

## **Minutes of Parent Council Meeting**

### **St Nicholas Primary School Parent Council Meeting**

**Date of meeting:** 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Time of meeting:** 6.30pm

**Location:** St Nicholas school staff room

**Present** Karen Brown (Head teacher), Louise McGuire (deputy head teacher), Rachel Gilmore, Andy Weir (Chair), Joanne Cook (acting Secretary), John Donnelly (treasurer), Claire Roxburgh (Vice treasurer/ church rep), Jenny Skeldon, Nicole Scherer-Dickson, Alan Morrison, Karen Neilson, Amanda (apologies for not knowing surname).

**Apologies** Lindsay Swinney, Fiona Bremner, Julie Zasada.

#### **Approve minutes of previous meeting**

##### **Minutes approved –**

breakfast club - children leaving school prior to playground assistants being outside is now resolved.

School uniform – colour confirmed as grey with school polo top/ white shirt and tie.

##### **Secretary position – Andy W –**

carry on to next meeting.

##### **Financial update – John D –**

account currently standing at £3990.45

##### **P7 Leavers Fundraising – all –**

hoodies are being discussed and organised, all agreed parent council to support these with a £10 donation per child towards hoodies. These will cost between £20 and £25 per hoodie depending on agreed design. The children are allowed to wear these to school in their final week. John D to follow up.

##### **P7 leavers –**

application are out, all parents are reminded to apply for their preferred school place and not assume they will automatically get a place at St Margarets.

##### **Parish update – Claire R –**

teas and coffees assisted by St Nicholas PS – mainly raising money to go to UNICEF, this is on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

Remembrance service – all schools were represented at the march on Sunday. The designer of the War Memorial at the Strathbrock was a pupil of St Nicholas PS and has recently got in touch with the school. Mrs Brown liaising with him.

Childrens Mass at 6pm on Christmas eve.

### **School update – Mrs Brown**

St Nicholas PS won the Sports Scotland Award – there will be a recognition evening at the Burgh Halls on the 29<sup>th</sup> November.

Erasmus – the school have invested several teachers in the Erasmus programme to support pupils in learning languages at Primary. Teachers visit a foreign country and are immersed in learning the native language for a week. This supports languages in the school. Children learn one language up to P5 and then 2 languages from P5 to P7.

DOJO – DOJO application is no longer to be used as it does not comply with GDPR regulations. The school are looking at alternatives.

Theatre night – Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat is on in March and the school will be organising a theatre night to see this.

Christmas Fayre – this is an enterprise night on the 4<sup>th</sup> December and is always very well attended.

Christmas parties – all organised – dates on the latest newsletter and website.

Movie night – to be confirmed, but will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Christmas events - Lower Primary will be doing nativities and the upper school will be hosting a mince pie and concert.

Regional improvement collaborative – St Nicholas is part of the Regional Group for Falkirk, Stirling and West Lothian. St Nicholas PS will be leading on numeracy.

Parent partnership – various parent engagement projects are ongoing in the school - FAST works continues in the school, Families Connect Programme and PEEP in the nursery, garden project with parent helpers and the ECO group.

### **Communication between school and parents – Nicole S-D**

Some parents occasionally miss communications re dressing down days and then children attend in uniform by mistake. Current systems of communication are not 100% effective at reaching all parents, but the school have many systems in place to combat this: email, website, Facebook, Twitter, paper newsletter and telling the children. The school continues to strive to address this issue and new digital technologies and apps may also help resolve this difficulty.

### **Turning circle action – Andy W**

Turning circle continues to raise a hazard for some children. Karen N advised shutting the gates to the turning circle at the end of school. Various discussions were had over how to resolve issues, but the school does not feel equipped to deal with parents inconsiderate parking and it is not appropriate to put teachers/ support staff/ janitors/ pupils in to confrontational situations over parking.

Time and date of next meeting – 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019.