



St Joseph's Parent and Nursery Council Meeting

**Monday 3rd February
6:30 pm**

Attendees: Frances Burns, Mark McKay, Laura Wright, Lesley Simpson, Ashley Colquhoun, Audrey Smith, Claire Thomson, Lawrence Toner

Apologies: Louise Anderson, Ashley O'Connell, Nichola Shaw

Welcome

Lawrence Toner attended the meeting to share the new App 'Xpressions' with the Parent Council, who will trial the app for a period of time before extending its use to the school community.

Last Meeting Follow-up

Treasurer report:

- The Christmas Fayre was a huge success; raising £856.56. We would like to thank everyone for their support on the day and in the lead up to the event. The stallholders were all extremely positive, with many sharing wishes to come along to our next event.
- Following the Christmas Fayre, there is £1371 in the bank account.
- Money will be set aside to purchase the P7 ties for their selected Secondary School.
- At future events, all monies will be counted by 2 people (preferably the treasurers) and then handed to school to count for the 3rd count.
- There are issues with the bank account (no online spending possible, having to travel to Livingston to deposit/withdraw money). It was agreed that the Treasurers will research the feasibility of other accounts that suit our needs better.

Pie, Pea & Bingo night:

- Plans are going well in preparation for this; posters will be shared soon to advertise. Event will be held at 7pm on the 28th February. Ticket price - £3 which will include entry and a pie.

- Ideally, to hold more events the parent council would really like to get more parents/carers involved.

Future events for 2025:

- Ideas were discussed for other events – including social events. Members were asked to consider other ideas and share these at the next meeting in March.
- A summer ‘fun day’ was a popular idea, with no costs for the children/families. We will look into this after the Bingo night.
- Mrs Burns was asked if there was anything in particular the school would benefit from with Parent Council fundraising. It was agreed that new garden equipment – including new benches for the playground would be appreciated. Other things would be a sublimation printer and a 3D printer as these would allow the school to make progress toward their Digital Schools Award and enable a number of enterprise projects throughout the year.

Communication for trips and P7 camp:

- It was raised how more notice for school events and trips would be appreciated by parents. Mrs Burns explained the complications involved in booking this years P7 camp which were out of the school’s control. The school hopes more notice will be given in future.
- The Equity team will try to organise a Pop up camp shop as this was popular last year.
- The Parent Council will find ways of promoting the Credit Union (which comes in to school every Monday, offering a Savings account for the children) to help families save for the cost of trips.
- For future P7 camps, the idea of moving camp to earlier in the year was put forward for discussion with the pros and cons of this discussed. A Google forms will be sent out to gauge parental opinion on this.

Online meetings:

- Feedback from parents shows that it is important that we try to make meetings more accessible. As a result, we will trial holding an online meeting next month. A join code will be shared with parents who would like to attend the meeting.

Any Other Business:

- We would love for more parents to be involved in the parent council and to build more of a school community. Ideas of how we can do this are welcome. It was agreed that the Parent Council Whatsapp group should be an open group; anyone who wishes to be on it can speak to a member of the parent council to be added to this.

Action Items

- Create a sub-group to organise Pie, Pea and bingo night.
- Research the cost for new school benches, sublimation printer and a 3D printer.
- Set money aside for school ties for P7s.

Next meeting date: Monday 3rd March at 6:30 ONLINE