

Parent Council Meeting

5th Feb 2025

Present: Jaimie Cunningham, Stacey Shearer, Mrs Bradley, Orlaith Payne (Chair), Laura Jaconelli, Aileen Canavan, Collette Seenan

Apologies: Julie Glavin, Gillian Hunter, Michelle Nicoll, Mrs Graham.

Agenda:

1. Chairperson's Welcome
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Headteacher's Report
4. MUGA and playground update
5. Fundraising ideas
6. AOB

1. Chairperson's Report

OP welcomed everyone to our first PC meeting of 2025. She thanked Stacey Shearer for her hard work as secretary and welcomed Gillian Hunter as the Parent Council's newest secretary.

2. Treasurer's Report

The bank balance is at a very healthy £4, 407.42. AC is now fully registered with access to the bank accounts which will help for the 200 Club and for signing of any cheques. February 200 Club numbers were drawn at the meeting with the winning numbers being Natalie Graham as 1st and Stephen McGauley as 2nd.

3. Headteacher's Report

DEC

- Successful whole school show
- Panto trip
- Parties

STAFFING

- Mrs Walsh absent from Dec – cover 0.5 provided by Mrs Malley
- Student Teachers in P3 and P6

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- Novels – non-fiction titles P4-7, more current topics in terms on equality/equity/race/gender etc
- Numeracy Group for early skills – Mrs Frame
- Anti-bullying committee
- Supported targeted groups, some additional staffing Feb-March using PEF
- Writing – Moderation with LC on in-service
- P7 Residential in March 2025

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

- Class Showcase for all (Jan-June)
- Pricing school excursions for all classes – cost per head kept to a minimum
- Swimming P5 (Term 3 and 4)
- Newsletter – Survey Results and Dates until June

4. MUGA and Playground update

Mrs Bradley informed the meeting that there was a flurry of visitors to the school on the back of our parental petition to the local councillors regarding the poor provision of safe and useful outdoor space for our children. Whilst there was initial steps to improve the drainage at the centre of the playground at the back of the school and promises of cutting back the trees and sweeping the playground, the committee were hoping that more could be done to improve the general state of the playground and make it a more practical and usable space for all of the months of the year rather than select months where the weather does not impact its use. We suggested pitching the letters idea again in all the What's App groups to parents and get them to petition councillors to improve the playground.

The MUGA pitch has been put out to tender and works on improving the drainage and the surface will be (hopefully!) started after the beginning of the new financial year.

5. Fundraising Ideas

OP mentioned that the Christmas Petty Cash fund the committee offered in December for each primary class was a great success and it was so lovely to see each class with their chosen item/party on Twitter/X.

OP asked about dates for the parties in the school to celebrate the three sacraments for P3, P4 and P7 as she would book a Costco cake as the PC's gift to celebrate these special sacramental occasions. She also asked for helpers for Sat 10th May after the 12 noon First Holy Communion mass in St Bride's to offer all of the parents, staff and children teas, coffees and biscuits.

OP spoke about the Wonka Bars idea which was a resounding success with the pupils last World Book Day and the committee agreed we would complete the activity again. OP to order

the Wonka wrappers and the Golden Tickets. She asked for a committee member to ask Tesco if they would like to sponsor some Mrs Molly bars again for the event.

The committee suggested that the next fundraising activity could be a Spring Fling Disco in the school as the Halloween one was such a success. OP suggested a Glow in the Dark theme with tattoos and face paint on sale. JC suggested to sell ice poles which has been a successful item to sell in her school events. Mrs Bradley suggested having it after the school come back in April with the tickets on sale by the P7s in school the week before the Easter holidays. She suggested the P7s write their name and primary class down, so we have a register for the night and in case any tickets are lost/misplaced over the Easter holidays. OP said she would contact Jamie, our DJ, and ask about coloured lights needed to illuminate the glow in the dark paint. She said she would put in the let to the council for the night of Thursday 24th April with the usual times for P1-P3 and P4-P7.

The next item for consideration is the subsidisation of the busses for the school trips, the ice creams for the Sports Day and the P7 leaver's party food – all of which can be discussed at the next meeting.

There was no other AOB.