

## Parent Council Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 27 October 2021

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

**AP –**

### WELCOME

Alison welcomed everyone

### ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- add constitution to school website and put a change log on the front - **Done**
- Share Renewal Plans with PC – **Still to do**
- Put info about photo permission now including social media on Facebook – **Still to do**
- To follow up why there are only 2 children chosen to learn the violin – KW **Shared our views, waiting for feedback**
- Set up demonstration of ABC music for next PC meeting – **Still to do**
- Consider the children learning Archangel Prayer - **Passed**
- Give JJK possible dates to meet with Fr Deeley - **Done**
- Check that all classes are recording miles for Mount Olympus - **Done**
- Investigate alternative banks that won't charge for our charity account – **Ongoing**
- Consider if we want to put money in to used uniform storage if IKEA can't donate anything but can help us plan/design the area – **On todays agenda**
- Look into rules about how many can meet in a café or restaurant - **Done**
- Ask Fr Deeley if the Parish Rooms can now be used - **Done**
- Let us know on WhatsApp if you have contact with any of the local nurseries to ask them if they will advertise a PC coffee morning to prospective parents - **Done**
- Consider if we can have some small, loose pieces of play equipment available to the children in the plat ground and organised playground games – **Need to**

discuss possibility of funding with PC – AP – AH let KW know what we can afford to fund so that KW can work with children on what to get within that budget.

- Set up first meeting of Sinclair Academy Working Group – Done
- Active Schools – This is still up in the air but noise is that they want parent councils across the city to run clubs but nothing has been decided yet and is in the councils court. A concern for all PCs across the city. St Josephs have managed to get something up and running so could be worth finding out what they have done – AP – Find out what St Joseph's have done

### FEEDBACK FROM EDINBURGH PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT MEETING FOR CHILDREN WITH ASN

JJK / MM gave an update about this meeting. A lot of people coming forward with the same issues at it. They were also made aware that there were going to be iPads going to every p6/7 child and more for lower school as well across the city. There was also a drive for people to meet within their cluster. They talked about the lack of support from educational psychologists. You cannot discuss individual children at these meetings.

We need to decide who will be our representative at these going forward. There was a discussion about whether it should be the equalities rep who goes to these or a parent with a child with Additional Support Needs. This is still to be decided but as the next meeting is in November JJK will go to that one.

Future meetings which we need representation at are:

- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm - Teams
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January – 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm - Teams
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm - Teams

**AP** - JJK to go to November meeting

**AP** - Words to put out in note about informal network for parents of children with ASN and coffee morning.

**AP** - KW to add note in newsletter about the change to Disability Living Allowance

### HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

**Health & Safety** – Council said that anything going on You Tube cannot have children in it but the way round this for the School Promotion Video was to get further permission from parents via Parent Pay. The video will be available on click view.

**Health & Wellbeing** – *They are going to start moving the children into the hall for lunches. Next week will be P1 and P2 as they have never been in the hall. It may mean that they have to have a split lunch to ensure that the hall isn't too full at any one point.*

**Staffing** – *PSA reduction is difficult to manage and it can be very difficult when anyone is off school. They have made a permanent appointment to replace Miss Ronald. The recruitment can take time as there are a lot of vacancies across the country.*

**Equalities** – Developing restorative approaches and focused on this on the last in-service day. They want to focus on positive behaviours strategies and are developing that further.

**Sharing the Learning** – If a parent wasn't able to make that, the staff are following this up to make sure all parents have the opportunity to discuss their children and engage with the school.

**Curriculum** – Focusing on numeracy and maths and they are having a moderating meeting to ensure consistency throughout the school.

**Christmas** – They won't be allowed to have gatherings and there won't be a nativity in the hall. There will be a virtual nativity, the infants will act the parts and the whole school will be involved in the singing. They are hoping to have a singing activity outside towards Christmas to get in the festive spirit and learn carols. They will have class parties. **AP** – KW to contact AH to get PC help with buying the food.

**Halloween** – They will have class parties for this as there can't be any disco. It won't be the whole morning, it'll be after break.

**LC** – Haribo and plain Cadbury Dairy Milk are fine for the allergies we have in the school.

**Covid Restrictions** – Still no assemblies. Miss Smith (PE teacher) will be back part time next week but can only take two classes a day.

**Book week** – P3/4 are going to lead it. Would like to get PC involved in story reading via video. They will get to dress up on the Friday and there will be a book swap as well. They will be doing in class activities and there will be a class door competition. JM is trying to get the library together to help the kids learn library skills. The changing room will be used for this as well as the library area. P3/4 are making persuasive posters to promote all this. They would like to do a fundraiser in March linked to World Book Day. More info to follow

## QUESTIONS FROM THE PARENT BODY

**Is there an update on when the After-school Club will open?** – No. Still really keen and keep checking with the business manager

**Is it a change that the registration for sacraments is now via the Parish and not through School? Please could information come via school as well?** – It is the Parish that runs this and if the form has come through school in the past it will be because Fr Deeley asked them to give it out. Any questions around this should be directed to Fr Deeley

**Would it be possible to run a school Choir, e.g. once a week during lunch break? Would there be anyone on the staff who could take it on or is there any chance to get someone external, like a local music teacher?** – We are not

allowed to have gatherings at the moment. There is a teacher who might be willing to do this but it can't be taken forward at this point. **AP** – KW to keep us posted on this.

**What is the policy on mobile phones at school? Are kids allowed to use them during break?** – They should not be using phones in school time. Let KW know if there are children using their phones in school.

**Homework levels?** – People should not feel stressed about getting through all of it. If you feel it is having a negative impact on family life one night then school would rather you left it that night and relaxed. If it's hard to fit in with extracurricular activities, don't worry too much, those activities are really important too, do what you can do. If your child is falling behind or has any concerns, the teacher will get in touch with you and guide you towards what your child needs to focus on.

#### CHURCH REP UPDATE

We have a meeting set with Fr Deeley in the next couple of weeks. We will cover responsibility for making people aware of sacraments, what support is needed from PC for sacraments. What can be done about children not being able to go to church with school on holy days of obligations, Christmas plans and potential joint summer fair. Does anyone have anything else they would like us to bring up? - No

#### EQUALITIES REP UPDATE

No update other than Edinburgh wide ASN meeting discussed earlier

#### TREASURER'S UPDATE

In the account as of 27 October 2021: £3,636.17

Still to bank: £421.20 (So total will be £4,057.37)

Christmas Cards raised £299

Mount Olympus raised £1,130 (double match funding will make it £3,390)

Pending Payments – Christmas card invoice

No funding Requests

#### NURSERY COFFEE MORNING FEEDBACK

Three sets of parents came to this. They liked the flyer we had with things to expect from the school and were looking forward to the video.

#### FUNDRAISING UPDATE

**Tesco Community Grants** – Results will be communicated late October / early November

**Christmas Card status** – All received at school. There is a late order system so we will make parents aware when that is open. We raised £299

**Race to Mount Olympus** – We raised £1,130 (£3,390 with double match funding)

## IKEA AND UNIFORM

Got back to us and they will at a minimum match fund what we put in. IKEA could not attach things to the wall, the building manager or council approved supplier. **AP** – KW needs to let us know dimensions.

## QUIZ & SILENT AUCTION

JJK to do the high street

LM to do the Italian and

AH to do Ficos and the Zoo

KB to contact Hearts

**AP** – AH to send people the begging letter

**AP** – AH to update where we are with prizes on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November

**AP** – KFW to ask Fr Deeley if he could ask parishioners through the newsletter if anyone could donate anything

## AOB

**Allergies Reps** - To discuss at the next meeting – **AP** – AH to put on the agenda for next meeting

**Halloween Sweets** - Discussed further up

**Christmas gifts for teachers / Christmas cards among kids** - PC to let parents know that staff would like families to look after themselves first but if they really do want to give a gift then please could parents (or child if parents can't get to school) hand them in to Miss Smith in the office rather than directly to teachers. **AP** – PC to come up with form of words for Facebook and make parents aware.

Kids may be able to give each other Christmas cards this year. KW will give more thought to how this might be done.

**PC Christmas night out** - **AP** – Organise

**How do we know we have confirmed consent on Parent Pay?** - Made KW aware that it is not clear on Parent Pay if consent has worked as not getting receipt emails for all children.

**Next meeting – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 7pm to 8.30pm**

## ACTION SUMMARY

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>OWNER</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
let KW know what we can afford to fund in terms of play equipment so that KW can work with children on what to get within that budget.	AH/KFW/KB	
Find out what St Joseph's have done in relation to active schools	? – someone in PC	
Attend November Parental Engagement meeting for children with ASN	JJK	

Words to put out in note about informal network for parents of children with ASN and coffee morning.	AH/KFW/KB/JJK/LM	
Add note in newsletter about the change to Disability Living Allowance	KW	
Let PC know what help is needed with Christmas Parties	KW	
Keep PC posted on possibility of a school choir	KW	
Let us know the dimensions of the space for lost property for IKEA	KW	
Check allergies of P1s and that they are ok to have Haribo	AH	
Send people the official PC headed donation request letter	AH	
Organise update meeting on prizes for 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	AH	
ask Fr Deeley if he could ask parishioners through the newsletter if anyone could donate anything	KWF	
Contact Harts to ask for an auction prize	KB	
Ask Ficos and Zoo to donate auction prizes	AH	
Ask Italian Café and Nail Salon to donate auction prizes	LM	
Ask shops on High Street to donate auction prizes	JJK	
Put allergies rep on agenda for next meeting	AH	
Think about how children's Christmas cards might be done		
PC to come up with form of words for Facebook and make parents aware of arrangements for Christmas presents		
Organise PC Christmas do	AH/KFW/KBD	