



Flora Stevenson Primary School Parent Council AGM

Thursday the 21st of September 2023
7 pm – 8 pm, on-line.

Website: FLORA STEVENSON PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Contact: florastevensonpc@gmail.com

Parent Council: Nathalie Findlay (Chair – to stand down), Areti Chavale (Co-Chair), Ruth Prowser (Club & Event Co-ordinator), Jeremy Rogers (Treasurer – to stand down), Julie Addington (Secretary), Catharine Steven (Nominated as Co-Chair). **Parents:** Ali Slack (7C), Alison (P2B&P4B), Caroline, Cati (P6A&P3B), Colin McGill (P1C&P2A), Darren Purdie, Elaine, Emmanuelle Mure, Erica Stewart-Jones (P5B), Mercy Baah, Mike (P1B), Natalia, Nicola Colston, Riona (P1B), Sarah (P3A&P5C), Sue (P5), Vikas Garg, Vitalija (P1C&P6B), Willa, Alex T (P5C), Diane (P6A), Harris (P6A), Jane (P1A&P6A), Ivan Cabau Sole, Jenny (P1C&P4B), Jo Mitchell, Judith, Kate Laughland (P1B), Kiara (P1C), Laura, **Юлия Поршнева** **School Staff:** Susie Morgan (Acting Head Teacher), Eleanor Dickson (Depute Head Teacher), Mark Aitchison (Acting Depute Head Teacher), Mr Baxter (Depute Head Teacher), Ali (Flora Stevenson After School Club).

Apologies: Councillor Hal Osler, Councillor Max Mitchell, Ryan McGill - Active Schools Co-ordinator.

Minutes from the previous meeting: Approved by Areti Chavale.

Ref.	Item	Action required
1.0	<p>Head Teacher Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome new families – diversity is Flora’s Strength. - Thanks, Nathalie Findlay, Parent Council Chair, who is stepping down from the role. Nathalie has done a fantastic job. - Appeal to parents: The Parent Council is Important. It is a brilliant way for parents/carers to be involved in their child's education. It’s your way to get into the room where the decisions are made. You can get to know other parents and make meaningful changes. <p>School Improvement Plan Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IT – working towards digital school’s award led by Mr Baxter - Reading for pleasure – driven a lot by the work of the parent council improvements in the library. Working towards the ‘Reading Schools Award’. Reading for pleasure has a significant impact on children’s attainment. Ms Dixon and Mr Fullerton are leading on this. - Equalities –Working towards the Rights Respecting Schools Award, led by Mr Aitchison. - Parental involvement and engagement: continuing parent groups and parent support coffee morning. ASN Parents already have the opportunity to support one another via their sub-group, which includes school staff and outside support agencies. - EAL Group – possibly. - Form Parent working groups – learning workshops, online resources and ways for children to learn. 	

2.0	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>The Treasurer, Jeremy Rogers, is stepping down from the role because his son has moved on to Broughton High School. Jeremy thanked the PC for being so welcoming when he was new to the school. We all agreed that he had done an incredible job.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An independent examination of the Parent Council Accounts will be completed, and we will report back at the next PC meeting and publish these accounts on our website for transparency. If anyone has any questions, contact the parent council via email. - The opening bank balance was just over £27,200. We have raised just under £7,500 through the activities of the fundraising team across many different events, the biggest contributions again came from the Christmas Cards at just over £2000, closely followed by the Christmas Fair and all the bake sales combined, both brought in just over £1600 each. I have included a bake sale event which raised just over £500 from the previous year in this year's figures so it looks as though there is a great difference between years, but this difference is due to the timing of banking the takings only. Each bake sale on average brings somewhere around the £400 mark so thanks to everyone who helped with those and please continue to support us this year and either send in some cakes or help out at the events. - Other fundraising items were the lotto, which we have now paused as the dwindling numbers of players made its continuation unfeasible, Easyfundraising brings in over £300 each year so please sign up if you haven't already and Edinburgh Council. We also ran events such as the Kith and Kin picnic (which we were very unlucky with the weather), the Ceilidh, and the International Fair which were run as community events to bring us all together rather than for the sole purpose of fundraising. - The Parent Council has supported a variety of activities across the school. In total, we have spent just over £17,800 working with the school staff and other groups operating within the school. Just over £500 went into Lotto prizes and the licence, so congratulations if you were one of the winners. We also helped with many funding requests that were all voted on by the parents at PC meetings. The main ones were the Imagine events that all the children went on at just over £4200, the pedagogy blocks at around £3300, Scottish Opera for the P7s at £900, playground paint at £830, and we also funded many books and sporting equipment purchases amongst others. We also bought a candy floss machine and giant game sets which can be used at all our events in the future. - Our closing bank balance is about £16900 but the parents agreed to fund 4 projects at the June PC meeting (loose parts, library books, library software and chess tournament entries) which we haven't paid out yet so that takes us down to £14,553.20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Independent examination of PC accounts to be conducted. - Upload the accounts spreadsheet to the website. - Actively promote: <p>Easyfundraising</p> <p>Stikins Code: 7394</p>
3.0	<p>Chair Report</p> <p>Nathalie Findlay, the current Chair, is stepping down after doing a fantastic job for the last two and a half years.</p>	

	<p>Areti Chavale has joined Nathalie as Co-Chair and will be taking over. Areti hopes we will be able to build a great team and urged parents to join; she can assure everyone there is absolutely no hierarchy. We are all in it together!</p> <p>Aim of the Parent Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing the funds raised so that all children in our school can benefit whether it's in the library, the playground, sports or outings. - Introducing new clubs: including partnerships with l'institut Francais, Code Ninjas, Dungeons and Dragons, and a mindfulness and yoga club. We're welcoming back all the clubs led by Ryan, the Active Schools coordinator, and Spanish, drama and chess. Our new events committee has already started bringing us coffee social mornings and has an amazing calendar of events planned for this school year. - We have two sub-groups running, one dedicated to ASN, who meet regularly and another dedicated to the playground, which is gaining momentum amid a massive amount of administrative quagmire. 	
4.0	<p>Appointment of committee members</p> <p>Catherine Steven – Co-Chair</p> <p>Cat has put herself forward to become the Co-Chair. Cat is a P1 parent with two younger children coming to the school. She is a former teacher who now works in customer service.</p> <p>Meeting participants voted in Cat.</p> <p>Fiona Kelly – Treasurer</p> <p>I'm Fiona, and I'd love to be part of the parent council as the treasurer. My son Ryan has just started in P1, and after seeing all the great things that the parent council have helped facilitate for the school, I'd really like to help with future projects. I work for a FinTech company as a Learning and Development Lead, providing onboarding training to new staff and development courses for the rest of the office. I've previously worked as an Operations Director in property and have experience with budgets and payments that I hope will be useful for this position.</p> <p>Meeting participants voted in Fiona.</p>	<p>JA to email the school to ask them to update the PC details on the website here: Parent Council – Welcome to The Flora Stevenson Primary School</p> <p>Areti Chavale – Co-Chair Catherine Steven – Co-Chair Fiona Kelly – Treasurer Ruth Prowser & Brandy Frazer - Events and Fundraising. Julie Addington – Secretary</p>
5.0	<p>Funding Requests</p> <p>There were four funding requests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prefect Bibs 2. Sports Tops 3. Wooden Blocks 4. Football Kit <p>All were approved via a 'Zoom Poll' that captures the opinion of all meeting participants.</p>	<p>Upload PDF of funding requests.</p>
6.0	<p>Active Schools Update - Ryan McGill - Active Schools Co-ordinator</p>	

	<p>Ryan has shared the following statement: <i>Worth noting that, so far, there have been no major issues with bookings, etc, this term. I have spoken with a few individuals who had difficulties with the system, but most of them had success now. Clubs are booking up or are fully booked up. We are still working on adding other clubs to the timetable (P6 football and P5/6 mixed football should be advertised next week)—a big thank you to the parents who are delivering clubs again this term.</i></p> <p><i>Feel free to ask any questions and then send them my way later. I'd be happy to answer them, so they are ready for the next meeting, or email via the school account to all families if there is anything pressing that comes from it.</i></p>	
7.0	<p>AOB:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After School Club and the use of the playground, we have invited Nikki from FSASC to make a statement this evening. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is our understanding that the conditions of the let are currently being looked at. Until the terms of the let are made available, we don't feel there is anything more we can do at the Parent Council level. We have escalated the matter to the school, there is an open dialogue, and things are progressing. - We want to remind parents and carers about the use of online channels. Facebook etc is a great way to share information, but we urge people to be mindful before using them as a place to criticise people or organisations that are not part of the group. We are a small school, and we value healthy debate, but posts stop being a debate when they are at the expense of someone who cannot respond. <p>Nikki – Flora Stevenson After School Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Care Inspectorate has contacted all after-school clubs because there has been a rise in children leaving after-school care without an adult. - They are asking settings to evaluate how they keep their children safe. - The newly implemented changes are for safety reasons. The after-school club has 130 children and nine staff. We have to be able to keep direct vision of all at once. This is incredibly hard with other children and adults in the playground. - We are happy to open communication; further issues can be raised with the school or be brought to future Parent Council meetings. 2. Item raised: printouts for homework: parents don't all have access to a printer. Could the school possibly identify those families and make some arrangements, either by limiting the requirement for printing or some other solution? 	