Bellsquarry Primary 

 School Parent Council

Newsletter December 2016

**Dates for your diary**

Friday 17th February 6pm-9pm Mums & Daughters –‘East Meets West’ Night

**How to contact us**

Email [pcbellsquarry@gmail.com](mailto:pcbellsquarry@gmail.com)

Sarah Henley, Chair [sjwhenley@gmail.com](mailto:sjwhenley@gmail.com)

Facebook group page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1746901748884644/>

School Notice Board (in school) comment box

**Communication**

All information from the Parent Council will come through

Newsletter

Facebook Group

Email from school

School Blog

School Notice Board

**WE NEED YOU!**

Ms McMaster is appealing for creative parents to help paint a design on the outdoor storage containers. Is this you? Can you help? If yes, please speak to Ms McMaster.

**Scottish Government Review on School Governance**.

This could affect major changes to the role of Local Authorities in running education in their area and devolve more powers and budget to Head Teachers. Below are links to help explain the background to the review. Bellsquarry PC will submit our comments on behalf of the parents. Should you wish to add any comments to this, please email [sjwhenley@gmail.com](mailto:sjwhenley@gmail.com) by 7th December.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GBElS7p6pI&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.gov.scot/educationgovernancereview>

**Fundraising & Events**

**Past events**

**Charity Bags to School**

Thank you to all parents who contributed. You helped raise £182.80. There will be another Charity Bags to School next term.

**Christmas Fayre**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the fayre and help raise £1234. This will go towards off-setting the cost of the School’s Christmas activities that they have planned for our children. Left over toys were gratefully received by River Kids, West Lothian Charity.

**Future Events**

**Sponsor a Book**

The classroom libraries are in need of new books. In partnership with the school to help replenish the libraries we are holding a Sponsor a Book drive. The school will compile a list of books for each classroom with the help of the children and teachers. We will then ask families to buy a book you would like from the list. This book will then hold a name plaque on the inside cover to say which family donated it. We had hoped to start this initiative 21 November, however have decided to leave it till the new term. More details soon.

**Friday 17 February 6-9pm East meets West for Mums and Daughters**.

Organised by one of our Mum’s Nadia, this is set to be an exciting evening. Try Indian/Eastern food, Bollywood dancing, try on a sari, buy Eastern jewellery … and lots more. More details in the new term.

If you have a fundraising idea, please do not hesitate to contact us. Nadia came up with the East Meets West night and we thought it was a brilliant idea. It can be a small or a big event.

**What have we been fundraising for?**

At the last Parent Council Meeting (Monday 28th November) we assisted the school and agreed to the following expenditure to aid children’s learning and to help develop the school:

* £714 Espresso software
* £700 towards Christmas festivities (plus the school receive £300 from Bellsquarry Community Council)
* £3068 IT equipment
* £1000 resources – reading book packs and educational games.

One of our possible long-term goals is to look at developing the school playground. This would be either by painting games on the ground, adding a trim-trail or other children’s play equipment. Are there any parents who have any project management knowledge or just an interest to research into trim trail / playground activities? You will work with Ms McMaster. A team of parents would be welcomed to achieve this goal.

**Car Parking /Road Safety**

We continue to be concerned about the safety of children outside school be they walking, cycling or being dropped off. Despite numerous communications parents and carers continue to park irresponsibly and it’s putting the children at risk.  This will now be escalated to the appropriate authorities and steps will be put in place to try to prevent this ongoing issue over the coming weeks.  Can we ask you to arrive in plenty of time if you are dropping off or collecting children from school. Can we also remind you not to park on corners, resident’s driveways, white lines or double park.  This is unacceptable as it’s your child you are putting at risk. Please be considerate. The pupils in the Junior Road Safety Team, the Parent Council and our community police officer, Alan James are working on ways to address this ongoing issue.

**Dates of all the PC meetings**

Monday 23 January 7pm

Monday 13 March

Monday 24 April

Monday 5 June

**Your Parent Council**

You are more than welcome to come along to any of the above meetings. You do not need to be a representative of the Parent Council to come along. We will make you very welcome. However, if you are unable to come and would like something make comments, then please contact one of the Parent Council members or email us on [pcbellsquarry@gmail.com](mailto:pcbellsquarry@gmail.com)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Parent Name | Name of child/ren | Primary Class |
| Sarah Henley (Chair) | Milly | P7 |
| Paul Keegan (Vice Chair) | Anna | P4 |
| Jon Reid (Vice Chair) | Luke | P4 |
| Linda Hennessey (Treasurer) | Cameron | P5 |
| Domhnall Dodds (Secretary) | Alastair | P6 |
| Lorraine Hart | Rebecca | P4 |
| Gillian Morrison | Ross & Ellen | P7 |
| Lynne Currie | Kirstin & Charlotte | P2 & P4 |
| Morag Hill | Matthew & Suzanna | P7 & P6 |
| Nadia Maqbool | Abdur-Rahmaan & Nur-Aasiya | P3/2 & P5 |
| Dawn Wilson | Cayden & Corrin | P6 & P4 |
| Nikki Cooper | Skyla, Lochlan, Phoenix | P5, P3, P1 |
| Gemma Gough | Angus & Maisy | P4 & P2 |
| Martin Rutherford | Zoe & Beth | P3/2 & P1 |
| Pauline Arnot | Ava | P4 |
| Fiona Beveridge | Katie & Erin | P6 & P4 |
| Annette Barlass | Callum | P4 |
| Vacant – are you able to do this???? |  | Nursery |
|  |  |  |
| Co-opted |  |  |
| Barney Todd, Principal Teacher |  |  |
| Lawrence Fitzpatrick, Local Councillor |  |  |
| Jackie Marra, School Secretary |  |  |
| Christine Hay  Bellsquarry Community Council Rep |  |  |

Date of Next Parent Council Meeting Monday 23th January, 7pm in school