

St James' Parent Council Meeting

9.5.17

Present:

- Anne McCabe (Chair)
- Jen Walsh (Vice Chair and Minutes)
- Suzanne McKellar (Treasurer)
- Derek Retson (Head Teacher)
- Natalie McKay (Acting Depute Head Teacher)
- Nicola McFadyen
- Liz Gardener
- Fr. Jude
- Sister Maria

Chair persons update:

- First Holy Communion had a big turn out and children received their pin badges from the PC at Sunday Mass following the Communion on Saturday
- Primary 7 Confirmation is on Wednesday 10.5.17 in St Mirrin's Cathedral. They will receive their pin badges from the PC prior to this and wear them on their school ties to the Church on Wednesday night
- BBQ – the date has been changed to Friday 1st September due to the building works not being complete. This will be tied in with the beginning of the celebrations for the 25th anniversary of the school being opened. The time decided was 3pm to 7pm with the food starting at 4.30 to allow time for adequate preparation. It was decided that tickets would not be sold, however it was felt by some that ticketing is the only way to control numbers entering. The possibility of free tickets was discussed, and this will be discussed further with Mossvale PC during the next joint meeting. Tickets need to state that there are to be no unsupervised children at any point and all children must be accompanied by an adult. A joint risk assessment is to be completed with Mossvale PC. Thereafter, numbers of adult helpers required will be decided. Tokens for the stalls/bouncy castle etc are to be given out as prizes for good behaviour etc during school time to encourage attendance at the event. Strictly no alcohol will be permitted at the event in line with Renfrewshire Council guidelines. Donations of home baking will be required. This year's Primary 7s will be invited back to attend. The next joint meeting with Mossvale PC is on Tuesday 30th May at 5pm.

Treasurers report:

- Suzanne gave a detailed report of our accounts and handed out projections for next year. Our current balance is £1926.56, money in was £234.55 (Easter Disco) and money out was £110.15 (Easter Disco) + £83.77 for pins. It was decided that we need to look at expenditure and decide upon our priorities, put a plan in place for next year of fundraising events and how we plan to spend any monies raised.
- It was decided that the P7 hoodies will be purchased each year, but a member of the PC will liaise with the P7s in order to establish what fundraising events they would be willing to

participate in so that funds for the hoodies can be generated. A sponsored sporting event was discussed.

- Anne will contact Asda and Tesco regarding fundraising tokens. Anne will also phone B & M about possible dates for bag packing as she has a contact within. Jen will phone Asda, Tesco and Morrisons about possible dates for bag packing.
- The estimated balance of our accounts as of today would be £1,850 once the projected expenses have come off (summer disco, P1 water bottles and insurance).
- Suzanne will phone the insurance company and take responsibility for the renewal for 2017/18.
- A cheque for £950 will be given to school to fund computer equipment, bringing the estimated closing bank balance to £900 at the end of June.
- £500 is budgeted for the BBQ and any monies made thereafter will be profit.
- Suzanne will start applying for grants from various agencies.

Head Teacher update:

- Computers were ordered and delivered but were not the size that was anticipated so they may be replaced with laptops in the future.
- Building works – the latest meeting was cancelled due to a bereavement in the family of the Clarks staff member. It has been proposed that the playground would be closed off during the school term to complete the ground works but both HTs were not keen on this due to the need for split lunches and playtimes between Mossvale and St James'. The entrance is not due to be completed until the end of next week or the week after, and the garden/grass works are scheduled to be completed by August 2017.
- Mr Retson thanked the PC for the pin badges given to the First Communicants and Confirmation children.
- P5/6 have been invited to a Thanksgiving service at St Mirrin Cathedral on Friday to mark the 200th anniversary of the first Catholic School in Paisley.
- The whole school trip to Kelburn Castle is on Thursday 15th June. Parent helpers are still required with a ratio of 1:10.
- The P1 intake for next year is currently 22 with 11 P7s going to high school, taking the projected role for 2017/18 to 170+.
- The date for the P5/6 Parents' Evening is still to be confirmed, as has the date for report cards going to parents.
- There is a new Community Police Officer (Murray Stewart) assigned to the school. He is keen to get a safe crossing in place for children and will work in partnership with the school on this matter.

Summer disco

- For the spring disco, the P1 – 3 came in the side door and the P4 – 7 came in the main class door so as to ease congestion. This was seen to work well. For the summer disco, the front entrance will be open and so the risk-assessment will need to be redone in order to assess the best entrances/exits for the children.

- The summer disco will take place on Wednesday 7th June at 6-7.15 (P-3) and 7.30-8.45 (p4-7). Snacks will provided in the cost of the ticket, with any extra snacks left over being offered for purchase at the older disco.

AOCB

- Next meeting date is Tuesday 13th June at 5.30
- The date of the school show is 20th June
- There are still workmen parking on Gockston Road for the whole day. This has been seen by parents from 7.30am. Mr Retson will bring this up with Clarks Contracts in relation to child safety.