

St. Mary's Parent Council



Chair: Louise Mackie

Secretary: Melanie Divine-Vernon

Treasurer: Pauline McGillivray / Joanne Gilfillan

St Mary's Parent Council Minutes - 14th November 2023, 6.30pm

Attendees

Gillian McLaughlin HT
Sandra Watson
Joanne Gilfinnan
Louise Bent
Margaret Laird

Melanie Devine-Vernon
Sarah Henderson
Pauline McGillivray
Stephanie Farrell
Andy Carmichael (Councillor)

Apologise

Angela Donnelly
Louise Mackie

Kirsty Wilson
Lesley McDonald (Councillor)

Head Teachers Report

- New approach to writing being introduced next term – Talk for Writing.
- Staff attending CLPL activities over the next two weeks.
- New planning formats being trialled between now and Jan – As suggested by HMI.
- SLC Budget Cuts leaflet shared / consultation on twitter a few weeks ago.
- School Website currently being re-designed (one page site).
- New ties have arrived, all Primary 7 pupils now have these.
- Thank you to Mrs Laird for donation of mugs for Coffee Mornings
- PB Budget result was to subsidise trips/excursions.

Councillor Update

- Budget - will be tight in every service over the next three years. Education will be somewhat protected, but all resources will not be protected in the same way.
- Upgrade M74 Slip Road and Junction - Work on the new traffic junction will begin on 8th January last for 6 months.
- Licensing Board - Everest Inn, located at the old Machan Volts. The new Nepalese Restaurant has received their licence and is opening on 1st December.

- McDonalds - A meeting is planned for next week to discuss the possibility of a McDonalds next to Lidl. The Councillor will update the PC at their next meeting in January.
- Leisure Centre - £13million has been protected for the new leisure centre. The timescale for the centre is unknown.
- Payback Fund - The HT is to meet regarding works to reading area.
- Melanie asked Councillor Carmichael to contact Colin Smith, Engineering Officer Traffic & Transportation section of SLC. The PC has concerns regarding the safety of the school community on the junction on McNeill Steet and Raploch Road. The Whitelaws bus stops at the shop at the end of the road making it difficult for everyone coming from St. Marys driving / crossing the road as well as people getting off the bus.

Halloween Disco - The children had a great time at the disco. £228 in total was raised for school funds. The PC would like to thank Thomas McAllister & Sons for donating the fruit.

Christmas Coffee Morning - the PC will be raffling a £100 Asda Voucher during the coffee morning on the 8th December.

School Uniform - At the moment a tartan pinafore is not part of the St Mary's uniform, however the HT is happy to take this to the wider parent forum to get their views. The HT will feedback to the PC.

P7 induction to Holy Cross - The two-day visit will take place on the 13th & 14th June 2024. Teachers from Holy Cross will be visiting St Mary's over the next term.

Treasurer Report

Current Balance - £1802.97

Funds - The Parent Council will donate to the following

- £100 selection boxes for the Christmas school party
- £180 to subsidise the Pantomime tickets
- £250 for an outdoor shed

Transport – Concerns were raised regarding taxis collecting children rather than the usual school bus. HT advised to contact SPT.

Next Meeting - 16th January 2024, 6.30pm

Parent Council Meetings 2024

- 16th January 2024
- 12th March 2024
- 7th May 2024
- 11th June 2024