

Hello and happy new year from the Parent Council and PSA.

Thank you everyone who has helped at last terms PSA events and made it along to our Parent Council meetings.

I am sorry our November meeting minutes have been delayed.

Below is the agenda for the next meeting and the minutes from the last meeting in November.

Jennifer Longstaff

Parent Council Meeting 16th Jan 2019, 6:30-8pm, Link Building

- Powderhall update - Elaine Watson and Robbie Crockatt from CEC
- Head Teachers report, Mrs Rushforth/Mr Crabbe - Christmas event feedback; Building works update
- Chair report - School Lets update; Recruitment complaint response; Facebook - Code of Conduct for Closed group; volunteers needed to help admin/moderate the community page and closed group; office Folder.
- Leith Chooses & gardening group - Rachel Blythe.
- Vacancies - Our PSA are looking for a new chair or co-Vice-Chair; We are also looking for a new Treasurer.
- PSA - planning meeting on Friday 18th January will discuss: agreed PSA spend criteria; planning for International cafe (8th Feb) and spring disco (8th Mar). Spring disco - trial for the Friday Disco split into: Nursery - P2; P3-P6; exclusive P7; sell tickets via email or in person?. Language Class special invitations to all cafes 11-11.30am.
- EMF update
- AOB
- Next Parent Council meeting: Wednesday 24th April; Next PSA planning meeting: Friday 8th February

Parent Council Minutes 21/11/2018

- Attendance:
- Agreed next meeting: Parent Council Wednesday 16th January; PSA Friday 18th January
- Drummond Head Girls, Maha and Angel, came to speak to us and share their experiences of Drummond High:
 - Both girls are applying to university to study English Literature and Medicine.
 - DHS is a nice small school. The teachers and head knows everyone's name. It's diverse.
 - Advice to P7s = 'feels a big step but not as dramatic'. You'll settle in very quickly. Very friendly.
 - S1s are buddied

- Lots of extracurricular activities. Badminton, fitness, volleyball, dance. If you're interested in something there's openings to find an instructor e.g. Parkour.
- There are trips e.g. Spain for water sports. Trips to London. Plan for a trip to Tanzania.
- If the school don't offer your course, they partner with other institutions e.g. Edinburgh College for Psychology. Schools college partnership.
- Next open evening 19th March at 4:30.
- Agree minutes
 - Broughton Decides will be at next drop in. Parents post what they'd like to do with money
 - Last Café sent plates out to ask for future donations of savouries and home baking as opposed to tuck. Got a good response.
 - Public equity funding (PEF) spent on Broughton buddies nurture group, the Den has a teacher 3 days a week and a nursery nurse for P1. Put another request in for PEF funded PSA [pupil support assistance] to work on learning through play.
- Head Teacher
 - HT post advertised in Oct. No applicants. Re-advertised after Christmas. Fiona and Sam will continue until HT recruited. May be disappointing but not unsurprising. Lack of staffing at senior leadership, other schools having same issue (2 other schools – 1 application).
 - Recruitment - advertising for a PSA. Recruited for 2 PSAs for mainstream school and language. Recruited a teacher for P6, HR are just running the checks.
 - Recruitment issues due to council processes and lack of candidates
 - Recruitment for next year process: Before Christmas council forecasts next years' pupil numbers. These are finalised April time. For staffing levels, difficult to predict attrition (pregnancy, people leaving) which has a knock-on effect for recruitment.
 - P1 open-day 3 weeks ago was really well attended. 58 have registered for catchment. There are more open-days to come. Pupil numbers looking like they normally do.
 - Visit by Andy Gray, Director of Education. Visiting all primary schools. Getting an idea from HTs what is going well and what challenges. Had feedback about building works, recruitment, shared what we're proud of.
 - Launched new better relationships for better learning guidelines. Really helping children to understand how their behaviour affects other children; safety, respect, having the right to learn. Questionnaire will go out to parents to seek feedback. There are positives as well as guidelines on escalations for poor behaviour. Stats for escalations are kept to see patterns and tackle persistent issues. This is about making sure that Children feel listened to. The SLT (Senior Leadership team) have committed to being present in a quiet area in the playground for the pupils if they need any support.
 - Anti-bullying poster that children have created on back of anti-bullying week. Want this to be ongoing not just for a week.
 - Sam consults with other head teacher's on key initiatives.
 - Christmas singing in school rather than St Mary's church. Taken on feedback and want to be inclusive. A high proportion of parents withdraw their children because of nature of celebration. Pantomime and Xmas party will be held. PSA have offered to pay for all Christmas activities. Will get feedback from parents after next Xmas event.

- P6 & P7 did very well at swimming comp. 3 ex-Broughton pupils had best ever results
- P7s and Miss Vacher laid wreath at St Mary's Remembrance Day Service
- P2s have had Heriot Watt science outreach team visit their classes. Explored DNA and skin, finger printing with the kids.
- P5s are working with Edinburgh University's Music in Community initiative.
- P6s performing at concert at Queens Hall. 5 schools in total. Sound phenomenal. Very busy and intensive.
- Book bug and read\write drop in on Friday
- Last Friday, Children in Need dressing up and dancing. Raised £235.
- Building works: **Outside** scaffolding almost down, a bit of pointing at front of school but don't need scaffolding for that. Hope to be done by Christmas; **Internal** refurb predicted to finish Xmas next year. Every 3 weeks have a room that's been completed. Impact is a lot less than thought initially.
- Sandra B talking to head concerning School Lets changes that have not been communicated. Scout Groups moved out, other groups who have never been in have been given lets in gym hall. Health and Safety is paramount in main building with ongoing building works. Can't have people in. Need access to toilets.
- Chair Report – Jennifer Longstaff
 - North East District Meeting – communicated School Lets issues. Is an issue across city especially after new janitorial review.
 - Powderhall Development. Spoke to Robbie Crockett from property planning at council. Consultation happening. Next stage ideas in January. Will meet the parent council before Christmas
 - Drummond is off the table for Gaelic school.
 - Global shared page on Facebook. Each post needs to be approved. There is a code of conduct. Sam to put out code of conduct.
 - Issues with Disclosure Scotland delays causing knock-on delays to school recruitment will be raised with Connect (Parenting body Scotland)
- Treasurers Report – Kate Moir
 - Background – Charity Broughton Primary School Trust. Treasurer perspective, April to April official accounts. Keep track for each school year so can put statement in
 - The Trust account has a bank balance of £13,291. Additionally, the original Bank of Scotland account has a balance of £2934.
 - Spent circa £600 to date on football pitch hire, sports t-shirts for Broughton school events & swim caps.
 - Looking to increase the amount paid out for the culture fund. This funds school trips and buying in resources for every class. All the kids benefit. Last fiscal year spent £4k. Looking to increase for next year.
 - **Action:** Sandra B to look at process for funding (funding in\out) and letting parents know what the culture fund funds. P4 visited the Water of Leith centre and wrote a lovely thank you letter to PSA. Culture Fund is one of the most successful items PSA fund. Examples are the Book Festival visit by whole school, Imagine and Science Festival, Scottish Book Trust buying in authors, visits to Scottish Story Telling Centre
 - Drummond is going to be the volleyball school of excellence. P7 free volleyball coaching is being offered to Broughton.
 - Will buy basketball hoop once building work is completed

- Fiona Vacher looking at gardening club and therapeutic gardening for school children.

PSA Minutes 21/11/2018

We ran out of time in the meeting to hold the PSA meeting so updates have been emailed in. Please see below:

- Café £421 raised
- Disco £987
- 7/12 Fri Xmas café – invite families to make sparkle jars, Nic will judge, 3 winners art supplies, guess weight of the cake, lolly lottery £10 book token – 10 runners up bag of sweets, wine lottery, donations of wine. Donations of raffle prizes, alcohol, biscuits, Amazon fire tablet – for pupil raffle run by pupil council. Tickets, £1. Guess name of the Teddy – 30p per ticket. Request to P1 and P2 families to donate savouries, soup and hotdogs. Need volunteers between 9:30 and 2:00 pm. Language class children go at 11:00 so a bit quieter. And come back and have mince pies with their parents.
- Anne Hay - will step down due to work commitments. If every parent can help for a little would really help
- **EMF Update:** We have 59 children signed up.
 - Newsletter will go out by the end of this week. This gives an update on the 2018 success and encourage people to register for the 2019 races.
 - Our focus for 2019 is participation (rather than fundraising- although we will do that too) and reaching families who have not taken part before.
 - PSA funding 2 free places per class (although we didn't get this agreed tonight). Free draw to take place asap in January.
 - Plan to approach EMF and ask them to match these free places, in recognition that we are a great advert for EMF yet 1 in 4 of our families live in poverty.
 - Pilrig Park runs will start in March 2019.
 - Can we get children who have ran before to talk to others about what good fun it is and encourage more people to register. Can Catriona and Sandra do anything else, e.g. at a drop in to help people sign up?
- **154 Macdonald Road Update:** Comprehensive email from Stuart Montgomery (Kingsford) re tenant situation. 30% of lets now 'long term' and aim is to have all units let to long term tenants by March 2019. On-site team would welcome visitors from school community. Plan to have 'resident events' and would like to foster constructive relationship with school.