



**Torphichen Primary School
Parent Council Newsletter**
Issue No. 13: December 2017
Contact: torphichenparentcouncil@outlook.com

Update from the Chair

Hello everyone. There has been LOTS going on since the last newsletter I sent out in June! I have held off writing another newsletter until now so that I could give you an update on the playground equipment – and we have news at last...

Playground Equipment

The extension to the school meant that although there were funds available, playground equipment could not be purchased until this was completed. The conversion of the old dining hall into a nursery then delayed this further, because the contractor's equipment was on the area where the equipment will be sited. However I am pleased to say, after lots of correspondence and meetings, that the equipment has now been purchased! The school chose a great trim trail and wooden tepee. The grass area in front of the nursery will be turfed. Once the turf has 'taken' the equipment will be installed – hopefully around late March time. It will be great to see the children enjoying it at last!

School Orchard

TPC asked whether Hadden Construction would like to donate some fruit trees for the school grounds while they are on-site and as you all know, they kindly agreed. Six apple trees will be planted on Friday 8th December by families randomly picked from a draw done by the school. I am sure they will be a lovely addition to the school grounds.

New Fundraising Target

Now that the playground equipment has finally been purchased, TPC asked the school what they would like fundraising to be focused on next. The new school extension has meant a fantastic increase in space available for the children and staff... but the budget did not include additional furniture. There is a lack of suitable storage for books in the room used by Mrs Johnston (old P6/7 classroom), which will become the school library. The school would like TPC to raise money for new book shelves and books to create a new library space and replace some of the old, worn out books.

Christmas Fayre

Thanks again to everyone who supported TPC in the running of the refreshments bar at the recent Christmas Fayre. We raised just under £300 – a great effort by all involved, thank you. ☺

Christmas Show Hampers

As usual, TPC will be selling raffle tickets for the chance to win a hamper. But we need your help! If you have any items that you could donate to create a hamper (pamper item such as luxury cosmetics/toiletries, luxury food items/alcohol or childrens gifts/toys) please give to a member of TPC or hand into the school and one of us will collect them. All money raised will go towards the new school library.





Dress Down Day

The school has organised a 'Christmas Jumper' dress down day for Friday 15th December with all proceeds going to the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Appeal (as detailed in the school's Oct-Dec newsletter). If your child/ren wish to take part the suggested donation is £1 per child or £2 per family. **TPC will therefore NOT be having the usual dress down day on last day of term**, which means that the children will be in uniform on Friday 22nd December for their Christmas Service.

TPC Committee members

TPC is only able to function in its role supporting the school and enhancing the children's learning due to the volunteer committee members. At the AGM held on 6th September, Lynn Turner stepped down from her post as Treasurer after 6 years. Everyone in TPC would like to thank her for all her hard work and enthusiasm – it has been so greatly appreciated. Greg Neave has kindly taken over her role.

Unfortunately, no one else came forward to be nominated in the other roles, so the other existing members agreed to carry on in their roles:

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| Chair - | Anna Thomson |
| Vice-Chair - | Suzie McMorrow |
| Secretary - | Steve Fisher |
| Fundraising Lead - | Susan Campbell |

We desperately need new people to come forward and get involved in TPC as the current members will be stepping down in future and it would be a great shame if TPC ceased to exist. If you would like to become more involved and help to support all the children in our brilliant wee school, please speak to one of the TPC members at the school gates or send us an email.

Contact Us

If you want to get in touch with TPC, please speak to a member of the team at the school gates or email us at: torphichenparentcouncil@outlook.com.

Dates for your Diary

- *Next TPC meeting*
The next scheduled meeting of TPC is on Tuesday 16th January at 6.30pm in the school – everyone welcome! A drop-in session with Mrs Angus is available from 6pm.
- *EVENING OUT FOR THE GROWN UPS! – Traditional Burns Supper*
Our next fundraising event, in conjunction with the Am Dram Village People, is planned for Friday 26th January 2018 in St Johns Hall. More details to follow, but in the meantime – get those babysitters booked!

In keeping with the school policy to reduce paper waste, this newsletter will be emailed out and uploaded to the blog. Paper copies are available from the school on request.

Wishing you all a fantastic Christmas and New Year!

With kindest regards,
Anna Thomson (TPC Chairperson)

