

East Plean School

Parent Council Annual

General Meeting Minute

Attendees: Mrs Ewing, Mrs Hardie, Mrs Norris, Ms McInnes, Mrs Orffer, Ms Wilson, Ms Hay, Mr and Mrs Nagarkar, Miss Atkinson, Mrs Donnelly

Minutes

- Ms McInnes (Parent Council Chair) welcomed everyone to the Parent Council AGM.
- Ms McInnes shared the role of Parent Council, and explained what parents can expect from Parent Council.
Role of Parent Council:
 - Parent Councils help parents and carers to become more actively and effectively involved in their children's learning. It is recognised that parents play an important role both in their own child's learning and in the life of their school.
 - Parent Councils are flexible and designed to make sure that they represent their school and its interests effectively. Parent members should decide what is most important for the Parent Council to work on.
 - Our Parent Council creates an opportunity for all parents to feel confident and comfortable putting forward their views and opinions about school improvements, policies and practices.
 - The Parent Council and the school have a joint commitment to seek parents' views and ideas and we endeavour to ensure that these make a real difference to the work and life of the school.What can parents expect from Parent Council?:
 - To get news and information about the PC and its activities
 - To be invited to be involved in PC activities, such as sub-committees
 - To be asked for their opinion by the PC on issues about the school community
 - To have all views listened to and represented in an equal and fair way
 - To be involved in how the PC is organised and how it operates, for example, making changes to the constitution
 - For the PC to be inclusive and recognise the diversity in Scottish schools by involving parents from the whole school community.
- Ms McInnes shared the successes and achievements of Parent Council 2023 2024:
 - Participating in School Improvement Plan
 - Supported school activities
 - Effective communication with parents/ carers via Facebook
 - Halloween and Spring Fling parties P1-7
 - Fundraising
 - Disney: Jungle Book performance funding- lights and sound
 - Pumpkin Patch
 - Primary 7 leavers gifts
 - P1-7 Classroom Christmas gifts
 - Playground improvements
- Mrs Hardie (Treasurer 2022 2023) provided the financial report:
Incoming 2023 2024: £5177.20
Outgoing 2023 2024: £6293.88
Money Raised 2023 2024: £-1116.68
Balance August 2024: £6471.58
From funding applications: £1362.10
Donation to Strathcarron Hospice: -£477.86

5. Ms McInnes shared 2023 2024 Parent Council plans:

School Production - TBC
Parties (Hallowe'en and Spring)
Pumpkin Patch
Christmas
Bus passes
Extra-curricular clubs

6. Mrs Donnelly shared school's progress and achievements from 2023 2024:

August Return:

This year we have 7 classes in school, with 148 children in school and currently 45 learners in nursery. We have two new members of staff in school: Miss Hamilton (Primary 7 class teacher) and Mrs Scott (SLA) There are to changes to nursery staff this session. Our attendance for session 2023 2024 was 94.52%.

Progress made in terms of 2023 2024 improvement priorities:

We spent time further enhancing practitioners' pedagogical skills to ensure high quality learning and teaching in reading and in writing.

- All teaching staff participated in dialogue about teaching and learning of reading and agreed clear reading expectations for each stage.
- We produced East Plean Reading guidance detailing teaching and learning approaches and expectations for each stage.
- We continued to work towards Gold Award accreditation with Scottish Book Trust Reading Schools.
- Nursery Lending Library established to promote enjoyment of reading at home.
- New writing programme introduced and rolled out across all P1-7 classes during 2023 2024 session.
- All teaching staff attended 5 CLPL writing sessions delivered by Stephen Graham, detailing how to teach explicit writing skills effectively.

Impact of the work completed and progress made:

- 80% of learners across Primary 1-7 are on track in Reading.
- All learners have made progress in writing this session.
- 67% of learners across Primary 1-7 are on tracking in Writing.
- New approach has had a positive impact on learners' engagement with writing progress and purpose. Feedback from parents/ carers during Staged Intervention meetings highlighted the positive impact the approach is having on children's engagement in the writing process and their understanding of expectations in writing.
- P1-7 learners shared positive feedback about the writing approach on their writing progress during learner dialogue sessions, family learning sessions and in Reflection jotters.

We put in to place approaches and interventions to ensure motivating and meaningful learning across the curriculum to develop learners' skills and achievement.

- Teaching staff engaged in rich collegiate dialogue reflecting on East Plean's diverse curriculum.
- Through Assembly and the awarding of certificates, the profile and understanding of skills for work raised across all stages of school.
- Skills for learning, life and work included very clearly on IDL termly planners and incorporated effectively into learning.
- Outdoor learning experiences embedded effectively in planning, learning and teaching.

Impact of the work completed and progress made:

- All learners have an increased understanding of skills for work this session because of skills focus during assembly.
- Increased engagement in learning and experiences during Expressive Arts Friday learning.

Through Learning for Sustainability develop learners' ability to lead learning through wider school experiences.

- Learner leadership groups led developments, opportunities and supported learning throughout the session successfully and effectively.
- School achieved Speech and Language Silver Communication Award in May 2024.
- Nursery Gardening Leaders established and worked in partnership with Inspiring Communities and a few parents.
- Nursery Sport Leaders led gym time and outdoor physical experiences, selecting and setting up equipment.
- House Captains led House Action Plans effectively through House Meetings, completing all actions successfully.

Impact of the work completed and progress made:

- Learners across the school and nursery are empowered to play an active part in their school community, recognising the impact their actions and participation have for the whole school community.
- Our effective visual environment ensures all learners feel safe, secure and ready to learn across the school.

Wider Achievement 2023 2024:

We recognise and celebrate wider achievement from individuals, groups, classes and as a whole school. Again this year we have much to celebrate!

- Primary 7 Senior Leaders drew up clear action plans from "How Good is OUR School". All actions were addressed and completed through House Meetings, Assemblies and learner leadership opportunities. Actions completed included:
 - Supported whole school community to select and support two charities for session 2024 2025. Our school and nursery community raised £ 213.66 for Save the Children.
 - Dog's Trust £200.00
 - Embedded positive ethos in House Meetings through shared expectations and use of "House Meeting Charter".
 - Whole school involvement in playground improvements. Improvements led, actioned and monitored by Young Leaders of Learning.
 - Classroom Reading Captains appointed to maintain high quality reading areas in each classroom.
 - Through House Meeting activities, revisited Wellbeing Indicators to ensure all learners understand the Wellbeing Wheel.
 - Revisited Skills for Work through recognition activities at Assembly.
 - Record of Achievements maintained by House Captains.
 - Continued to develop learners' understanding of UNCRC through activities and discussion at House Meetings.
 - Good listening expectations reinforced consistently at House Meetings.
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- Primary 6 have been working in partnership with William Simpson Care Home on an Artlink project called "Remembering Together" (a Scotland wide project managed by Greenspace Scotland and funded by Scottish Government). This has been an autumnal themed project involving art, music and dance, celebrating seasons for life, nature and being together as a community. The most recent session took place at William Simpson Care Home with Primary 6 learners developing their expressive arts skills as they engaged in the experiences delivered by the artists.
- Our Wellbeing Coaches were invited to attend the official launch of Cycling Without Age Scotland Trishaw Rides at William Simpson home on Thursday 26th October. One of our learners cut the ribbon for the first Trishaw Ride and East Plean learners tested the Trishaws. Trishaw rides are a fabulous innovation and will provide residents in William Simpson Care Home an excellent opportunity to enjoy the outdoors safely.

- We have been very fortunate to have been gifted a Life-saving Defibrillator. This was gifted by one of Stirling Council's suppliers, as part of their annual community benefits offering. East Plean was chosen as a suitable site for the defibrillator. Our village is now fortunate to have two defibrillators. The new defibrillator has been situated on the front wall of the school.

East Plean Community also raised money in support of the following charities:

- Poppy Scotland £15.50
- Children in Need £256.95
- Red Nose Day £187.51
- Primary 7 participated in 4 successful "Adventure Days", developing key skills for learning life and work.
- Nursery families engaged positively with our 8 week Nurture Nature Outdoor Play and Learning project in November 2023.
- 48% of nursery families attended Stay and Play opportunities in November 2023.
- Inspiring Communities have worked in partnership with East Plean to deliver after school clubs for all classes and lunch clubs for the majority of classes this session.
- Our P7 Baristas hosted our Community Café fortnightly throughout the session, welcoming parents/ carers, members of our community and residents from our local Care Home. Connecting with the local community has continued to inspire our learners and strengthen connectedness within the village.
- We developed a very effective partnership with Plean Cinema and Macrobert Arts. Primary 7 learners participated in an animation project; producing animation films which premiered at Plean Cinema in December 2023. Primary 6 learners participated in a Short Film Art Club with their completed art pieces being unveiled and displayed in Plean Cinema in March 2024. Both classes enjoyed a screening of a film of their choice in the cinema as celebration of their achievements.
- Our final Disney production, "Jungle Book", was performed to 3 sell out audiences in May. The 3 year programme was run in partnership with Scottish Opera and Disney Musicals in Schools. 50 learners from P4-7 participated weekly in learning throughout the session.
- We achieved a 7th Eco Flag and a commendation for our community work.
- The school achieved a Silver Communication Award from Speech and Language Therapy.
- 60% of nursery families attended Make and Taste sessions throughout the session.
- Our Primary 6 and 7 classes participated in Virgin Bank's Make £5 Grown project realising £430.00 for school funds.
- Our whole school/ nursery completed a successful community "Walkies" around Plean to raise funds for Dogs Trust and school/ nursery funds in June.
- Primary 4 participated in an string orchestra programme led by our music tutors during term 4. Each learner had opportunity to learn to play a stringed instrument. All learners in class performed as an orchestra to the whole school in June.

Key priorities for school and nursery improvement planning 2024 2025

To develop consistent and progressive digital technology practice across school to ensure effective progress in learning and skills for all learners.(Google Classroom)

Explore, deliver and embed consistent and effective literacy approaches across the school and nursery.

To embed a comprehensive, consistent and effective learning and teaching strategy across the school and nursery.

Nursery: To create a nursery environment which addresses and meets the presumption of mainstream provision for all learners.

Parent Council: To work in partnership with school and nursery to provide rich, meaningful wider learning opportunities for all learners across school and nursery.

Cost of the School Day

Schools have a responsibility to consider carefully the cost of the school day for families. We work hard to subsidise transport costs for excursions and learning experiences, keeping costs to families to a minimum. We use public transport (bus passes) as much as possible too.

At the end of term, in conversation with another school, we became aware of the varying costs of school uniform provider. To this end we have explored two other options and would appreciate feedback this evening before making a decision about our official uniform provider.

Playground

Mrs Donnelly has been in touch with Land Services and has spoken with members of the team about cutting back grass, and removal of weeds. School is currently waiting for prices and dates for the work to commence.

East Plean Primary School and Nursery Standards and Quality Report 2023 2024 will be shared on the school app and website shortly.

7. Election of Office Bearers:

Chairperson: A. McInnes appointed (nominated by L. Hardie and seconded by C. Norris)

Vice Chairperson: Leigh Orffer appointed (nominated by L. Hardie and seconded by A. Ewing)

Treasurer: Lorna Hardie appointed (nominated by A. McInnes and seconded by L. Orffer)

Secretary: Carly Norris appointed (nominated by A. McInnes and seconded by L. Hardie)

8. Next Parent Council Meeting: Monday 7th October 2024 at 7pm

9. Parent Council Meeting dates 2024 2025:

- Monday 7th October 7-9pm
- Monday 4th November 7-9pm
- Monday 2nd December 7-9pm
- Monday 6th January 7-9pm
- Monday 3rd February 7-9pm
- Monday 3rd March 7-9pm
- Monday 28th April 7-9pm
- Monday 2nd June 7-9pm

Hallowe'en Parties Wednesday 30th October

The meeting closed with thanks to Ms McInnes for leading the AGM meeting.