

## Parent Council Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 27 August 2021

Attendees	Initials	Position	Apologies
Alison Hagan	AH	Chair	Donna Cameron
Katie Wotherspoon	KFW	Secretary	
Kasia Banaszewska-Diaz	KBD	Treasurer	
Lauren Cockburn	LAC		
Lynda Colthard	LC		
Johanna Jenkins	JJK		
Kirsten Briggs	KB		
Jonathan Davidson	JD		
Julie Tait	JT		
Lizzie Miller	LM		
David MacKay	DK		
Morag MacLachlan	MM		
Mrs Westacott	KW	Head Teacher	
Mr O'Connor	GO	Principle Teacher	
Miss Marshall	JM		

**AP –**

### WELCOME

Alison welcomed everyone

### UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Letter to MSPs and

Raisin Boxes – Done before end of last year

Circulate anti bullying policy – **AP - KW to do**

**AP - Advertise Amazon Smile – AH**

Bench for Ms Dalrymple – **AP – still to do – KW**

### CONSTITUTION

Proposed at the last meeting that we added words that said that members of PC can join at the first meeting after the AGM or at the first meeting after a child joins the school. – Everyone agreed to this action - carried.

### HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

Priority at the end of term was the transition. This took up a lot of teacher's time. Priority for children coming back is diversity and equality, with a lot of training for the

teachers. Trolls World Tour was a more entertaining, child friendly context to teach this.

A big focus is on the Corona virus with Head teacher's meetings still happening every week. They have been told that for the next 6 weeks all rules will stay as they were before the holidays. However, with the relaxation of the 'bubble' rules, teachers are able to go into other classes and some classes can play together (they have prioritised split classes for this, P2/3 and P3/4 and P5/6 and P6/7) The Local Authority will direct school with what to do at the end of that 6 week period. All the cleaning is still going on but the school has been allowed to bring more soft furnishings back into the school.

Because of people gathering on the pavement outside school we really need to encourage people to not come to school too early. We can't open up the playground to let people wait inside the school grounds.

It would be good to get the equalities rep to link up with the pupils meetings at school (remotely) to give wider parent body feedback.

Mrs Barbour says thank you for the 'wonderful gifts'.

Mrs Paxton is doing some supply in school.

PSA Post advert has closed and there has been quite a bit of interest. Interviews next week

KW has Been in touch with Fr Deeley to make a plan for the year

### QUESTIONS FROM THE PARENT BODY

**After-school Club** – Still no lets allowed by council. It will open as soon as it can.

**Why doesn't breakfast club open at 7.30?** - Building Manager needs to do essential checks and the staff need to set up so that 15 minutes is for all this. If you let your child walk to the door themselves you need to make sure you can see them until they are in the school.

**Peripatetic teachers** - Strings should be up and running soon. Will be getting a new brass teacher.

**Swimming** – this will be happening soon, info will be coming out soon. P4 are down to have a block first and then the P5s. **KFW** – will that mean that P3s will miss a year of swimming? **AP – KW will clarify because she thinks it starts at P4 city wide.**

**JJK** – current P6s had P3 and P4 swimming sessions but missed last two weeks of P4 sessions and didn't have any in P5. They have not had any certificates either. **AP – KW to find out about swimming certificates for current P6s who have not received any from their lessons in P3 and P4. Are they supposed to receive certificates?**

**Marty the robot** – Hoping that P5/6 and 6/7 will be using those in October term when learning about technology.

**School Dinners** – AP - KW to find out why there is no longer a baked potato or packed lunch option every day.

**JJK** – P6/7 class very hot all day, could they not have use of the dining hall? **AP – KW to take that to the health and safety board**

**Active Schools** – They don't want children having to pay for clubs so they are saying PCs need to fund or run classes. KW has invited the Active Schools coordinator to come and speak to the Parent Council. **AP – KW to clarify when this will be**

### CHURCH REP UPDATE

We should be able to get the keys to the church rooms again soon

No more social distancing

No tickets required but you do need to give name and number

Children's Liturgy should be returning soon

**AP - Get suggested dates to JJK for committee meeting with Fr Deeley**

**KFW** – let people know that we will be meeting with him twice a year and will let people know when these meetings are if there is anything people would like us raise.

**LM** – will the children go to mass on holy days of obligation? Not at the moment, it is not allowed by the council. **AP – KW will take this issue to the Council**

### TREASURER'S UPDATE

In the account as of 25 August 2021: £2,296.47 (Cheque banked today for £760 from match funding which isn't included in the above balance yet)

£1000 will come out for the Breakfast Club

**AP – KW – funding request for Breakfast Club**

### EQUALITIES REP

The role of equalities rep was advertised a number of weeks in advance of this meeting and no one put themselves forward for the role. The role and what it involved was then discussed and LM offered to be the Rep. There were no objections.

### RAISIN BOXES

**JM** – where do we put them? AH will collect them at the end of the week.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

The packs have arrived at school. If we get orders in for October 20<sup>th</sup> (Oct 15<sup>th</sup> end of term) PC will get £2 a pack ordered rather than £1.70. This means that the drawings need to be ready by September 15<sup>th</sup>

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Early October – Race to Mount Olympus. This will be double match funded by a parent.

**AP – KW will speak to the staff about it tomorrow and come back to Alison.**

**AP - Check with health and safety committee if it is ok for Chris to join one mile a day walk.**

November – Quiz and Silent Auction

**AP – AH to share list of businesses already approached to update**

## SINCLAIR ACADEMY

We will start a separate working group for this as it will take up time. Email Alison by the end of the month if you would like to join this.

KB, JD, JJK & LM all said they would join and there is one other non-PC member who is interested. **AP – KFW to start this group.**

## NEW NURSERY PARENTS

How do we sell the school to them. We need to think outside the box and within the prevailing rules at the time.

**LAC** – it was really helpful to talk to current parents.

Could the PC hold our own coffee mornings and could the school advertise this? Yes  
Could do a video of kids (those whose parents have agreed) doing a tour of the school and tweet this.

**JJK** – Will we have house captains this year and if so can they get involved with advertising the school. – KW – this will be reintroduced.

**KFW** – We need to think about how we get these ideas out to prospective parents.  
Ideas:

- Pram Pushes and childcare FB pages
- Nurseries

**AP – Consider a PC Twitter account.**

## SCHOOL WEBSITE

**AP - Can the PC page on the updated website please be updated.**

## CONFIRM MEMBERSHIP

To new parents – do you wish to become members? Yes:

LM

LAC

MM

## AOB

**School Bus** – There has been some confusion when children aren't on the bus for some reason and the supervisor is unaware. This was discussed and the process is:

- If there is a change to your child's usual afternoon bus routine, on any given day, the official route to inform the school is that you **must** call the school to let the office know. You need to talk to someone, not just leave a voice message or email.
- If you wish, you can also text Nell to let her know
- The school will ensure that the official register is updated for that day and provide Nell with a copy when the children get on the bus
- If there is a more permanent change to your child's afternoon bus routine, please let the office know in writing via email to [admin@st-margarets-pri.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-margarets-pri.edin.sch.uk)
- If there is a change to your child's morning bus routine, you do not need to inform the school. You can inform Nell if you wish.

**What day is the bank holiday?** – 20<sup>th</sup> Sep

**AP – KFW to add LM, LAC, MM and KF to the PC WhatsApp group**

**Next meeting – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 7pm to 8.30pm**

**ACTION SUMMARY**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>OWNER</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Circulate anti-bullying policy to PC	KW	
Advertise Amazon Smile	AH	DONE
Look into a bench for Ms Dalrymple	KW	
Clarify what year swimming lessons should start and if P3 will miss a year of swimming or if it has always started at P4	KW	
Find out about swimming certificates for current P6s who have not received any from their lessons in P3 and P4	KW	
Find out why there is no longer a baked potato or packed lunch option every day for school dinners	KW	
Ask the health and safety board if P6/7 could use the dining hall for lunch as they are very hot all day in their classroom	KW	
Clarify when the Active Schools coordinator will come and speak to the PC about the changes to Active School Clubs	KW	
Submit a funding request for the Breakfast Club	KW	
Check staff are happy with Race to Mount Olympus fundraiser	KW	
Check with Health and Safety board that parent being sponsored for Mount Olympus can join Mile a Day one day	KW	

Share list of businesses already approached for prize donations at last auction	AH	
Start Sinclair Academy working group	KFW	
Consider a PC Twitter Account	AH/KBD/KFW	
Update PC page on new school website	KW/GO	
add LM, LAC, MM and KF to the PC WhatsApp group	KFW	DONE