

St Nicholas' Primary School Parent Council 7th September 2021

Meeting Title: St Nicholas' Parent Council Meeting

Meeting date: Tuesday 7th September 2021

Meeting location: Virtual Meeting Teams: Time: 6.30 pm – 7:30 pm

ATTENDEES

Name	Role	Initial
Rachael MacDonald	Chair	RM
Charlotte Grogan.	Head Teacher.	CG
Donal McDermott	St Andrews Parish Rep	DM
Janine Peck	Member.	JP
Caitlin McKenna.	Member.	CM
Anne Quinn	Member.	AQ
Natalie Matheson.	Member.	NM
Aura Murphy	Member.	AM
J McGarry	Member.	M
Margaret Clowes.	Member.	MC
Carol Lennon	Depute.	CL

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Signed: Rachael MacDonald 7th September 2021

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies:

A Darley

G Harkness

L Jardin

V Roger

2. Office Bearers

The current PC Vice Chair NM has taken over the Parent Association and therefore has stepped down from the position of Vice Chair in order to devote more time to the PA.

RM nominated JP for the position of Vice Chair seconded by CM.

JP has been elected as Vice Chair.

3. Confirm PC representation for the new school year

It was noted that due to Covid the AGM could not be opened up to the whole parent body this year.

The class representation was confirmed.

CG will invite P1 parents to join the PC to fill 2 P1 Rep roles.

RM will contact those members who have not confirmed their desire to remain on the PC, and those who have failed to attend meetings or to give apologies to ensure that they wish to remain on the council.

4. Head Teacher update

4.1 Covid Procedures

Covid Procedures are in place as per Scottish Government guidelines. From the 9th August the school was authorised to remove school bubbles and this has been the only significant change.

Different classes are now allowed to mix outside but are not allowed to mix inside as this is not seen as essential mixing.

Assemblies will still be held online.

Classes can not share resources so more money has needed to be spent on purchases of more workbooks and resources.

No school discos can be organised and CG has communicated with the PA chair NM and it is hoped that Christmas Cards can be arranged with the appropriate Covid Measures in place.

The school is the pilot school for the Outbreak Management Team and procedures that were in place have meant that potential outbreaks in the first couple of weeks back have been avoided.

P7 Trip to Lockerbie Manor will not be allowed to take place in October. A decision as to whether it can be rescheduled for the new year will be made by EDC later.. This decision will be made in line with Scottish Guidance and restrictions at that time. The school will endeavour to make alternative arrangements for the P7 leavers with day trips and activities if the residential is not allowed to go ahead.

4.2. October Parents Meetings

Updated EDC guidance means that planned Parents Meetings in October can not be face to face meetings. The recommendation is one Telephone meeting per session – one per year and over 4weeks.

The school are hoping to hold these meetings in October but within a 2week timeframe rather than 4week. 3 phones have been acquired but a fourth would be desirable.

Time slots of 10minutes will be booked online by parents.

EDC and Unions have decided that these telephone calls should take place between 3pm-6pm.

4.3. Staffing

Depute AM is currently absent.

There are 2 support staff vacancies. One 10hours post and one 25hours post. Down to the length of the recruitment process it is not known when these positions will be filled. These vacancies, alongside Covid mean that the double breaks need to stay in place even if Covid restrictions are eased further in coming weeks until there is the appropriate number of staff to supervise.

The 6hrs office post for Mondays has been filled and currently they are also helping with additional support staff hours such as photocopying to help learning.

4.4. Out of hours antisocial behaviour by youths in grounds

Local residents have raised numerous concerns with EDC and local Councillors regarding anti social behaviour and damage caused by Youths during non school hours in playground.

EDC propose to raise the height of the pitch fence to prevent access. Currently it is not in the schools interest to purchase any new outdoor equipment for the playground as various items have already been damaged or destroyed. Therefore any new outdoor equipment will need to be secure and be permanent fixtures to limit the risk of damage. This will raise the cost of playground games/equipment, as necessary utilities checks in the ground would need to be carried out before anything can be attached or drilled into the ground.

Date of Next Meeting:

16th November 2021- Virtual Meeting 6:30pm-8:30pm