

St Paul's Parent Council Meeting

1/5/24

Attendees: Lisa McIlreavy (Chair), Natalie Bell (Vice Chair), Emma Stewart (Treasurer), Helen Alexander (Secretary), Louise Maher (Head Teacher), Gemma McQueen (Teacher Representative), Aine O'Connor,

Apologies: Kayleigh Tait,

[Abbreviations: SPPC Saint Paul's Parents Council; Initials of attendees]

1. Head Teacher Update (LM)

1.1 The 2-day review by FLR went well. It was a thematic review, not a pre-inspection review. Feedback was very positive overall, with school attracting praise for consistent use of visuals across whole school. A couple of improvements were suggested, but nothing major.

1.2 Communication between school and families has a few issues. Group Call seems to be having technical difficulties, and Parent Pay no longer sends emails. On positive note, Amanda is back, School App is working. Suggestions raised to improve communication: Consistently use one form of communication, use See-saw for direct communication between teachers and parents (although limiting to school hours would be beneficial for teachers' mental health). This will be included as actions in next sessions improvement plan. Since parents of P3 and up are not in the playground, parent council suggested the school consider allowing parents in for other things such as school Masses.

1.3 Points in the newsletter: P4 teacher has returned from maternity leave. St Paul's Church is in financial difficulty and may close. If it closes but remains a parish, the parishioners would take the debt with them to a new neighbouring parish. If the parish dissolves (i.e. bankruptcy), the debt would be shared by the whole diocese and parishioners would choose individually which church they wanted to attend instead.

1.4 New P1 students will visit the school on the same day the P7s go to visit St Andrew's.

2. Accounts Update

2.1 Bank account total £1522.57

2.2 Council have not yet charged for hall rental for Xmas Fayre.

3. Extra Council Meeting

3.1 Would be useful because so much to organise in immediate future

3.2 Date will be 22/5/24

4. Funding Information

4.1 Suggestion to put out information to parents about who makes funding decisions, since some are taken by council, some by school, and some (limited decisions) by the SPPC. For example, the Pupil Equity funding goes straight to the school, whereas the Scottish Attainment Challenge money comes from the council, and the amount given to the council has been reduced.

4.2 Registers of children will be provided for discos

4.3 Sweets/crisps are bought.

4.4 Will write children's names on cups with permanent marker so they can be reused.

AOB

5. SPPC Meeting in August

5.1 Previous years have been a bit of a scramble to get organised for Halloween.

5.2 An extra meeting to discuss the Halloween Disco is scheduled for 28th August.

6. Whole School End of Term Trip

6.1 Is proving impossible to organise this year. Buses are unavailable, and cost of destinations is prohibitive. E.g. Heads of Ayr would cost £2216, Five Sister Zoo would be £1600, not including travel which would cost around £2400 if buses could be secured.

6.2 Alternative suggested to have a "shirts and shorts" day with activities inside school, such as face painting, tattoos, popcorn, an assault course, bouncy castle etc.

7. SPPC would like to pay for something for whole school

7.1 Suggestion to have SPPC pay for icecream on last day of term.

Date of Next Meeting 5/6/24