

We started off the new term with the Parent Council AGM. It was the first parent council meeting to be held in person since the pandemic, and it was great to be joined by so many parents and our school representatives, Miss Skinner and Mrs Saxon. At the AGM, we reflected on the past year and all the activities and fundraising we did for our school – a fantastic achievement by everyone.

The roles of chairperson, treasurer and secretary have remained in post for this year, however we will be looking for new volunteers for the 24/25 session, so please let us know if this is something that interests you! Our class representatives were nominated again – thank you to those parents who volunteered for the position. Class reps play a big part in communication between parents, the parent council and the school.

List of Class Reps:

- ELC 3 and 4 – Angela McGlinchey
- P1 – Zoe Ormiston
- P2 – Alison Lowrie
- P3 – Fiona Bayne
- P4 – Fiona Bayne
- P5 – Linsey Carpenter
- P6 – Sam Kellock
- P7 – Leanne Wilson

Our first event of the term was the long awaited Halloween Disco, organised by parents and members of the Parent Council, alongside members of staff. Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to organise the event. The children had a wonderful time! Lots of great costumes and creative pumpkins on display. £244 was raised in total for the Parent Council which is wonderful – well done to all involved, and hopefully look forward to another one in 2024!!



At the end of November, our entrepreneurial P7s were at Asda in Galashiels, bag packing to raise funds for P7 Leaver's hoodies. Six volunteers spent the afternoon packing bags for Christmas shoppers and raised a whopping £122! Thank you once again to the parent volunteers who went along to support the pupils, and our Asda Community Champion, Nola, for putting this all together. The pupils will be given their Leaver's Hoodies in January.

On the 1st of December, we held our Christmas Fair in collaboration with the school. The pupils had a great time once again creating items for their class stalls. Lots of decorations for sale and tasty treats! The fair was well attended by parents and members of the community, particularly on such a cold, wintry day. We had lots of stallholders, many returning for another year, selling various Christmas items as well as our Parent Council raffle and refreshments kiosk. This year, the fair raised £366 – thank you to all our volunteers who helped on the day and the many individuals and businesses who donated raffle prizes.

We do like to get feedback from our parents about the Parent Council and last year you told us that you missed the school calendar. Fortunately, one of our parents volunteered for the task and they worked hard with the school and pupils to create our Kindness Calendar 2024. We sold 65 copies and we hope you like them!



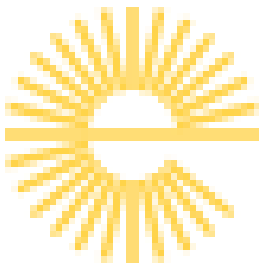
We had a change in school photographer this year due to parent feedback as well. In August, we welcomed YID photography for the individual and sibling portraits. We have had lots of positive responses to the final photographs and appreciate you taking the time to feed this back to us. We understand that it took longer than expected for you to receive the photos which was a cause for concern for several parents, and we have forwarded that on to the photographer.

In 2023 we received community grants from Asda and Tesco, totalling £1400. This money is for outdoor education and will hopefully help towards the goal of building an outdoor classroom for the school. The pupils really enjoy their outdoor learning activities and we are very pleased to be able to support them with these grants. We achieved this result with the continued support of our parents and families voting for us at the Galashiels Asda and Tesco stores! You are all superstars.



In January 2024 we are re-starting the Clovenfords Primary School Parent Council 100 Club!! Tickets cost £1 per number – giving you the opportunity to win 50% of the takings each month! Please sign up and support the Parent Council whilst having a flutter too. Please see posts on social media for further information or contact us by email: Clovenfords.parent.council@gmail.com

Clothingfords is continuing to be a great asset to the school. It has expanded it's stock to include seasonal items such as Halloween and Christmas jumpers, as well as uniforms, wellington boots, shoes, trainers, coats and much more. Please drop by whenever you want – access is via the school office. All items are free of charge and you do not need to donate something in order to take something. If you would like to make a small donation, you will find an honesty box in the room. If you have any items to donate, please ensure they are clean and in good, wearable condition, and drop them in the blue box as you go into the Clothingfords room. Thank you to the Parent Council volunteers who keep the room tidy and organised, and for sourcing hanging rails and coat hangers! Much appreciated!



If you haven't done so already, please visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk and sign up to support the Parent Council. We have 35 supporters so far who collectively have raised £242 since we started in April 2023. This is fantastic, and such an easy way to raise funds. Download the app and install the browser donation reminder on your laptop for easy donations. Easyfundraising supports thousands of websites including Tesco, eBay, Booking.com, Just Eat, Etsy, Currys and many more.

You will have noticed that the Parent Council has had a rebranding with a brand new logo created by Angela McGlinchey of Virtual Addition! Angela has created many graphics for our social media events and took on the challenge of creating our very own logo. I think you will agree that it is fantastic! Fresh, bright and contemporary!



In closing, I would like to thank all the parents and teachers who take the time to support the Parent Council. It can't exist without your help and it's future depends on your continued efforts.