



Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 5th October 2022

Held in-person at the school

1. Welcome, Apologies, Previous Minute and Opening Remarks

Present: Mrs Susanne Sandilands (SS), Mr Robert Bamford (RB), Emma Sharp (ES) (Chairperson), Leanne Murdoch (LM) (Secretary), Ian Cairns (IC), Gordon Brough (GB), Neil McCann (NMCC).

Apologies: Mrs Elizabeth O'Neil, Leesa McCue, Jane Henderson, Aileen Patterson, Councillor Brogan, Councillor Fulton, Councillor Loudon.

- Emma welcomed everyone to the parent council meeting.
- Thanks were given to everyone for attending, with gratitude expressed to the school for allowing the face-to-face meeting to take place.
- The minutes of the last meeting were approved with no amendments suggested.

Appointment of Vice Chair for 2022/23

- NMCC agreed to continue in post of vice chair. This was proposed by ES and seconded by LM.

Head Teachers report

- See appended report.
- Parents were able to see an example of new maths trolleys launched for each class during Maths Week Scotland. RB explained each trolley contained refreshed concrete materials to support numeracy and maths learning and are linked to progression pathways and key learning concepts taught at relevant stages. Members were able to explore the resources from the P4/5 trolley, including dienes materials, numicon resources, realistic money including notes, coins, debit cards, protractors etc...
- Of main concern was the notable costs associated with travel costs for activities. Having to fund buses detracts funds away from activity options.
- Discussion held about the school possibly charging for activities or asking for a voluntary contribution.
- Suggestion made by ES to have a donate now button added to Parent Pay.
- GB suggested having a specific raffle at the Xmas fayre that would raise funds for school activities.
- LM suggested that notification could be given to our local councillors as children will be disadvantaged if they are unable to take part in events such as sporting activities due to transportation costs.
- Friends of Hallside have always helped with financial asks requested by the school.

- Query raised re: potential funding streams/ grants that the parent council could apply for – further research by parent council members will be needed to identify any potential funding options.
- Ordinarily transportation costs could be paid for using the participatory budget but a large chunk the PB budget has been allocated to additional teaching support costs.

Councillor's reports

Councillor Loudon had provided an email report to ES. Permission was given for the contents of said email to be shared;

“Hi everyone,

I’m really sorry I’m not making it over tonight. My daughter’s been off school, so I don’t want to come and accidentally spread any bugs around another school! I do have a few updates that might be useful for tonight though;

- Participatory budgeting – we’ve had a presentation on this at Area Committee. I asked about what we had been talking about the last time, around how pupil expectations and experiences of Amazon Prime, same day Argos delivery, etc. can then clash with having to wait for procurement. I explained that I knew schools were obviously very good at explaining that to pupils and families and sharing best practice, etc. but was it something that the central team could bear in mind if any pupil-facing material was being produced, and could procurement issues be fed back to the PB team. I’ve been assured that it would be.
- Planning – there’s now a live application for a retail area to be developed at Newton Farm. You can see the proposals on the planning portal under P/22/1234, and it’s generated a lot of interest and comments from across the town. The proposals include a supermarket/convenience store, a gym, hot food outlets, and a number of other shops. It’s open for comments until the start of November, and planning have told me it’ll probably not be until the end of November until the committee hears the proposal. I’m not on Planning this time, so I’m free to talk about it. I’ve asked the developers, Crucible, if Clare Haughey and I can meet them to have a chat about it, because I’ve had a number of questions. If anyone wants to pass anything on, please let me know, or obviously you can submit comments via the portal.
- Catchment review and high schools – as I said at the last meeting, these matters came to the Executive Committee, and I asked a number of questions. If you want to watch any of it, it’s all on YouTube under South Lanarkshire Committees, on the 21st September. All of the papers are here;
<https://southlanarkshire.cmis.uk.com/southlanarkshire/Meetingscalendar/tabid/70/ctl/VieMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/4736/Committee/33/Default.aspx>
- The good news is that the catchment review passed, subject to the rights of siblings, etc. being upheld, as discussed previously.

I hope that’s helpful, and let me know if you’re looking for any more information on anything.

Take care,

Katy”

Whiteboard pens

- IC raised the use of whiteboard markers in classrooms. These markers are disposable and are linked to the sustainability agenda. The markers also cause damage to children's clothes which prevent the clothes from being reused.
- SS advised that the pupil council had raised this also.
- SS suggested that IC look into viable alternatives.

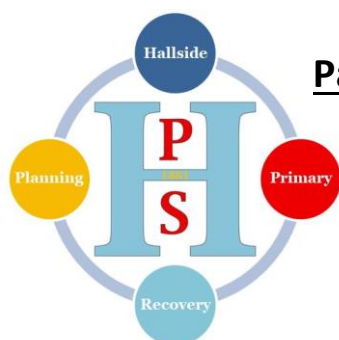
School Improvement plan 2022 – 2023

SS went over the School Improvement Plan which has 4 priorities in line with the National Improvement Framework (NIF) and key actions for the school community based on a contextual analysis. (See appended document).

- Priority 1 – Improve attainment in literacy and numeracy (targeted interventions, play based learning network, Forest School, Lego, review policy and practice, progression pathways)
- Priority 2 – Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people (stakeholder review, participatory budgeting consultation, targeted support and interventions for children, young people and their families)
- Priority 3 – Improvement in children, young people and families health and wellbeing (rights respecting school, engagement and participation in outdoor opportunities)
- Priority 4 - Improvement in skills and sustained positive school leaver destinations for all young people (progression framework, increase Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), sustainability, school community)

Date of next meeting

- Wednesday 2nd November 2022 @ 6.30pm in Hallside Primary School
- NMCC agreed to chair the December meeting in place of ES



Hallside Primary School
Parent Council Meeting 05.10.22
Headteacher Report



Welcome

A warm welcome to everyone.

School Improvement

What an incredibly busy start we have had to the term. In the HT report I will give you a flavour of some of the strategic leadership work already taking place in the school and the high quality learning and teaching opportunities that our children and young people are experiencing as a result.

Maths Week Scotland saw wonderful classroom based learning opportunities and Mr Bamford (DHT) added extra maths sparkle with outstanding additional maths challenges. The buzz and excitement around the school was phenomenal and our fantastic pupils rose to the challenges working together with some competitive spirit and great team work. What a week of fun learning. During Maths Week Scotland we also launched differentiated Maths Trolley's filled with concrete materials and active maths resources for all classes to support numeracy and maths learning. This was a tremendous amount of work pulling these resources together. A huge thank you to Mr Bamford for planning such a fun maths week and creating a maths legacy of resources to support and enhance learning throughout the year.

Mrs O'Neill (PT) has been liaising with national and local advisors on health and wellbeing and has been working with the staff team to implement these changes. We look forward to welcoming Jude Irwin to the school to meet with staff re RSHP and Suzi Cornwell to support staff in utilising the Healthy Schools resource which was recently relaunched. We are keen to track and monitor pupil wellbeing using a robust system to support the planning of interventions. This year we have introduced Glasgow Wellbeing and Motivation Profile with pupils P1-P7. Feedback from children has been very positive on using this. We look forward to analysing the information to plan interventions and support our children.

Mrs Byrne (P1 Teacher) has established a play-based learning network and it was lovely to welcome staff from other schools back into the school. This is a great opportunity to share our practice across schools and already as a result of this another network opportunity has developed with nurture staff and plans to visit nurture classes.

Mrs Welsh (Nurture Teacher) attended Attachment Informed Practice event organised by SLC educational psychologists. Mrs Welsh will feedback to the staff team to enable us to ensure consistent use of nurturing approaches across the school.

Opportunities

After School Clubs have started back in the school with girls and boys football(P6 and P7), athletics (P6 and P7) , street dance (P4)on currently. With the addition of STEM Club (P5) due to start after October break. I have asked Tony Gilhooley (SLC Link Active School's Co-ordinator) to support provision of lunch time or after school clubs for our younger pupils through access to college, high school, SLC approved clubs etc...

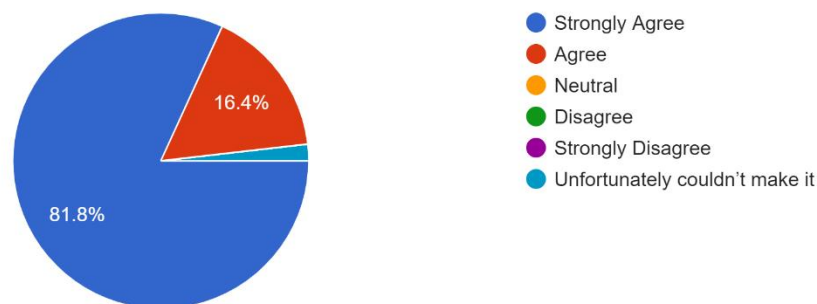
Pupil Council have had two very successful meetings. They meet on the first Tuesday of every month.

Group of P7 young people who have been involved in the Climate and Sustainability in the school are looking forward to attending the first SLC Conference of Schools (COS event) on Climate and Sustainability at Hamilton Palace Grounds next week. I know they will represent the school well and feedback to the school to continue to promote this important message within Hallside.

Doors Open Event

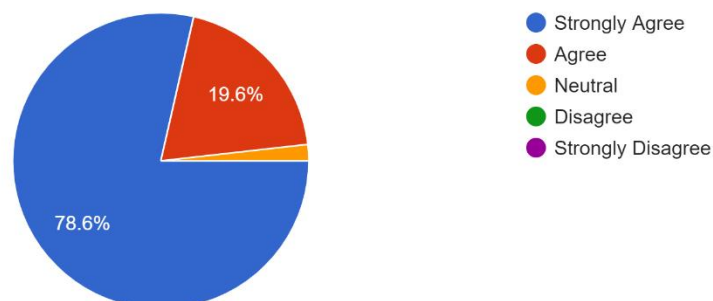
Q.3 I enjoyed the opportunity to visit my child's classroom.

55 responses



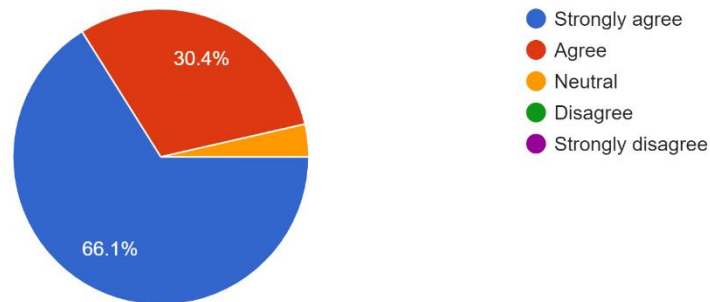
Q.4 I gained an insight into my child's learning environment?

56 responses



Q.5 I am aware how I can support my child's learning at home.

56 responses



Comments

It was lovely to be invited into the school.

Was great to get a chance to come in and look around the school. Due to covid we haven't had the opportunity. Thanks for doing this event was a great opportunity.

Just lovely to be able to see what they've been up to, have some reassurance from teachers about how she's doing and also let [redacted] enjoy showing us her work. Really valuable and enjoyed. Would love to have more of these Thank you

Thank you we really enjoyed the opportunity to visit our sons school and he enjoyed being able to show it to us.

I found the first time slot a bit chaotic with so many families all trying to enter the class at the same time, was difficult to move around or even hear what your child was saying. I found the second classroom we visited a much more relaxed experience as less people were there. It was lovely to be in the school and see all the kids so excited to showcase their classrooms and learning.

It was lovely to be back in school again and see [redacted] classroom. He was really excited to show me his work on the walls etc and show me the different learning strategies he uses in school. I really enjoyed it and it was nice to get a wee insight into what he is learning just now. Thank you.

Thank you for hosting this event. It was great to be welcomed into [redacted] learning environment.

Loved coming into see [redacted] classroom and see how excited he was to show us round.

Great to see [redacted] Teacher and see the work the kids do in Class.

Analysis of evaluation

- Plan further opportunities to engage parents/carers in family learning sessions.
- Establish more opportunities to guide parents/carers in supporting their children's learning.
- Booked slots to manage numbers.

Budget Update

No update to main budget.

School fund we received a cheque for £200 (Friends of Hallside) towards last session's P7 leavers' event. We contacted St. Bride's and St. Cadoc's St. Vincent de Paul who had offered support to purchase uniform items. They handed in a cheque for £300 which we are using to purchase uniform items for families requiring support.

£5215 Replacement Equipment Fund (Contribution of £2100) from Session21-22 budget.

-£796.92 Maths concrete materials and active learning resources.

-£805 Books (Continue to update book banding reading scheme)

Pupil Equity Fund

A huge thank you to Mrs O'Neill for all her hard work in co-ordinating our school consultation process in respect of participatory budgeting. The final four options were STEM/Wellbeing room, Footballs, Outdoor Play Equipment, Whole School Trip. We look forward to receiving the final results from parents/carers, staff and children.

Participation in Events – Funding

Last year the school received core curriculum funding to ensure that there were no financial barriers in accessing this curriculum. We used our share to cover the cost of swimming lessons and transport. This year primary schools have not been allocated this funding.

Cost of bussing children to events has increased considerably. We have an approximate cost of just over £2000 to cover the cost of buses to attend football and athletics events.

We are very mindful of the current cost of living and are keen not to charge families when possible.

(Discussion group)

Challenge Poverty Week

Currently running Clothing/ Uniform and Halloween Costume Drive.

Links apparelxchange to utilise any unwanted clothing.

Catchment Consultation

Approved at executive committee on 21st September. The consultation outcome report was approved at the Executive Committee on 21st September 2022 and therefore the altered catchments and arrangements will now take effect for pupils enrolling for P1 in January 2023. Arrangements for those with siblings already at Newton Farm Primary will be as set out in the consultation. Transition arrangements for those pupils leaving P7 at the end of the session will also be as set out in the consultation.

End of HT Report

Welcome any comments or questions.

"When we work together everything is within our reach."

