

## St. John's Academy Parent Council

### Notes from the Annual General Meeting of the Parent Council, held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in the Lecture Theatre, North Inch Community Campus

Attendees: R. Blain, S. Hagney, D. Bald, J. Brash, N. McNaughton, C. Mella, A. Blain,  
L. Wardlaw, J. Jack, P. Ward, J. Flynn, A. Donaldson.

Apologies for absence: P. Crines

Mr. Blain, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then summarised the Parent Council's role (including community engagement and parent representation) and listed all those who had presented to the Parent Council over the last year (see Appendix below for details).

He spoke about fundraising events by the Parent Council (Summer Extravaganza and Halloween Parties), and then how the money raised was spent. The Parent Council spent over £3,500 on funding a variety of activities last year which was a great demonstration of parental support. (Again see Appendix below for details of approved funding requests).

He then thanked the Parent Council for their time and effort over the past year.

Mr. Hagney showed a presentation on what Primary pupils have been doing and then gave an overview of how well the school is doing, with attainment levels being up overall. There have been a number of changes to the Senior Leadership Team and it is hoped the full complement will be in place by December 2015. A copy of Mr. Hagney's report is attached to these Minutes. The annual Standards & Quality Report Summary will be available shortly on the school website. Mr. Hagney finished by showing a presentation on what Secondary pupils have been doing.

Mr. Blain thanked Mr. Hagney – and all teachers - and the election of new office bearers took place. Nominations were put forward and agreed.

Office Bearers for the school year 2015-16 are therefore as follows:

ROLE	PARENT
Chair	Julianne Flynn
Vice-Chair	Louise Wardlaw
Secretary	Jill Brash
Treasurer	Nikki McNaughton

### Treasurer's Report

For the first time our financial year has been aligned with that of Perth & Kinross Council. The balance at the end of March 2015 was £2,503.92. £1,500 was received from the Perth Common Good Fund which pays towards the Award Ceremony. Jill Brash advised she would summarise what other schools apply for. Suggestions for Agenda Future Topics / Speakers

- Eco Team re Green Flag Award
- Acting Depute Head, Mrs. Black, to be invited to a future meeting
- House Captains
- Head Girl and Head Boy

### AOB

The request was made for a professional accountant volunteer to provide audit services to the school.

Nikki Tolmie and Donna Ploetner are happy to continue with organising fundraising events but it was noted that more parent volunteers are required to help at these events.

Mr. Hagney thanked Mr. Blain for his excellent service to the Parent Council over the last six years, and especially for his support to both Mrs. May and himself.

Mr. Blain then thanked all those who had contributed to the Parent Council during the last school year and the meeting was closed.

### **SCHEDULE OF ACTIONS / INFO**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION / INFO</b>
Suggestions for talks / presentations for next session 2015/16	Send to Jill Brash (Secretary)
Date of Next Meeting	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov. at 7 pm NICC Conference Room FF002
Meeting Dates and Speakers for 2016 (final dates to be agreed at next meeting)	All 7-8.30 pm / Room FF002 - Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> January: speaker t.b.c. March: speaker t.b.c. April: speaker t.b.c. June: speaker t.b.c.
Fair Trade Ctte to be contacted (K. Golder) to arrange catering at future meetings	Aleta Donaldson

Contact: [sjparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sjparentcouncil@gmail.com) or Tweet us: @SJParentCouncil

[www.st-johnsacademy.org.uk](http://www.st-johnsacademy.org.uk)

APPENDIX - What we have done this year:

### Events / Fundraising

- Summer Extravaganza (£1000+)
- Halloween Parties (£238)
- First Communion
- P7 Leavers party
- Parent Council social evening (personally funded)
- Support: Christmas Event (£1,800 school fund)
- Comms: Parish Events, Youth Group Events
- Comms: Careers Academy

### Presentations / Activity

- Curriculum Planning – Mr. Lawrie / Mr. Hagney
- Pauline Ward - Careers Academy
- Pupils – Romania (Mercy Project)
- Seán Hagney – Ethiopia trip (January meeting)
- Seán Hagney – Romania trip (June meeting)
- Frankie McGuire – Santiago trip
- House Captains – School house points system
- Eleanor Brown + Pupils – Outdoor Learning Experiences
- Outdoor Education, such as Duke of Edinburgh
- Rights Respecting Schools Committee
- Teacher, parent and pupil questionnaire results (Mr. Stewart)
- P7 Parents Open Evening
- Demonstration of school tools, e.g. Linguascope

### Funding Requests (£3,540)

- St John's School's Hardship Fund donation
- Hong Kong Trip
- Snacks for Pila ski trip
- Sacraments of initiation prep books
- Football / hockey strips for primary
- Football strips for secondary
- Printing on the sports tops
- Parents' evening online booking system
- HE Payments to help parents
- Pila ski trip additional specialist instructor
- Linguascope
- Bus for education mass
- Primary cooking club

### Community Engagement / Parent Representation

- Parental feedback on course choices
- Challenges to the parking restriction
- Interviewing panel representation for new deputy head teachers (Mr. McAninch, Mr. Bald)
- Employability day (Julie Stevenson)
- The possibility of becoming a charity
- Comms: Strengthening families (leaflets)
- Comms: P1 Enrolment
- Comms: Harnessing Parent Power
- Upcoming interviewing panel representation for new interim head teacher

Now to help construct the agenda for the upcoming year and make sure that it is relevant for the parent community:

- New opportunities for parental engagement in the classroom
- Working with the new senior leadership team
- Teacher resourcing
- Feedback on the trips supported by the Parent Council
- Government initiatives for attainment

Everyone is welcome to contribute and volunteer to the Parent Council to help with these activities. We welcome as much or as little time as you can spare. Many hands make light work. In particular the fundraising events are looking for support from you as parents or from your secondary school children for some events.