

**Whiteness Primary School Parent Council Meeting held at the Whiteness
Primary School & Microsoft Teams on 3rd Feb 2025 at 6.30pm**

Present:

Stewart Somerville (Chair)
Rachel Colclough (Head Teacher)
Paula Somerville (Clerk)
Rebecca Waldie (Parent Member)
Diane Forsyth (Staff Member)
Jessica Sales (Parent Member)
Dawn Smith (Vice Chair)
Shona Sim (Parent Member)
Catherine Hughson (Councillor)

Apologies

Moraig Lyall (Councillor)
Darren Silver (Treasurer)
Monica Moncrieff (Parent Member)
Davie Sandison (Councillor)

1. Welcome and Apologies

Stewart welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from Moraig Lyall, Darren Silver, Monica Moncrieff and Davie Sandison.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting

The previous minutes from the meeting held on 3rd February 2025 were approved by Shona and seconded by Rachel.

3. Matters arising from previous meeting

The Christmas Enterprise was a great success and raised approximately £1500 for the school.

4. Treasurers Report

Darren sent his apologies for the meeting today. He has advised that he would like to stand down from the position of secretary for the parent council. Stewart thanked Darren for supporting the parent council as secretary and previously chair. Stewart/Dawn will meet with Darren for a handover before someone takes on the role.

Stewart and Dawn are officially signatories on the parent council bank account.

Clarity regarding the parent council finances will be confirmed at the next meeting following the audit.

Stewart advised that funds for the first aid training will be transferred to the school as soon as possible.

5. Head Teachers Report

Leadership and Management

- We have said goodbye to Miss Ellie Macleod, who job shared in P567. Recruitment to this post is underway and Miss Heather Whelan is backfilling the vacant hours.
- We have said goodbye to Mrs Rachel Morris from Early Years, who has not returned from maternity leave. Recruitment to this post is underway and Miss Nicola Morrison is backfilling the vacant hours.

Learning provision

- P12 have completed their swimming block
- Active schools have delivered Boccia and Curling 360 to P567
- Early Years enjoyed a series of STEM activities delivered by our STEM Co-ordinator in Shetland.
- P567 took part in activities delivered by the Jonny Notions Museum.

Successes and achievements

- We held an Enterprise Event in December. This raised over £700 profit for the school and £80 profit for the Early Years. All money will go towards buying learning resources for the school. The Pupil Council will be asking classes to identify resources to enhance learning.
- Pupils enjoyed sharing their learning in our Term 1 music assembly
- The school made Christmas cards for the over 80's in the community
- We gifted around 20 shoe boxes to the Blysthwood Shoe Box Appeal.
- Children performed in the Christmas Music Assembly in December.

6. Health snacks and working in partnership with Child Smile Team – Rachel

Rachel shared leaflets with the group from the Child Smile Team regarding healthy snacks for teeth. This information will be shared with parents and carers. The school is keen to support the Child Smile Team to educate pupils/parents regarding healthy snacks for your teeth. A discussion was held regarding how this can be quite confusing because what is healthy for your teeth is not necessarily what some would consider a healthy snack. Rachel advised that there is not a health committee this year and it would be good if the school could support pupils/parents to make healthy choices. It was agreed Stewart would contact wholesalers and shops to see if they would provide some of the snacks detailed in the leaflets. Rachel will also get pupils to make posters educating others regarding healthy snacks for teeth.

7. Polycrub – Diane

Diane advised that planting would begin in the polycrub from early March. The school require support getting the polycrub ready for planting. Dawn agreed to get the polycrub ready and will send a message to the committee seeking further volunteers.

8. Cycling – UK

Stewart stated that Neil Leask contacted him regarding funding that is available from Cycling UK for bikes and equipment for pupils through schools. Stewart will complete an application on behalf of the school and will contact Rachel if he requires any further information. Rachel added that Bikeability is next term, and this could support pupils with that. She added that the school can provide bikes to pupils who require them.

9. Any other Business – Committee

A discussion was held regarding the recent late start due to adverse weather. There was a good number of pupils attending school that day. When school opens late due to weather it is the parents' decision if its safe to get their children to school, there is no expectation regarding this. Catherine added that opening late was normal practice in other local authorities.

10. Next Meeting

Monday 5th of May 2025 at 6.30pm at the Whiteness Primary School or online via Microsoft Teams.