

# MINUTES



**Date:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
**Location:** Teams  
**Time:** 6.30pm  
**Subject:** Parent Council Meeting

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## In attendance:

**Staff:** Lorraine Donnelly AHT Hilary Roddick  
Rona Wallace (Newly appointed HT – takes up post 14/02/24 In Service Day)

**Parents:** Lyndsey Saunders Louise Thompson Shirley-Anne Brightman  
(Chair) (Vice-Chair) (Clerk)

Catherine Paterson David Munn Diana Dundas  
Emma Henderson Heather Dickson Maureen Matheson  
Jill Penman Joyce Thomson Nicola Scott

**Guest:** Emma Donaldson

**Apologies:** Jill Donald Joslyn Currie Lindsey McDiarmid  
Jennifer Macdonald Laura Kennedy

## 1. Headteacher Update

Lorraine wished all attendees a happy new year.

- **Trim Trail**

The money raised by the PTA for an outdoor classroom is no longer going to be used for this due to the costs and also in the light of recent vandalism. The new proposal is to resurface the ground underneath the trim trail so that it can be used in all weathers. The PTA and local authority have been consulted and AHT is waiting for the response from Estates. This is on the agenda for the PTA meeting 16/01/24 also. Some of the money may also be used for more playground games to be painted onto the playground surface.

- **Football Code of Conduct and Pupil Survey**

A survey of the P5-7 classes was carried out as suggested at the October PC AGM. Of 288 pupils, only 108 said they enjoyed playing football or sometimes enjoyed it. The majority (180 pupils) said they didn't enjoy playing football. Reasons giving for enjoying it included: helping with training outside of school, makes them happy, make new friends, learn new skills. Reasons why not: falling out, arguments, gets rough, the fighting, swearing and people disagreeing about the rules. When asked if they thought football should be completely banned, the majority said no, they did not want a complete ban. Conclusion has been that the space and time it takes up is too much. When asked how to

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improve things, the children said they needed more sets of goals and a referee. The Code of Conduct has not been applied consistently. It isn't being followed at all. There has been push back from parents when pupils have had a temporary ban after not following the Code of Conduct. The support staff are going to be shown the survey results and a rota is going to be looked at which is working successfully with the P7s.

- **Homework survey responses**

Only had 114 responses to the homework survey. Parents on the call flagged up that P4 and P5 could not access the survey link so this will be sent out again. Of the responses given, children said they enjoyed more active tasks, things to do with current affairs and online challenges like Sumdog. AHT suggested more project based homework over a number of weeks could be an option. Children also asked for more STEM challenges.

EH passed on from her year group that there were issues with things needing to be printed at home for homework. Chair responded that teachers will usually print it for those who can't print at home. AHT commented that the sorts of tasks being set need to be looked at.

- **Outside equipment/shed/repairs**

Following recent damages due to vandalism, the POMP storage shed will be removed and the welly shed is also in need of repair. The PTA will be asked to fund repairs/replacement.

- **Zebra crossing**

Gavin Haire from EDC sent a request for zebra crossings to be repainted and hasn't yet heard back at the time of the meeting. Since the meeting and before the minutes were finalised, the crossings have been repainted. EH suggested we look at a similar set of parking signs to Lairdsland Primary.

- **Lunch/salad bar**

The LMPS Kitchen Manager has been keen to trial a salad bar as part of the lunchtime offering. This has been supported by EDC and will be trialled. A P5 parent flagged to the PC that P5-7 children were frequently not getting their choices at lunch despite the ordering system. CP asked that an email be sent to parents to remind children they must take what they chose in the morning. DM asked what the situation is at other schools and the Chair reported from the PC Chair Forum that LMPS is not the only school with this issue. Other schools have the same issues and worse where they are running out of food completely – LMPS is a cooking kitchen which means at least there is always food for everyone.

## 2. Introduction to new Headteacher

RW introduced herself and said she was excited to be taking up her post. She has 29 years of experience in teaching including eight and a half as headteacher of Lennoxton. Her focus and passion is Learning and Teaching. She's signed up to go on one of the P7 residentials and looks forward to getting to know them early on.

## 3. AOCB

Weather warning for tomorrow – AHT confirmed that school would be open as usual unless a message is sent. Only reasons for closure would be if there was a problem with the heating or a safety issue.

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AHT thanked the PC for the positive comments passed onto her by the Chair prior to the meeting. JT added that the Beat Buddies show was amazing and thanks to Mr Berkley. EH thanked AHT for keeping the school going during the recruitment of the new HT.

Note: Date of next meeting – 19th February 2024 via Teams. Any items for the agenda to be sent before 9<sup>th</sup> February.