

Sciennes PS Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday March 24th 2024 @ 7pm
via MS Teams

Voting attendees:

Caroline McKellar, Chair
Leda Sharkey, vice chair
Grant Catto, comms group
LeeAnne Boyle, Co Treasurer
Elinore Mc Givern, P1 Rep
Franca Macleod, P4 Rep
Gidona Henderson, P6 Rep
Shane Buckeridge, P7 Rep
Claire Carr, Fundraising & Events Co-Convenor
Rachel Gregson, Fundraising & Events Co-Convenor
Christine Knox, P5 Rep
Josie Pilcher, Fruit Group
Chigdem Arslan, ASN Rep

Non-voting attendees:

Sharon McGhee, HeadTeacher
Lucy Gallagher, DHT
Carolyn Anstruther, DHT
John Armstrong, DHT
D Gladstone
Amanda Vardy, clerk
Jo Lake
Jennifer McGill
Nicky Arkinson
Joe Burns
Joel
Susie B
Sarah Alexander
Stems Florist (Kate)
Abhijit
Doro Griffith
1x Unknown Guests
Kirsty MacDonald
Henry Preston

Welcome

Caroline opened the meeting with a welcome to everyone. Caroline gave a brief overview of the meeting agenda.

Succession Planning.

New Chair & Vice Chair required before the end of the session to facilitate a smooth handover.

Apologies

Lena Lornez, P2 Rep
Janine, Clubs convenor

Previous Minutes

Approved

Headteacher Update

Sharon McGhee

- Massive Thank you to PC once again
- Very successful P6/7 Disco, children had so much fun.
- P4 Scot's Night was a magnificent event
- World Book Day was enjoyed by all
- Costume Library for any children who need to borrow costumes
- New Business Manager appointed – Pamela Gardner
- Vacancies at St Leonard's have been actioned
- Meeting with the Learning Community, JGHS Feeder schools on 19th March
- Learning Community Plan
- Learning Study Approach
- Parental Progress Meetings
- Survey on Equalities – Jenny/Lucy
- Anti-Racism Curriculum
- Remakery – promotion for next year
- School Inspection
- Follow up visit on 28th May
- Planning
- Attainment
- Learning and Teaching
- GIFREC
- Meeting with families, children, staff
- Weekly video to all children is very well received
- "It's me, Ms McGhee!"
- Learning Plan for next year
- Health & Wellbeing Focus
- P2/P7 Classroom redesign
- P7 classrooms on hold for the time being as there is difficulty sourcing the required furniture from an approved supplier
- P2 design and planning going ahead
- Library redesign planned by BOOKSPACE – @£20000 - looking for PC funding
- PC Funding ½ cost
- School funding ¼ cost
- FFS/other funding ¼ cost

Any further questions for the HeadTeacher to be directed to the admin@sciennes email address

Treasurer Report

LeeAnne Boyle

- £35000 in the bank
- £15500 has been spent from the current spending plan (£32000 full spending plan) – invoice to school by end of March
- £16240 to replace the Astroturf in the playground – funding from PC, FFS, Afterschool club & school – work to be carried out during the summer holidays
- St Leonard's Nursery received £800 grant for Harvest Garden
- School always seeking alternative funding form many other sources

- Library Furniture Funding request from school @ £10000 – vote to approve
11 Votes – YES – APPROVED

Group Updates

Playground Update

Caroline

- Extending playground into road area permanently
- Working hard with local councilors, an incredibly supportive team
- Met with local councilors
- Restricted access during school hours – full road closure during those hours
- 2-part closure process
- TRO not been to public consultation yet – to be progressed as urgent
- Objections not expected.
- Only material objections ie Parking would delay the process
- TRO partial closure – one path of public access – if this is the only option achievable then it needs to be done right.
- Formal closure of the road expected by beginning of next Session.
- Design & Implementation stage
- Meet with school to discuss design plan.
- Good meeting with the designer, positive and happy with the school requests
- TRO plans to be shared – closure to traffic during school hours- parking suspended.
- Further TRO can be submitted with the amendments when the other one is in place.
- Additional TRO would be a parallel process.
- An ETRO (Experimental TRO) which requires no legislation can also be applied for and these last for 18 months.
- Close area from school to nature strip during school hours
- Pedestrians/Bike Lane to be channeled along the nature strip side of the pavement.
- Fire/Ambulance happy with TRO plans
- ETRO and TRO are separate processes.
- *LeeAnne – are there any anticipated costs related to the road closure and design?*
- *No anticipated cost at this stage but the school may want to purchase extra play/safety equipment later which may incur costs.*
- *Could free parking at drop-off and pick-up times be considered to make the process easier and encourage parents to park a little further away from the school? ie Lauder Road etc*
- *Signage & barriers to show times of the road closure.*

Comms Update

Grant Catto

- WhatsApp at 384 members
- Link to be sent via individual class reps to promote.
- Comms going out for upcoming events.
- Grant to meet with Lucy tomorrow re Safer Streets Update

Fundraising and Events

Claire Carr/Rachel Gregson

- Bake Sale raised £314
- P6/7 Disco raised £453
- Uniform sale raised £218
- School shop available via the new school website - £12000 raised via this platform to date
- eCommerce site on website
- School badges for sale - sold on ParentPay
- An ask for Uniform Sales to be on alternative days to only Fridays for parents who work – any volunteers would be very welcome
- 2nd hand uniform items are available via the online shop if specific items are required
- Some upcoming events
 - Photos – 24/25th April
 - P7 Tea towels
 - P7 Yearbooks

- Summer Fair – 8th June - lead volunteers to manage each stall and rota of helpers
- Possible P6/&7 Disco – May TBC
- Spring Cup – 11th May – fundraising for the Football Club

Football

Gordon Stove

No Update

Eco Group

Kirstin Unger

No Update

Clubs

Janine

No Update

Any questions please email Janine via the sciennes clubs email

Fruit Group

Josie Pilcher

No Update

ASN Update

Chigdem Arslan

- Meeting with the school to support children with any neurodiverse conditions, and to offer support to families/siblings/friends etc
- Formal gathering planned for Sept/October
- Survey to seek parents who would be happy to offer peer support to other parents with neurodiverse children
- Kit bags for ASN kids for each classroom
- Library of ASN resources
- Next week is NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK
- Possible WhatsApp support group?
- Links to resources to be shared via website
- Website – www.neurodiversityweek.com/resource-hub
- School very supportive of children with ASN – thanks to be passed onto the staff group

AOCB

- *Kate - Mobile Phone Policy -? filming on mobile phones – Sharon will investigate this and report back*

Succession Planning / Vacant Roles

- Leda resigning from Vice Chair role at end of session , New Vice-Chair required
- New Vice Chair to work with Caroline for 1 year before Caroline resigns from the role of Chair at the end of session 23/24, Vice-Chair to take over role of Chair when Caroline leaves.
- FFS – Fundraising person required could be a current member of the Sciennes PC Fundraising group.
- Football Group Treasurer
- Co-Treasurer

Caroline closed the meeting at 8.30pm with Thanks to everyone who attended.

Next Meeting date 16th May 2024 via MS Teams

AGM 12th June 2024 in school, time, and venue TBC