

Date: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Location: Teams
Time: 6.30pm

**Subject:** Parent Council Annual General Meeting

### In attendance:

Staff: Sheona Allen (HT) Lorraine Donnelly Hilary Roddick

Jill Donald Amy Gray

Parents: Jennifer Schofield Jill Penman Angela McGhee

(Chair) (Vice Chair) (Clerk)

Susan Tate Nic McColm Emma Henderson
Louise Thompson Maureen Matheson Justine Currie
Risha Davda Josyln Currie Jill Penman
Joyce Thomson Emma Donaldson Karen McBride

Heather Murray Nicola Scott

### 1. Welcome

Jennifer Schofield, Chair, welcomed old and new members. Thanked everyone for attendance and for responding to her email looking for year group representation and participation in the meeting.

### 2. Chair Report

Our Chair talked a little about the role of the Parent Council and how important it has been, particularly in the last year, as a support network for the school and to keep the lines of communications open between the school and parents.

She reiterated that the Parent Council meetings are open to all and we welcome parent/carer participation. Should any parents have any connections of their own that they could bring to the school then this is always welcome.

Chair pointed out that Lenzie Meadow also have a very strong PTA and there are often opportunities for the two to join up and support each other.

Most importantly though, tonight is the start of a new year with new thoughts and voices and an aim to meet regularly to be a strong and supportive Parent Council.

<sup>\*</sup>There were other parents present but as this was a Teams meeting the names weren't collated. Going forward we will take a register\*



### 3. Office Bearer Elections

Committee members and year group representatives are appointed at the AGM and as such have voting rights, should any motion require a vote. In practice however, votes are seldom needed.

Chair – Jennifer Schofield Vice-Chair – Jill Penman Clerk – Angela McGhee

All Office Bearer positions were uncontested and agreed by all attendees.

## Year Group Reps:

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P7	Risha Davda	Heather Murray	
P6	Nic McColm	Susan Tate	
P5	Emma Donaldson	Karen McBride	
P4	Josyln Currie	Jennifer Schofield	
P3	Justine Currie	Maureen Matheson	
P2	Joyce Thomson		
P1	Emma Henderson	Nicola Scott	

Nursery Louise Thompson

There is space for another rep at Nursery and Primary 2 level if anyone is interested. The role of the Rep is to gather feedback and questions from their year group to bring to the Parent Council.

### 4. Head Teachers Report

The HT started by expressing thanks for the last year which has been particularly hard so it's been good to have real support from the Parent Council.

Mrs Allen started by talking about the vision for the school to create learners who are happy, confident, motivated and responsible individuals who strive to achieve their very best in all pursuits. #bethebestyoucanbe

Mrs Allen shared Attainment levels from June 2021 for each level:

	READING	WRITING	L&T	NUMERACY
Early Level	87%	90%	91%	91%
(by end of P1)	(EDC 91%)	(EDC 90%)	(EDC 94%)	(EDC 94%)
First Level	93%	93%	97%	93%
(by end of P4)	(EDC 89%)	(EDC 86%)	(EDC 91%)	(EDC 90%)
Second Level	92%	88%	97%	90%
(by end of p7)	(EDC 91%)	(EDC 87%)	(EDC 93%)	(EDC 88%)



Mrs Allen notes how incredible the First and Second results are given the challenging year we've had. She isn't concerned about the early levels – they have missed quite a bit of time in school but she is confident they will pick it up with lots of settling and transitional work going on.

Parent asks whether adjustments were made to EDC bench marks to account for the impact of Coronavirus. Mrs Allen said no adjustments were made and also noted that Scottish averages are way lower so our children are doing very well.

### **School Improvement**

Mrs Allen says this has been the most challenging School Improvement plan she has done – where do you go next after such a disruptive year...

So much work has gone into Literacy and Numeracy in the last few years and it will still continue to be a focus, but we are branching away as there is much else to look at.

Major priority going forward is on increasing Employability Skills. Will be looking at how to teach skills and apply them in new and different learning situations.

The next priority will be to raise the children's attainment through increasing children's confidence in reading for pleasure. What was noticed during lockdown and seeing children in the hubs was that getting children to really love reading translated into increased confidence in all aspects of learning so, this year, the school has appointed teachers who can work with these children throughout the week. The teachers are Miss Roddick and Mrs Morrison who will work with all children but specifically those who really need it.

Finally, improving health and wellbeing through continuing to create a language and communication friendly environment and ensuring that every child gets what they need.

### **PEF**

The school has received £59,177 for this academic year:

This has been allocated as follows:

£54258 – teachers (as per second priority on the school improvement plan)

£3069 - sumdog & rapid reading

£500 – motivational surveys for parents

£2088.31 – standardised assessment package for Numeracy & Literacy

#### Reporting

As Per EDC guidelines, reporting will be in the form of a phone call with the class teacher. No definite date as to when this will happen as time needed to sort the logistics of how to do this. Written reports will still be provided as normal and Mrs Allen said she is hopeful to do another reporting call later in the school year.

Question from parent asking what the EDC thinking is re parent's nights when so many other events like football games etc are allowed to go ahead as normal.

Mrs Allen said that the agreement to have one reporting call has been determined by the council and the Parent Forum and the Unions. As always, Government guidance dictates what we are allowed to do.



Comment from parent who works within university setting and points out that 50 people will be allowed to be in an auditorium so isn't convinced that something similar couldn't be adapted to classroom. Chair notes that it is great that LM is aiming for two reporting phone calls.

Comment from parent that a lovely part of parent's night was seeing their child's classroom and looking through some of their work so would be good to find some way to still do this Mrs Allen talked about the Thing Link that was just posted on each class Teams where the children talked about parts of their day and showed us around the various parts of their classroom.

### 5. Nursery Update

Amy told us about the massive changes within the nursery due to the new 1140 hour model now in place however, she noted that, although it's been challenging to implement, the benefits to parents and children have been fantastic. It allows staff to get to know children even better and gives so much more flexibility to parents. There are no "bubbles" within the nursery although there are 3 sittings for lunches.

Focus going forward is on nurture and resilience and the development of the Forest School for outdoor learning which funding has been set aside for. Talk for Writing is generally loved by children and aim is to try and involved parents a bit more with that.

"Things going well" questionnaire will be going out to parents soon and reporting phone calls have been taking place already.

Generally, the children are very well settled.

Comment from parent who had had their phone call and found it very reassuring. Also felt that the learning journals were so valuable as were the usual videos on facebook. Particularly appreciated the introduction video posted with **all** staff so that children and parents know who everyone is.

### 6. Next Meeting

Chair proposed the following dates for Parent Council Meetings which were agreed.

4<sup>th</sup> October 15<sup>th</sup> November 17<sup>th</sup> January 14<sup>th</sup> March

9<sup>th</sup> May

20th June

Meeting brought to a close with final message from Chair encouraging Reps and Parents to get out networking with the parent body and bring any feedback or questions back to the Parent Council.

