

`St Peter's Parent Council
Monday 17 February 2020
6pm

Present

Mr P Doherty Chair

Mrs K McAllister Treasurer

Mrs S Mazzoni Head Teacher

Mrs K Crook Parent

Mrs S Cartwright Parent

Mrs L MacPhee Parent

Mrs G Tannahill Clerk

- **Welcome**

Mr Doherty welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

- **Chairpersons Report**

Mr Doherty informed the group that he had attended a joint Parent Council meeting hosted by St Paul's Primary School attended by Connect (this is the organisation who provides the Parent Council with insurance and advice on how to run your schools Parent Council group).

There were around 30 representatives from various primary schools in Renfrewshire. Connect asked the group to complete a survey with true/false answers to get a view of how informed Parent Council Chairs were about their groups. Mr Doherty reported that, surprisingly, there were a lot of facts they got completely wrong, for example, schools do not necessarily have to have a Parent Council, a school could have a Parent Forum instead.

There was a lot of discussion about why people chose to join Parent Council's. Mr Doherty told everyone that he joined because there were a lack of males on the committee. Other people gave various reasons, to stay informed about what was happening within the school and making friends.

The group shared some fantastic fundraising ideas, (someone had held a sponsored haircutting session) and also ideas around quirky Parent group names.

St Peter's Parent Council then had a discussion about bag packing as a fundraising idea and Mrs MacPhee said she would contact one of her colleagues at ASDA and try to get a bag packing slot booked.

- **Treasurers Report**

Mrs McAllister reported there is currently £345.18 in the Parent Council Bank Account. The Parent Council gifted the school £1000.00 in January to go towards outdoor play equipment.

Mrs McAllister received £50.00 for Library books for the school Library and an invoice for a let for a disco was paid £45.00.

The Parent Council will provide Easter Eggs for pupils.

- **Head Teacher's Report**

Staffing update

Mrs Lawson returned to work on Wednesday 12 February for the In Service Day. This is part of Mrs Lawson's phased return to work. Mrs Lawson will be in the school on Tuesday 18 February, then 2 days the following week, 3 days the week after and will return to school full time on the week beginning 9 March.

The school will lose Miss Caroline Roger who has been teaching Primary 5 to allow Mrs McLean to carry out her duties as Acting Principal Teacher in Mrs Lawson's absence and Mrs Maclean's maternity leave. Miss Roger's last day at St Peter's will be Thursday 27 February as she will be receiving surgery on Friday 28 February. The group sent their best wishes to Miss Roger.

Mr Menzies will continue to be an additional member of staff to support the school. Mrs McLean will return to Primary 5, however as Acting Principal Teacher she will have one day each week out of class for administration purposes. Miss Young/Mrs Steele will provide cover to Primary 5 that day.

Mrs Mazzoni wanted to take the opportunity to thank Mrs McLean for all her hard work and support over the last few months. Mrs Mazzoni told the group that she was enormously grateful for Mrs McLean and that she really appreciated her support.

Mrs Maclean will return soon from maternity leave and will return to Primary 6/7. This means we will be losing Miss Dowling who has been a fantastic addition to our team at St Peter's and accompanied our P7's to Lockerbie Manor.

Link Education Manager's Visit

Mrs Mazzoni reported to the group that the school had received a visit from Mhairi Thomas, St Peter's Education Manager, today. Mrs Thomas met with Mrs Mazzoni and Mrs McLean before visiting all of the classes, including the nursery. Mrs Thomas then met staff at the end of the day. Mrs Mazzoni was delighted to inform the group that her feedback was extremely positive. Mrs Thomas commented that our children are fantastic and relationships across the school are all positive and she could sense such a great community spirit.

Mrs Thomas commented on the quality and flexibility of the teaching she witnessed in classes and was delighted to tell Mrs Mazzoni she was very impressed to see how the children were so engaged in their learning.

A focus group of children met with Mrs Thomas and she was overwhelmed by how knowledgeable the children were about their school. The children were able to talk to her about the schools vision and values, school prayer and motto.

The children were able to talk about what they like in class, how they enjoyed the way teachers made learning fun and spoke about all the activities they participated in.

Mrs Mazzoni reported to the group that it was a very successful day and will send a newsletter home to inform the parent forum and will also speak to the children to tell them how proud she is of them all.

Mrs Mazzoni explained that the school's Education Manager visits the school three times a year.

The first visit involves discussing Self Evaluation, Standard & Equalities Report and the School Improvement Plan.

The second visit involves Monitoring & Tracking pupils and the third visit was today where visits take place with the Head Teacher, staff and pupils.

There are other impromptu social visits and visits to the SMT in a supporting role.

Budget

Mrs Mazzoni told the group that the school had done well and had used the budget resourcefully and was eagerly awaiting the new budget to be downloaded soon after April.

There is money remaining in the PEF fund (Pupil Equity Fund) and Mrs Mazzoni is going to use it to pay for Jane Considine's visit from The Write Stuff, to the school on 16 March. This is the third year St Peter's have been using The Write Stuff resources and the children's understanding and confidence in literature has grown in abundance. Mrs Mazzoni has seen what a positive impact using it has had within the school. Jane Considine will spend a week within the Primary School Cluster and as she is visiting St Peter's on a Wednesday when most staff members are in the school and will have the opportunity to see her demonstrations. Mrs Mazzoni told the group that Jane is one of the best presenters she has ever seen and is eager to share the experience with all staff.

Mrs Cartwright informed the group that her brother presents Mindfulness Events and is a very entertaining and informative leader. She is going to ask him if he would visit St Peter's for an event involving staff, parents and pupils at a special discounted rate.

- **Upcoming Events**

February Disco

There are very few helpers for the disco so far and Mr Doherty agreed to post a message on the parents face book page. Mrs Tannahill agreed to send a text home to parents/carers asking for volunteers.

Family Quiz Night

A date for the quiz night was agreed, Thursday 19 March 2020. Stevie D, DJ, is providing the quiz night, along with music on the night. He has offered the use of Glenburn Resource Centre free, however the capacity is 60 and if the ticket sales are over the capacity Mr Doherty has provisionally booked Blacklandmill Bowling Club as a precaution.

Spring Fling

A date for the Spring Fling was agreed, Friday 29 May 2020 3 – 5pm. Mrs Tannahill agreed to contact Active Schools to ask for Street Dance to be rearranged that day.

P7 Leavers

Mrs Crook reported she had been in touch with Limo companies and party bus companies. Prices varied and some companies were not able to offer enough vehicles for the number of children.

Mrs Crook is going to compose a letter to the P7 parents asking for interest.

- **AOB**

Mr Doherty informed the group that Cheryl Wilson, parent at St Peter's has offered to donate big tyres for the outdoor play areas. Mrs Mazzoni said the school would be grateful for any donations.

Mr Doherty had been asked by a few parents if the school will be celebrating World Book Day. Mrs Mazzoni asked the groups opinion about the children dressing up. The group had no objection to the children dressing up as their favourite literary character, everyone agreed it was quite easy to make a costume for this day. The children will be issued with a £1 off book token on the day.

- **Date of next meeting**

Monday 16 March 2020 6pm