

**St John's Academy Parent Council**  
**21 January 2019**



**Present:**

Nikki Tolmie  
 Nikki McNaughton  
 Nick Ward  
 Christine Robertson  
 Jan Jack  
 Clare Monaghan  
 Sean Hagney  
 Monika Kruk  
 Caroline Moore

		<b>Action</b>
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b></p> <p>Nikki T welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from Gill Slidders, Lynn Cameron and Donna Ploetner.</p> <p>Caroline Moore from Community Learning and Development was welcomed to the meeting. Caroline offered support to the group and wider community and gave an overview of some of the work she has been involved in:</p> <p>Art Group, Computing classes, Family club, Holiday activities</p> <p>Family club was discussed and Mr Ward recognised the fabulous opportunity this provides for our families during the winter months.</p> <p>Caroline spoke briefing regarding funding and work she does with the action partnership and Caroline to keep the group informed regarding any opportunities for funding.</p> <p>Caroline issued a leaflet regarding the service.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Notes and actions of previous meeting</b></p> <p>Minutes agreed.</p> <p>Lunch trolleys for the primary have been purchased and are in place and working well.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Chairperson Update</b></p> <p>Nikki T provided a brief update in Donna's absence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus of the group is on Easter Fayre on 23 March 10.30-12.30 – more information to follow. Nikki to check with reception that all available space have been booked.</li> <li>• Communion - 2 June 2019 – cake ordered and tea/coffee will be served.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Head Boy and Girl to be invited to help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• P7 Party – 7 June 2019 6.30-8.30 – arrangements in hand for this event.</li> <li>• Soft Starts – next meeting in February but unfortunately no-one available to attend.</li> <li>• P1 Information evening – Jan to share date and if someone available from parent council then they would attend to introduce themselves to new potential parents.</li> </ul>	
4	<p><b>Headteacher Update</b></p> <p>The nursery had a unannounced inspection from the Care Inspectorate before Christmas. This was very positive with very good/good evaluations. There were some action points around lunch provision which we are taking forward. The Care Inspectorate commented on the positive interactions, nurturing provision, and our focused and engaged young people.</p> <p>Advent and Christmas was a very busy time with lots of fundraising taking place for SCIAF.</p> <p>Winter Ball was a huge success with over 100 seniors pupils attending and they raised over £1000 for SCIAF.</p> <p>P2 Nativity was excellent as always, with our talented fundraisers raising an incredible amount for SCIAF.</p> <p>The Carol Service was well attended and a welcomed addition to our Advent activities.</p> <p>This term our focus is on Respect. We have RRS day coming up and staff will lead assemblies.</p> <p>Course Choice Information evenings commence at the start of February. Pupils will have more choices than ever before. Pupils will have access to more vocational options to expand pathways for all.</p> <p>SNSA testing has commenced for P1/4/7/S3 pupils and our experience of this testing at St John's has been very positive and this is an excellent support for our teachers.</p> <p>Trips – Wide variety of trips taking place through the school. Activity Days returning in the secondary for S1/2/3 pupils in addition to Health Week. More information to follow.</p> <p>Thematic Inspection taking place on 29 January 2019. HMI are gathering evidence for a national report and the focus is on Curriculum. Request for someone from the parent council to join the parents and partners focus group to be sent out.</p> <p>Questionnaire will be issued to pupils, parents, partners, staff at the start of February and will be open for the whole month. We are currently exploring new ways to engage with parents and will be trying to get parents to complete the questionnaire during parents evenings, soft starts or the school gate to try increase our response rate as we only received 70 response from parents last year.</p>	

	School Fund has been audited and all well. Awaiting the minute and certificate.	
<b>5/6</b>	<p><b>Treasurer Update/Parent Council Funding requests</b></p> <p>Update from Nikki McN - Balance £2279.00. No bids received for discussion however there was discussion around See-Saw and benefits of this system to our primary pupils. It was agreed that the parent council would consider a contribution towards See-Saw once we have more details regarding costs. It was also noted from parents who were part of the pilot that the comments section is available and Jan to discuss with See-Saw whether this is mandatory or can be removed as an additional task for teachers to approve all the comments.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Secretary Update</b></p> <p>No update.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Brief events update</b></p> <p>Discussed above.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>After School Activities</p> <p>Concern was raised regarding club being cancelled last minute and communication with parents. Agreed protocol required to be put in place so staff know what to do. Parents also noted their appreciation for teacher volunteering to support clubs and recognised that things do crop up or staff absence can lead to club being cancelled.</p> <p>New houses</p> <p>Parent advised group regarding unofficial Facebook that has been set up and comments regarding St John's pupils and litter. Resident also comments that the new lamppost bins are always full. Contact with the Housing group to be made to make them aware of the bin situation and requirement to empty more regularly.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>13 May 2019 at 6pm</p>	