

Parent Council meeting – 5th December 2023

Attendees

Douglas Bruce	Head Teacher
Joanne Doddie	Principal Teacher
LesleyAnn Wright	Principal Teacher
Ali Connolly	Chairperson
Joanne Farrell	Co Chairperson
Graham Patrick	Treasury
Allison Warnock	Secretary
Kirsty Campbell	
Daisy Johnston	
Louise Duncan	
Amanda	
Jo Wintour	
Amy Howard	
Heather McDonald	
Catherine Winton	
Caroline Kerr	

Douglas Bruce Head Teacher Report

The school building work is on track & to be completed by Christmas. The hall will be good to go for January's new term, school dinners will be up and running on the 15th January.

The staff would like to send their thanks for the Christmas craft that was received by them from the Parent Council.

Bikeability courses are available in February, please get in touch with Mr Bruce for more details. Any help is much appreciated in supporting the pupils.

We are delighted to welcome back Mr Matthew Davidson. He will be starting in January and is the new P3 teacher. Thank you to Ms O'Neill for her cover over the past few months.

Our wonderful & much missed janitor Mr Orr is away on holiday until next Thursday – there have been a few issues with locked gates over the past week – looking forward to Mr Orr's return

PSA's have settled their dispute so there will be no more strike action.

Two of our staff have been accepted onto the Apple Coaching program (Tech course). This will be of great benefit to our school.

Our PSA's have all had their diabetes training.

Many congratulations to our PSA Louise Thompson who has had a little baby boy, James & is now on mat leave.

Great success with our parent consultations last week. Uptake was 92%.

Our learning journals for P1, P4 & P7A are up and running – thank you to all the parents that have engaged with them. Please email any feedback which is greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to more parental engagement,

The range of opportunities that have been brought to our school from across the city has been fantastic- due to the lack of our hall and PE space our partners have brought; tennis, flag football, American football, golf, and so much more with extra PE days.

The Lagganlia trip was a resounding success – the P7's were a credit to the school & Mr Bruce really enjoyed getting to know the children better.

The council have included our P7's in the new town planning for the West of Edinburgh – the council have taken away a few of the children's ideas including a morgue & a prison!!

There are many new clubs that have been set up and are up and running..

Ukelele Club

Golf Team

Geography group

Chess club

Christmas activities:

The Christmas Nativity for the P1's will go ahead next Wed 13th Dec in the Den.

There will be a Christmas jumper day, Christmas lunch day (thanks to staff across the city who are helping to make this happen)

Thanks to all the staff who have helped pull the PE department together without the hall.

Theres a mobile cloakroom now available to P3-P5

Hoping to have a lost property stall every Friday at 12 after school – there are lots of coats/winter jackets not been claimed. Please remember to write name on clothing.

Playground issues ongoing – the matting for the bottom of the slides has been quoted at £2,600

Thank you to the parents who volunteered to come in and help the house captains sort out the library.

Looking at the house points system over the next few months and how the 4 houses will work together.

Joanne Doddie – Principle Teacher report

Looking at our outdoor learning plan – delighted to say Kirsten Mac (spell check) who is heading up outdoor learning across the city has chosen our school to work with closely over the next 3 years.

We already have an outdoor charter which you can see on X (Twitter). At least once a week every class is outside doing some outdoor learning with their teacher.

Terms 3&4 will be using the hill more and we are working with the Friends of Corstorphine Hill. There will be a Tower visit on Friday.

We are also looking to use the space across the road from the school on Clerwood terrace (with the Chestnut Tree) & the space behind the astro for bio diversity – hopefully we could get some funding to help the children with this.

Ali Connolly asked Ms Doddie to put a ‘wish list’ together so the PC could help if they can.

Kirsty Campbell – Fundraising

Next term we'll be looking to organise a parent evening out , party/quiz night. Great to use the Leonardo Hotel as a venue, they have offered it up for free due to the building work.

Will also be pulling together a bake sale & future events coming up to Easter.

Right now you can donate any Christmas jumpers/jackets/wellies that you have lying about & on Friday 15th Dec the items will be available in the school playground – you can leave any donations in a bag in the foyer of the school and someone will pick them up – any items that are not used will be taken to a children's charity.

Graham Patrick – Treasurer

Graham has pulled together a summary which is available.

Have to decide on a figure for the welfare fund – Mr Bruce is looking into all the information and will get back to the PC soon.

£1,200 was spent on storage boxes for craft and PE equipment.

Ali Connolly spoke with Alex Cole Hamilton who wants to get involved in helping the school work out where it can save unnecessary costs –

Mr Bruce has been in constant talks with the council ie cutting down the trees that the council are saying it's the schools responsibility. PE mats?

Lesley Ann Wright – Principal Teacher

Thanks to all the parents who have been involved with the online learning journals – please give feedback where you can.

Thanks to all who attended the meeting this evening – the next PC meeting will be on Wednesday 7th Feb.