Bellsquarry Primary School   
Parent Council Newsletter   
Mid-May 2017

**Dates for your diary (more details below)**

Friday 26th May 8am – 8.50am - Charity Bags to School

Sunday 4th June – Sponsored Fun Run

Monday 5th June - 7pm Parent Council Meeting

**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

**Parent Council Meeting Monday 5 June 7pm in school**

This meeting is open to all parents whether you are on the Parent Council or not. All parents who have children in the school are automatically members of the Parent Forum and have the right to attend any Parent Council meeting. The role of the Parent Council is to encourage links between school, parents, pupils and the wider community. We also support the work of the school, by advising the school on its policies and helping to fund resources. We listen to parents views and are happy to discuss anything that is of interest to parents. We have parents representatives of every year group so if you don’t want to attend yourself you can always raise any ideas or comments with a parent to communicate on your behalf.

**Sponsor-a-book Campaign**

Thank you to all parents who sent in books for the Sponsor-a-book Campaign. The response was excellent and the school are really pleased. Books should have started to make their way to the class libraries with some being held back, because members of the Parent Council will “present” them to the kids. Thank you again for your support.

**School Uniforms**

Parent Council run a preloved school uniform shop. The shop is set up at most events that parents are invited to and will be available at the Sponsored Fun Run. Items in the uniform shop are still in very good condition, so it’s worth looking to save yourself some money. Alternatively, if your child has grown out of their uniform, you can donate it to us. Either put it in a bag (please label it “Parent Council Preloved Shop”) and hand into school or email us on [pcbellsquarry@gmail.com](mailto:pcbellsquarry@gmail.com) and we will organise to pick it up from you.

**Fundraising**

All our current fundraising efforts are going towards enhancing the school outdoor space. We are looking at trim trails, painted games on the ground, willow structures etc. We are still to finalise exactly what would be best for the school and also have to work with the council on this, however we do know that we will need £5k-£10k. As well as traditional fundraising events we would also like to apply for grants where applicable. If your employer offers a scheme to help local organisations, then please let us know.

**Sponsored Fun Run**

The Parent Council have organised a Sponsored Fun Run event on Sunday 4th June at 11am. We are fundraising for improved facilities for the school playground enhancing the outdoor space. Sponsor forms and more details will follow. There will also be hot dogs, home baking and refreshments for sale. Donations of home baking would be appreciated. Please bring on the morning. We would welcome all families to bring picnic blankets / garden chairs as we would love the event to be fun and social as well as fundraise for the school.

**Charity Bags to School**

Thursday 2 March 8am-8.50am

Please bring your unwanted / preloved clothes, shoes, bags, belts, sheets, soft toys, jewellery, towels and toiletries to school. We get 50p per kilo for your unwanted items. Load them into the parent helper’s cars at the gate. If they are not there when you arrive, please put your bags behind the school wall.

CAN YOU HELP WITH CHARITY BAGS?

I (Sarah Henley) have done charity bags to school for the last 6 years. As my daughter leaves Bellsquarry this year, I am looking for some parents to take this on, giving the school and parent council continuity. I do this with another parent so this may be ideal for 2 friends to do together. You can join us on the next collection or the one in the last term to know what we do. It raises an average of £170 each term. It requires agreeing a date with school once a term, advertising the date, being at the school gate 8am -8.50am with your car boot open accepting bags from parents, taking the items to the Cash4Clothes place in Dedridge, then taking the money raised to the Parent Council Treasurer. A point to note is the Cash4clothes place is closed on Wednesdays and Sundays. They are open Monday/ Tuesday/ Thursday/ Friday/ Saturday 10am-4pm. We do it on a Thursday because that happens to be the day that myself and the other parent don’t work. It doesn’t have to be a Thursday. If you can help with please email [sjwhenley@gmail.com](mailto:sjwhenley@gmail.com)

**Dates of all the PC meetings**

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 to raise any ideas or 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 Hennessay (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-Raahman & 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 Admin Assistant |  |  |
| Christine Hay  Bellsquarry Community Council Rep |  |  |