teacher working Time Agreement must be considered. The new Principle for the unit is Gerard McGauley who will come to us from Brediland Primary. A new annual calendar with relevant dates will be issued to parents. And this year's intake of P1's will be quite large, which may result in possible composite classes. The arrangement of teaching staff to each year group will be issued before the summer.
- Prom – Those currently able to help are Lesley, Marion, Karen, Yvonne, Louise A. A photo booth will be set up, as last year, using props from previous family nights. The cost of the D.J. for the evening will be £100. And a letter for any child requiring transport to/from the venue has to be issued. Sweets/crisps will be required for the tables on the night – venue providing the buffet (chicken goujons, pizza, sausage rolls and a drink).

- Summer Fete – Saturday 27th Aug 12noon – 2pm. This is to be a table top sale – with tables costing £10 each. And donations of toys/books etc for the parent council/school to sell will be required. A parent can arrange for a fire engine to be there on the day for photos etc but due to current building works we are unaware of the available space – building site manager to be emailed to find out if this will be a possibility. The new multi sports pitch is to be ready for the children returning for the new school year so this could be used for things like beat the goalie – could a famous sports personality be available for this? A member of the parish has agreed to their ice cream van being present for the day in return for a donation being made to the church. Approx. cost of buying our own crepe machine is coming in at £30, so it was suggested that we go ahead and purchase at least 1 machine as they are extremely good sellers (selling for approx. £1.50 each crepe). It was also suggested that we try to bring in some sort of fairground rides for children – costing will have to be worked out (will they pay to use our space/do we pay them to come along/do profits from ride get split?). And there will be the usual hotdog/tea/coffee/tuck to arrange for sale.
- Buddy bench update – Stephen Moohan has sourced enough materials for a bench and will attempt to have one constructed for the new term. It will be for the children to decide on how it's decorated, and then it can have a preserve treatment before being placed outside. It was also suggested that a second bench be constructed for a time-out bench (possibly a reflection bench).
- Other Business – Marion's husband has agreed to put both Marion and Angela through First Aid training. He has agreed to do this free of charge but asked that we cover the cost of the exam packs (which should be £40 approx.). This was agreed by everyone. And prices have been checked for a first aid kit for the Parent Council to have for all events we do – A portable, weatherproof pack for primary schools would come in at £39.45 ex VAT. Refills/replacements for individual items within this kit can be purchased as/when required with prices starting at under £1.
- Future dates – Coffee Afternoon 15th Aug 2016 2pm-3pm
 Saturday 29th Oct 2016 – Family Halloween Party?
 Halloween Disco – 1st Nov 2016
 Valentines Disco – 7th Feb 2017
 Spring Disco – 9th May 2017
 Race Night – 25th Feb 2017?
 PTA meetings – 5th Oct '16, 2nd Nov '16, 7th Dec '16, 11th Jan '17, 1st Feb '17, 8th March '17, 3rd May '17, 7th June '17 (all dates subject to change)
 A.G.M. – 31st August 2016