

CAMPIE PRIMARY PLAYGROUND NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter!

We would like to update you on our progress and to invite you to share your ideas and to get involved! There are currently 3 parents on the playground committee (but you don't need to be a member of the Parent Council to join us or lend a hand).

What we have been doing....

We have been working tirelessly over the last 18 months or so to make progress on the playground. Here are just some of the things we have been busy doing (once our kids go to bed, or on a Friday morning before the school bell goes).....!

- **Visiting other schools** to get new ideas and learn from their experiences.
- **Applying for grants** to help pay for large scale improvements. Each application takes an average of 10 hours to complete (depending on the criteria) and the competition for funding is fierce!
- **Meeting different playground companies** to find out what is possible within the Campie playground and the costs attached to all of the options.
- **Meeting with East Lothian Council** to ensure that our plans comply with health & safety legislation and that we are able to buy materials/equipment at the best price.
- **Lobbying local councillors** to raise our profile and highlight the need for funding.



We have also established good links with the community justice department at the Council who are able to provide free manual labour for us (although we have to cover the cost of materials). So far, we have arranged for them to:

- **Clear the overgrown site beside the nursery.** This was a big job, but for the first time in years, it is now a usable space for the children again. We have exciting plans for that area – watch this space!
- **Replace the broken wooden posts** in some of the flower beds with heavy duty sleepers. This not only looks better, it will help stop the soil running on to the concrete and blocking the drains on rainy days (which is what can cause the big puddles next to the boats). We hope to install more sleepers over the summer.
- **Strip and re-paint the school railings and gates** which were flaking and rusty.
- **Remove the broken map** on the stone wall (we'd like your ideas about what we could replace that with).
- **Re-paint the metal snake** which was also rusty and chipped.

We are continuing to work with the Council on a never-ending list of improvements like these, but have to wait until they have the people available to do it for us.



What you told us you wanted....

After consulting extensively with the Campie community, here are some of improvements that the children and grown ups told us they wanted for the playground:

- MUGA – multi use games area
- Shelter for parents above amphitheatre seating
- Outside classroom
- Re-surfacing of some of the playground and refurbish/replace the boats
- Free play container to store items that encourage imaginative play
- Additional storage for bikes/scooters
- Fitness trail
- Climbing wall



GET INVOLVED!! If you have some time to lend a hand, fundraising ideas, access to equipment, or supplies that can be donated - please, please get in touch. We need all sorts of skills from builders, joiners, landscape designers and gardeners to people willing to help with grant applications, fundraising activities, communications, lobbying, ANYTHING at all! Also, if you work for a company that offers a match funding scheme, please let us know! If you can help, please contact Tansy on - 07871065725 or email: tansyclarke@hotmail.com

CAMPIE PRIMARY PLAYGROUND NEWSLETTER



Our biggest challenge

...is how we will pay for the 'big ticket' items listed above. The cost of them all is in the region of £85,000-£100,000!

However, the more parental and community involvement we have, the quicker we will be able to raise the money we need and potentially bring down costs by making the most of the skills and experience that we have on our door step.

Fundraising

There are 7 parents on the fundraising committee who commit a lot of their own time to planning and organising different activities. Thanks to their hard work and the generosity of the Campie Community, we have already raised a considerable sum this year:

- Guess the bunny's birthday and guess the number of eggs in the jar - £157
- Tesco Bag Pack – £859
- Beetle Drive – £300
- Summer Fair - £2,500!

SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

The fundraising team have also...

- **Signed Campie up for 'Easy Fundraising'**. This means that the school gets a percentage donation each time you shop online via the website.

- **Registered for 'Your School Lottery'**. This was more time consuming than expected, because we needed to apply for a special licence from the Council! However, the good news is that we receive 40p from every £1 ticket sold. There is a guaranteed winner from the school every week plus an additional chance to win £25,000.

So far, 29 people have signed up - which means that the school is projected to receive around £600 per year. If 250 people bought one ticket per week, it would raise £5,200 per year!! And the more people that buy tickets, the bigger the prize fund too!

Next, the fundraising team are planning an art exhibition, the Christmas fair and Christmas cards – with all funds going to the playground.

We really need to secure a large grant (s) to pay for expensive equipment like a MUGA, but we hope to use some of the funds raised so far on some of the smaller things that the children can start enjoying. If you have ideas about what we should prioritise – please let us know!

You can raise money every time you shop on-line through.....



How it works



You can raise money by playing.....



Campie Parent Council will receive 40p from every £1 raised. There is a guaranteed prize for one of the players in your school EVERY week plus a chance to win a £25,000 jackpot!

Sign up today!

GET INVOLVED!! If you have some time to lend a hand, fundraising ideas, access to equipment or supplies that can be donated - please, please get in touch. We need all sorts of skills from builders, joiners, landscape designers and gardeners to people willing to help with grant applications, fundraising activities, communications, lobbying, ANYTHING at all! Also, if you work for a company that offers a match funding scheme, please let us know!

If you can help, please contact Tansy on - 07871065725 or email: tansyclarke@hotmail.com