



Campie Community

Campie Primary Parent Council Annual Report 2016/17

As most of you will probably agree, the school year seems to tick by at lightning speed and the old adage, *“so much to do, so little time”* seems all too real.

As a Parent Council our focus for the 2016/17 school session was to continue to engage with the school community, move forward with our plans for improving Campie’s outdoor spaces and continue to represent our school in the wider community.

Parent Council: School Activities

The Campie Community calendar is usually jam-packed with activities to bring the school community together and raise funds for ongoing projects, and the 2016/17 session was no different. The fundraising team came through in fine fashion with a series of events providing something for everyone.

In October, the witching hour fell upon Campie as the fundraising team organised **SPOOKTACULAR** Halloween parties for the whole school. There was music, gooey games and terrible tales of witches and warlocks. The children had a great time and showed brilliant originality with their costume choices.



October also saw Christmas come to Campie a little early with a day of festive arts and crafts across the school for the children to design their tailor-made Christmas cards. A change of company meant a whole range of products were available including coasters, mugs, mouse mats and more....apparently tea towels were a particular favourite with the grannies who were all thrilled with their personalised Christmas gifts. A special mention goes out to one Parent Council member (she knows who she is); who takes on this solo project every year and never fails to deliver.



Campie Community

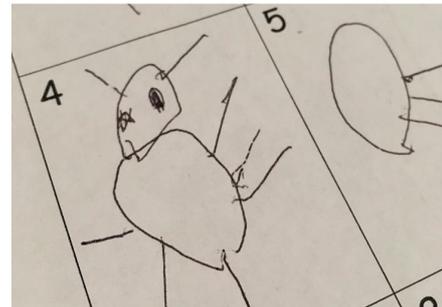
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Campie Christmas Fair was the final event of 2016 and brought loads of our children and their families along to enjoy the crafts, purchase creative gifts and participate in various games and activities. Santa even made an appearance, setting up residence in his magical grotto to ensure all the children got a chance to meet him. The event raised an impressive £1200 and our own little band of elves (otherwise known as the fundraising team) deserved something special in their Christmas stockings for all their efforts.

Over the Easter weekend, the fundraising team planned a charity bag pack in the local Tesco, raising a whopping £860 towards the playground fund. Thank you to all the families who took time out of their Saturday morning to pack bags, and to those who donated when we spotted them doing their weekly shop!

In April, a bit of good old-fashioned family fun was enjoyed by lots of our families when they came along to the Campie Community Beetle Drive. This traditional game brought out the competitive edge in some (especially the parents) and provided a fundraising evening that both adults and children alike could relish. I hope that we will bring back this event next session....perhaps with some additional retro games thrown into the mix.



The Campie Summer Fair always marks the end of the school year and this year was one of the most successful events yet raising an amazing £2100. The fundraising team and their group of excellent volunteers put on a day to remember with a whole host of fun and games, including a bouncy castle, a sports car and an animal WO-man (thanks to a last minute signage update).



There was candy-floss and ice cream aplenty and everybody who attended had a fantastic time. All credit goes to our fundraising team and their creative flair that they mix it up each year and keep bringing something new for the community to enjoy.



Campie Community

Campie Primary Parent Council Annual Report 2016/17

Fundraising Focus

With the focus of our fundraising efforts directed towards improving the outdoor spaces available at Campie we have looked for increasingly inventive ways to raise money for our school.

In the 2016/17 session, we encouraged more and more parents and carers to sign up for easy fundraising – allowing people to raise money while they shop online, with no added expense to them. It is so simple to sign up, and for those of you with a competitive streak....you can try to climb your way to the top of the donations leader board. Currently, I am sitting in 10th position! Luckily, those of you that know me know I am not competitive at all

In February, we launched a School Lottery where all the funds raised go directly to the school. Another simple initiative to sign up for which pays out a weekly prize to one of our supporters and all entrants are in with a chance of winning £25,000 each week in a national draw. We hope more of our Campie Community will sign up for this as we move forward. The more players, the bigger the prizes and the bigger the pot raised for the school.



Playground Update

With all this talk of fundraising it only seems fitting to discuss the progress that has been made on the planned improvements to the school playground and other outside spaces.

As is evident from looking around the playground there have not been many significant changes

Your cause



Your cause has raised...
£326.46

No. supporters
59

Supporter leaderboard

Your Position

 **10** **Laura M.** **£6.87**

Top Supporters

1	Lynne K.	£77.27
2	Tansy M.	£54.79
3	Jenna M.	£34.90
4	Shona B.	£21.16
5	Nadine L.	£10.81





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made as yet, however the amount of work done behind the scenes to lay the foundations (figuratively speaking) for these works should not go unnoticed. A very small team (2-4 people) have worked tirelessly in the past year to put wheels in motion for planning permission, structural surveys, health and safety surveys and cost estimates to make our playground dreams a reality. The biggest obstacles to achieving our goals are money, time and rules (I am going to take out shares in red-tape). All the fundraising we are doing helps towards the monetary aspect and the playground team have also been writing several grant applications for larger chunks of funding to pay for the big ticket items, unfortunately without success.

There are plans in motion to secure additional bike and scooter storage and introduce Loose Parts Play and an Outdoor Classroom. All of these things require...wait for it...planning permission (that's the rules part) but the team have had several discussions with the local council to secure the necessary ticks in boxes. We are also working with the Royal Botanic Gardens to have a student develop some of our wild spaces.

The playground improvements are still very much at the forefront of the Parent Council goals and we will continue to focus on this to bring the plans to fruition.

Looking Outwards

Campie Parent Council aims to be an active contributor within the wider community and we continued to attend the East Lothian Association of Parent Council Meetings throughout the 2016/17 session to ensure issues and initiatives in the local authority were shared with our parent forum. We also maintain a presence as part of the Musselburgh Area Partnership, which makes decisions affecting all facets of our community. Our continued involvement with these groups allows us to better serve our school.

Throughout the year, we have shared a series of ongoing local and national consultations with the wider parent forum and have played an integral part in relaying their opinions to both the school management and the local authority.

In the past year, there have been requests for parent input to help form key policies on Anti-Bullying and Additional Support Needs in our schools, as well as providing opinions and insight into proposed changes to the catchment areas and even the new school menus. In our role as Parent Council, we have actively encouraged our parent forum to engage with all these consultations and have provided feedback to the interested parties.

In addition to external consultations, the Parent Council has also played a role in fielding questions



Campie Community

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and concerns regarding issues more specific to Campie, such as the most recent attainment figures, the loss of support staff and ongoing concerns with unsafe parking.

Our role as a Parent Council has enabled us to represent the Campie Community objectively and support the school in making any necessary changes.

Summary

I read an article recently that described the ever-changing, dynamic role of a parent (and estimated how much we should all be paid!) From childcare provider, executive chef and chauffeur to housekeeper, nurse and personal shopper – parents take on a plethora of jobs, often in addition to their actual working hours. This got me thinking about the role of a parent council member and the extra “jobs” we take on in order to deliver the best we can for our school and community. Events coordinator, grant writer, communications expert, landscape architect and financial advisor were a few of the job titles I came up with.

During my two years as Chair of the Parent Council I have been lucky enough to work with a team of dedicated and enthusiastic individuals who both separately and collectively have delivered a huge amount for the benefit of our school. I am proud to be a part of this group and would like to thank you for all the time and effort you have given to Campie Primary.

Looking to the future I am confident that the Parent Council will deliver on their goals.

The saying goes - Shoot for the moon, even if you miss you'll land among the stars.

I believe that if we continue to aim high with our plans for the school we cannot fail in delivering the best possible outcomes for everybody and helping the school achieve their vision of Achieving Every Day.

Laura K Munro

Chair, Campie Parent Council

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