

Braidwood Parent Council Meeting



Monday 14th September 2026

Attendees

Name	Position
Gwen Sinclair	Head Teacher
Heather Naismith	Principle Teacher
Kirsty Forrest	Chair of Parent Council
Lorna McFarlane	Secretary
Sharon Frame	Treasurer
Karen McGinty	Parent Council Member
Stephanie Kerr	Parent Council Member
Rachel Leckie	Parent Council Member
Michelle Dearie	Parent Council Member
Paula Clelland	Parent Council Member
Catherine Stewart	Parent Council Member
Julie Hall	Parent Council Member
Kirsty Mulligan	Parent Council Member

Apologies

Name	Position
Morag Fleming	Parent Council Member
Lesley Gilmour	Parent Council Member

Welcome

We welcomed new members to the Parent Council at our first meeting of the year:

- Kirsty Mulligan
- Catherine Stewart
- Julie Hall

We also have two additional members who were unable to attend but would like to be involved:

- April Kent
- Nicola Small

AGM and Committee Roles

The first meeting of the school year is the Annual General Meeting (AGM), during which committee roles are reviewed and confirmed.

Our current Chairperson, **Claire MacKenzie**, has stepped down from the role. The Parent Council would like to thank Claire for her commitment and contribution during her time as Chair.

Following nominations from **Lorna McFarlane** and **Karen McGinty**, **Kirsty Forrest** was elected as the new Chairperson.

The following roles remain unchanged:

- **Sharon Frame** will continue as Treasurer.
- **Lorna McFarlane** will continue as Secretary.

Head Teacher Update

The children have settled back into school well following the summer holidays, particularly our new Primary 1 pupils, who have adapted quickly to school routines.

The standard of school uniform across the school has been excellent. The school would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support.

The first newsletter of the year has been issued and includes a range of general school updates.

School Captains

Congratulations to all Primary 7 pupils who participated in the interview process for leadership roles. The successful candidates are:

School Captains

- Elise Graham
- Erin Pollock

Vice Captains

- Maili Gilmour
- Lily Cleland

House Captains and Vice Captains have also been elected for each house.

Additional pupil leadership opportunities will be introduced throughout the year, including technology-focused roles.

Enquiry-Based Learning

This year, the school is once again embracing enquiry-based learning, encouraging curiosity, problem-solving, and independent thinking across all year groups.

Each class has been asked to explore the following questions:

- *“Go and find a space”*
- *“What’s below your feet?”*

Classes will investigate these themes through projects, discussions, and creative activities.

The School Improvement Plan and Standards & Quality Report have been published and are available through the Parent Portal.

Finances

- Discussions with the bank are ongoing as we work to update account signatories.
- The current Parent Council account balance is approximately **£750**.
- It was agreed that a cheque for **£400** will be issued to the school.
- **Michelle Dearie** has kindly offered to apply for the annual raffle licence.

Events

Halloween Disco

Date: Wednesday 28 October

- Event will be split into two sessions:
 - P1 to P4
 - P5 to P7
- Entry fee: **£3 per child**
- Gwen will check whether last year's letter is available so it can be updated and reissued.

Nativity

Date: Tuesday 15 December

The Parent Council will once again provide:

- Tea and coffee
- Home baking/cakes
- Christmas Crafts

Sharon presented samples of personalised Christmas bags which may be sold as a fundraising activity. Similar personalised Halloween bags are also being considered.

Other Fundraising Activities

- Christmas Raffle
- Dress Down Day (date to be confirmed)
- Mother's Day and Father's Day craft activities (to be discussed after Christmas)

AOB

Forest Schools

- Forest School activities will involve Primary 6 pupils and Primary 5 pupils.
- Primary 5 pupils will participate in smaller groups while **Mrs Fachie** completes training to become a Forest School Leader.

Swimming Lessons

- Swimming lessons will be provided for Primary 4 and Primary 5 pupils.

Gala Day Court

- This year it is **Braidwood's** turn to provide:
 - Gala Queen and Champion - P6
 - Flower Girl and Crown Bearer – P1

A ballot process will be arranged in due course.

Next Meeting

Monday 2 November