

Doonfoot PS Parent Council Meeting

Location: Balgarth Pines
Date: Wednesday 7th February 2024
Time: 20:00

In attendance:

Committee: Chairperson – Kirsty Roarty, Co-Chair and P7 Rep – Katie Dillon,
Treasurer – Mhairi McCulloch, Secretary and P1 rep – Vivienne Mills

Year Group Representatives:
EYC rep – Claire Cornelius

School Staff: Headteacher Sarah Flint

Parents: Claire Matthews, Beth Campbell, Vicky Sandilands

Apologies: Jenn McEwan, Rachel Jesson

Agenda Details:

Welcome and introductions – KR
Minutes from previous meeting were agreed.

Actions from last meeting – KR

Road Safety – KR to contact Ayrshire Road Alliance again regarding concerns raised by parents/carers and local residents about unsafe parking around the school. There have been recent reports to the school of near misses.

The February newsletter published today detailed these concerns and other issues with road safety around the school.

People are encouraged to contact the school to advise of poor/dangerous parking with details of person(s) involved and registration numbers.

Refuse collections at school drop off and pick up times continue to be an issue – KR to contact SAC Waste Management Team.

Issues also raised about parents parking in the school car park without a disabled badge or pre-arranged badge.

The JRSO will continue to try and promote safer parking around the school and be a visible presence.

The work to the carpark due to commence later this year should assist with some issues.

Funds Survey Feedback

Following the survey, the majority vote with 34% was for money to be spent on:

- iPads
- Sports bag for each year group
- Sports uniforms

It is hoped with money raised from summer fair then the other items including silent disco sets and loose parts play can also be purchased.

Parent council will also buy rubber cover protectors for iPads.

Parent council will begin looking at options for sports bags and will also speak to base rep regarding ideas for beneficial items.

Family Fun Night

Family fun night is Friday 23rd February. Poster information has been shared via reps and on social media.

This will run similarly to last years night with games, quizzes etc. and the parent council will run a tuck shop at the event this year.

Parent Council have put out a request for donations of prizes.

KR will readvertise this event with date of deadline to buy tickets.

Future Raffles

Parent Council plan to run a raffle for Sports Day. Hampers will be made up with a 'colour of your house' theme. A donation of hamper items will be planned nearer the event.

CC has kindly agreed to assist in making up the hampers with donated items.

Sports Day date not confirmed however is usually a Wednesday so potentially 5th or 12th June.

Lost Property

Lynne Coulter continues to do a fantastic job of sorting and collating any spare uniform/lost property.

Dates for the next pre-loved uniform pop up shop in the gym hall:

- 23/02/2024 before and after school and during family fun night
- 26/02/2034 before and after school

Please can people continue to utilise the preloved uniform Facebook group to pass on, buy or sell items in the first instance.

Bags2School

Next collection is 18/04/2024.

Items include cushions, duvet sets, clothes and shoes. More details provided nearer the time. Good opportunity for people to have a clear out over Easter.

School are looking for winter coats and wellington boots for all ages to assist with outdoor visits etc. so please donate these items to school in first instance.

Headteacher Items

P5 Titanic trip to Belfast, 06/06/2024, able to go ahead after overwhelming support from parents/carers. Thank you to all those who agreed to attend and support with the trip.

Fundraising plans already started within the year group.

Discussion took place around ParentPay and an idea that people could 'top-up' trip accounts similar to adding to meals account.

School have secured £25,000 from SAC to create a sensory room within the school, company have already been out to assess site for same and this should hopefully be completed by end of March. There will also be calm areas throughout the school for pupils to access.

The 2 new classrooms are now in use, a management office and a meeting room. These rooms will also be used to decant classes when other works take place.

Next phase of works includes front of school, car park and toilets. No dates for these works yet however plans should be available on SAC website for those who wish to see what the end result will be.

The use of Learning journal has created some challenges. There have been problems with communications between parents and staff and notifications of new messages to users is inconsistent.

There are some ongoing staff issues with the school being unable to recruit a full time school assistant to work in the Base. The proportion of children with additional support needs throughout the whole of Doonfoot PS has increased yearly but unfortunately the funding for increased staffing levels has not followed this trend. PEF funding is not due to be reviewed for another 2 years but this assessment may no longer be in use by then.

The school is keen to encourage Parent Helpers into the school again now the restrictions after covid have been lifted. Staff are hopeful that this will be kick-started on World Book Day and will be asking for volunteers for various roles/activities within the school.

AOB

As all 4 role bearers are stepping down at the end of this academic year we are keen to increase engagement from parents. Different ways to do this were discussed and it was suggested that holding an in-person parent council meeting immediately after school might help this. It may also make it easier for staff to attend.

P5 parent Beth Campbell makes gorgeous, personalised bears. She very kindly offered to make one from some of the school uniform lost property. She is going to liaise with LC to see if any of the garments are suitable for this. Ideas were suggested that the bear could be raffled to raise funds for the school or as a prize at the family fun night. BC would be happy make these bears to order also for those wishing to purchase them as a memento too.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Date of Next Meeting 06/03/2024 8pm via Zoom