

Introduction

The Parent Council of Dunbar PS is delighted to have been shortlisted to the final three of the Scottish Education Awards category: **Parents as Partners in Learning Award**.

Dunbar Primary School is one of the largest primary schools in the UK, with over 1,025 pupils and 50 volunteer parents acting as Class Representatives for the 38 classes on the Parent Council. We aim to have 2 Reps for every class so with 76 Rep places, we're proud to have achieved 66% uptake.

The Co-Chairs coordinate the varied activities of nine Parent Council Sub-Groups.

1. Fundraising & Social Events Group: School Calendar, Ceilidh, Christmas Cards, Ladies Night, School Fair, School Lottery and Toy & Uniform Sales (Raise £5-10K annually, generously supported by local businesses, paying for adverts and donating goods and services)
2. School Grounds: Gardening Club & "Stop, drop & hop campaign"
3. Healthy Living: Daily Healthy Snack Trolley, Termly Bug Busting weekends, Bikeability, Dr Bike, Big Pedal, Twenty's Plenty
4. Keeping Parents Informed: Termly Parent Forum Newsletter, 9 x Parent to Parent Year Guides, Communication Questionnaire
5. Delivering the Curriculum: Planning a major numeracy initiative for 2013-14
6. Literacy: Library Volunteer Team, Birthday Books, Annual Readathon (raises £10K to buy books annually) & Dunbar Reads Together
7. Science, Maths, Technology & ICT: Fortnightly Saturday Science Club & annual Dunbar SciFest
8. Visual & Performing Arts: For 2013-14, termly Artist In Residence & Creative Club
9. Nursery: Toy Sales and Gardening Team

Parent Council meetings

We meet monthly, 7-9pm in the Library of John Muir Campus as most parents walk or cycle to meetings and this is the more central venue. We rotate the evening meetings through Monday to Thursday to facilitate parents that work evenings. The average attendance is 22 and the largest attendance was 33.

The typical agenda is detailed below.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Introductions • Apologies • Approve previous minutes • Matters arising
<p>Discussion Topics 2012-13:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September: 'Dunbar Reads Together' initiative • November: Food for Life & Active Schools Programme • December: Household Canny Challenge; John Muir 2013 & 2014 & "Teaching art effectively in school" • January 2013: "The provision of teaching musical instruments in school", Peter Antonelli, ELC Instrumental Music Coordinator • March: Dunbar Civic Week & the Ridge Project • May: "Language options in Dunbar Grammar", Paul Raffaelli, HT
<p>Head Teacher's report</p> <p>Reports from Sub groups</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fundraising & Social Events Group 2. School Grounds 3. Healthy Living 4. Keeping Parents Informed 5. Delivering the Curriculum 6. Literacy 7. Science, Maths, Technology & ICT 8. Visual & Performing Arts 9. Nursery
<p>Any other business</p>



Each month's Agenda also lists the dates of forthcoming meetings and other activities. The agenda is emailed to every parent, as all parents and grandparents are welcome to attend.

Parent Council Meeting	Saturday Science Club	Other Parent Council events	Bug Busting Weekends
1. Thursday 10 January 2013	12 Jan 26 Jan		11-13 Jan
2. Monday 4 February	2 Feb 23 Feb	Dunbar Civic Week Fundraiser: Ceilidh	
3. Tuesday 19 March	2 March 9 March	Sat 16 & Sun 17 March: Dunbar SciFest	9-10 March
4. Wednesday 10 April	13 April 27 April	Dunbar Civic Week Fundraiser: Quiz Night	
5. Thursday 2 May	11 May	Dunbar Civic Week Fundraiser: Races Night Sat 25 May: School Fair	3-6 May
6. Monday 3 June	1 June 8 June 22 June	Fri 14 – Sun 23 June: Civic Week	
7. Monday 2 September - AGM	7 September		
8. Thursday 19 September	21 September	TBC Readathon	13-15 Sept
9. Tuesday 1 October	5 Oct 26 Oct	Halloween Disco (Support Pupil Council)	
10. Wednesday 6 November	9 Nov 23 Nov	Friday 8 Nov: Ladies Night Friday 29 Nov: Toy Sale	22-24 Nov
11. Thursday 5 December	7 Dec		

The minutes of the monthly meetings are emailed to every Class Rep and posted on our Parent Council website.

Meeting month	This Year Attendance 2012-13	Last Year Attendance 2011-12
1. September AGM	21	29
2. September	19	/
3. October	22	22
4. November	29	33
5. December	20	19
6. January	30	22
7. February	19	20
8. March	19	21
9. April	15	21
10. May		14
11. June		16
Total	194, average 22	217, average 22

The following table lists the 50 Class Reps for this school year, and we also had 50 Class Reps last year (2011-12).



Parent Council Class Reps 2012-13
38 Classes x 2 Reps 76 posts: 50 filled = 66%

Class	John Muir Campus Class Reps	Class	Lochend Campus Class Reps
HAVEN: AM	VACANCY	P4A	1. LUCY MCCLOUGHAN
HAVEN: PM	1. EDEN BLAIR		2. HELEN MCLACHLAN
	2. ANGIE MCDUGALL	P4B	3. FIONA SMITH
WOODLANDS: AM	3. AILEEN KELLY		4. ANOUSKA WOODS
WOODLANDS: PM	4. PRAV CAMPBELL	P4C	5. MARIE SAVAGE
SEASHORE: AM	5. GRAINNE MCINTYRE		6. RICHARD MOORE
	6. KIRSTEEN WILSON	P5A	7. SARAH WATT
SEASHORE: PM	VACANCY		8. ANNA WYATT
HARBOUR: AM	7. EMMA VANCE	P5B	9. DEE DAVISON
	8. SHARON RAPSON		10. JANET MCDUGALL WELCH
HARBOUR: PM	9. KIRSTY PARKIN	P5C	11. TRACY GILLESPIE
	10. NICOLA MAXWELL	P5D	12. ANGELA BALHARRIE
P1A	11. SARAH DUGUID	P6A	13. EMMA HEXLEY
	12. ANGELA GRAHAM	P6B	14. JENNIFER GOLDIE
P1B	13. JULIE ADAMS		15. ADELE TWIST
P1C	14. CATH MACKAY	P6C	VACANCY
P1E	15. FRASER STEWART	P6D	16. KIRSTY BUNYAN
	16. JAIME CALDER		17. KAREN BROUGHAM
P1F	17. AUDREY CAMERON	P7A	VACANCY
	18. CHRISTINE KUPFER	P7B	VACANCY
P1/2	19. NICKY HAMILTON	P7C	18. NICOLA LONIE
P2B	20. MO SANGSTER		19. LAWRENCE TIERNEY
P2C	21. DEBORAH CURTIS	P7D	20. LORRAINE MCLUCKIE
	22. KATY GARDINER		21. JENNY MCGLINCHEY
P2E	23. CHRISTINE LOVE-RODGERS		
	24. CATRIONA REECE-HEAL		
P2F	25. FIONA HOUGHTON		
P3A	26. LIZ YOUNG		
P3B	27. ANNE MARIE GIBSON		
P3C	28. JULIE WILSON		
P3D	VACANCY		
P3E	29. SHARON MCVITIE		

1. Fundraising & Social Events Sub Group

The Parent Council's traditional role of fundraising generates between £5-10K annually, generously supported by local businesses, paying for adverts and donating goods and services.

1.1 School Calendars

The School Calendar Team of 2 parents (Morag Haddow & Aileen Biagi) secure local business advertising, typically 2 adverts per month (£50 each or 3 for £135) to cover the printing costs of the calendar. During the first fortnight of term, every pupil produces their own self portrait, as well as portraits of every teacher. 20+ parents come into the school Dining Hall on the last Friday morning in August to collate, cut out and stick on the portraits by birth month – this is great fun! The team then scan these 12 month sheets and design the calendar, including all Parent Council event dates such as the monthly meetings, fundraising and social events, fortnightly science Club and (Nit) Bug Busting Weekends etc. The calendars are printed by the end of October ready for a rota of Class Reps to sell them at the four Parent Teacher meetings in early November. 12 parents sold school calendars, water bottles, hi-viz vests and Ladies Night tickets at the 4 Parent Teacher Evenings (Mon 12 – Thursday 15 November 2012).

1.2 Ceilidh

This is a family event that is run as a social event rather than a fundraiser and is always well attended and very enjoyable. Parents make and serve the hot food. We didn't organise one this year as the newly rejuvenated Dunbar Civic Week team of parents decided to run one as their first fundraiser.

1.3 Christmas Cards

The Christmas Card Team of 3 parents (Sarah Duguid, Marie Savage & Emma Hexley) work with the school and two specialist companies. Teachers are provided with templates for the children to create their Christmas designs within. We use one company that accepts images created in any medium for the Nursery and P1 pupils, while we work with a different company that accepts pen-drawn images for the P2-P7 pupils. The cards are designed in September; the companies provide samples in October for parents to view before placing their orders; the team inputs all the orders themselves online and the card orders are delivered in November for distribution to families.

	2012 £1,226.50	2011 £1,501.99
Monday 10 September 2012	Teachers were given blank cards for pupils to draw designs onto.	20 September 2011 The Parent Council & school agreed to undertake this initiative and blank cards were delivered to all classes by end of September.
Friday 14 September	Parents notified of new single family design option.	N/A
Friday 28 September	Card design completion deadline	11 October 2011
Friday 26 October	Printed card proofs & order forms sent to all parents. A few classes had problems - P2a did not get their blank cards & a P4 teacher misunderstood instructions & 1 P4 pupils design was not sent to company. All of these issues were resolved quickly. Next year, team will check each class's pupils have all provided card designs & later, check each class's order to ensure correct payments have been made. The Lochend office helpfully record how many cards/tags each person had ordered along with the money paid.	1 November 2011
Friday 2 November	Order deadline & Group Call reminder sent	Friday 4 November
Thursday 8 November	All orders data inputted. Order data input totalled 29 hours – delayed by blocked internet access. Data entry may be done at home next year. Only one mistake was made with data entry where a family portrait card was not ordered and this has been resolved.	Friday 11 November 2011 Data inputting etc. totalled 30 hours
Thursday 15 November	Orders were delivered to both campuses.	Mon 21 November 2011
Friday 16 & 23 November	Christmas cards and gift labels were delivered to parents via pupil's schoolbags.	Fri 25 November 2011

	Nursery & P1	P2 – P7	
	Christmas Cards	Cards	Gift Labels
	? sold £350.00	585 sold @ £1.25 profit £731.25	173 @ 0.75p profit 129.75
Sub-totals	£350.00	£861.00	
Total raised	£1,211.00		

1.4 Ladies Night (Thursday 29.11.12, 7-9.30pm)

The Ladies Night Team of 6 (Lindsey Barley, Dee Davison, Mo Sangster, Tracy Gillespie, Helen McLachlan & Gillian Ferguson), organise this hugely popular fundraiser and social event in the John Muir Campus. A wide variety of gift stalls are set in the Gym Hall (37 different stalls this year), while guest's tables are within the Assembly Hall and Pamper Sessions are set up on the Stage. In 2012, tickets cost £7.50, including a bottle of wine. Tickets are sold at the 4 November Parent Teacher Meetings, in both campus offices and by members of the Organising Team. The Ladies Night Raffle prizes were a Christmas Food Hamper and 2 Micro Scooters and raffle tickets were sold by Belhaven Bikes, members of the Organising Team and both campus offices.

Income sources	2012 Thurs 29 November	2011 Thurs 1 December	2010 Thurs 18 November
37 stalls – 1 no show Stall fees @ £10 x 31 5 were free	£310.00	31 stalls £390.00 Stall fees @ £15 x 26 5 were free	30 stalls No Charge £0.00
Ticket Sales ~ 120 @ £7.50, inc. a bottle of wine	£900.00	Tickets, inc. a bottle of wine £1,060.00 (106 @ £10)	Ticket Sales (no wine) £655 (131 @ £5)
Raffle Sales @ £2 each & additional wine & soft drink sales	£261.05	Prize Draw tickets £160.00 (80 @ £2)	No Raffle £0.00
Auction (43 items)	£1,220.50	Auction (42 items) £1,407.14	Auction & Silent Auction (76 items) £1,702.45
Silent Auction (27 items)	£472.50	Silent Auction (19 items) £151.27	
Donations	£25.00 Amy Marah, Garden Path Café	£50.00	£50 Eves Coaches
Estimated total income (before expenses)	£3,189.05	£3,218.41	£2,479.71
Profit (Income - Expenses)	£2,675	£2,572.42	£2,144.71

Plans for 2013: It was universally agreed that this event has to be longer in order to make it worthwhile for the stall holders to go to the trouble of setting, paying the £10 fees and donating to the auction, to allow the guests to shop, relax and drink (lots!) and then not be rushed through the Auction, as starting the auction too early in the evening and having to finish by 9.3pm, means that we don't make as much money from the auction as we could do. This year, we simply ran out of time to do the Silent Auctions - 27 items. Helen Gillanders (HT) and Dee Davison (Chair) arranged a meeting with Dunbar Councillors and relevant East Lothian Council staff and successfully lobbied for a late extension for next year, Friday 8 November 2013, so we'll be able to run the event from 7-11pm.

1.5 Toy Sale (Friday 07.12.12)

The Toy Sale Team of 6 Nursery parents (Eden Blair, Grainne McIntyre, Audrey Cameron, Catriona Reece-Heal, and Sharon Rapson & Anouska Wood) start promoting this event to encourage parents to clear out and set aside toys to donate in October. All donated items are brought into school the week before the event, on the Friday morning after Ladies Night. The day before the Toy Sale, the toys are sorted into categories and the sales tables are set up. Donated baked goods are donated on the morning of the sale. This is a really popular event, allowing parents to clear out before Christmas and start gathering Christmas parents, as well as being a great social event,

particularly for new Nursery parents. The money raised is spent on equipment on the Nursery Teachers' "Wish List".

1.6 School Fair (16.06.12 & to be held 25.05.13)

The School Fair Team of 3 parents (Sarah Duguid, Marie Savage & Emma Hexley) have organised the Fair for the last two years. The decision was made a few months ago that Dunbar PS School Fair and Civic Week would split back into two separate entities. June's such a busy a school month that it suited the school better to move it back into May and given the truly dreadful weather that the School Fair has experienced in the last few years, it's hoped that moving the School Fair to the last Saturday in May might just improve the chances of dodging the rain and getting some lovely warm sunshine! This year, the Dunbar PS School Fair will take place on Sat 25 May, 2-4pm. As the School Fair will no longer be the opening event of Dunbar Civic Week, this has presented the ideal opportunity for the school to take real ownership of this event again. Every class will get involved, helping with setting up, stocking and running their own stalls. Enterprise and entrepreneurial skills will be encouraged by awarding proportions of the money raised by the fair to the classes in each year group that generate the most money.

Large numbers of parents, grandparents, teaching staff and members of the Dunbar community help on the day by working on stalls, in the cafe, setting up and packing away. Last year, a bouncy castle was donated for the afternoon and dance workshops were provided by SMB School of Dance, Dunbar School of Dancing and Dunbar Scottish Country Dancers. Dance Mats were organised by of the Dunbar Junior Hockey Club while sports activities were provided by Enjoyaball and the Dunbar Rugby Club. Whitecross Butchers donated burgers and sausages which the Rotary Club barbequed in the pouring rain! Tray bakes were donated by Lauderdale Cafe, the Community Bakery and Bakers Dozen and the Co-Op donated tea, coffee, butter and jam. In 2012, 36 local companies, many of whom are small, generously supported the fair by donating items to the tombola.

Fundraising Events	This Year 2012-13		Last Year 2011-12	
	Funds raised to date £5,956	Allocation of funds raised	Funds raised	Allocation of funds raised
2013 School Calendar (750 copies)	£1,570	To be spent on a Trim Trail (outdoor playground equipment) for John Muir Campus	£1,839	£60 allocated per Class & Teacher to buy resources after the new campus opened, totalling £1,642.50
Ceilidh	n/a	n/a	£45	Contributed to the Jubilee ice creams for every pupil.
Christmas Cards	£1,211	To be spent on an Artist in Residence (AIR) with all P3 Pupils in May 2013	£1,501	Covered costs of art supplies for 'Little People' whole school Art Project'. Remainder to be used for future AIRs
Ladies Night (29 November 2012)	£2,675	To be spent on a Trim Trail (outdoor playground equipment) for John Muir Campus	£2,996	2 x Visualisers £361.22 2 x Activate system £818 Fluorescent jackets £161.99 833 Jubilee ice creams £639.74
Toy Sale (7 December 2012)	£290	Spent on new outdoor playground equipment for Harbour & Seashore Nursery Rooms	£435	Nursery equipment £435
School Fair (25 May 2013)	To take place 25.05.13	To be confirmed	£1,443	Allocated to Trim Trail (outdoor playground equipment) for John Muir Campus
School Lottery	£210	To subsidise travel expenses, initially Christmas events	n/a	n/a



2011-12 £60 ALLOCATION PER CLASS – LIST OF ITEMS PURCHASED

Harbour/Seashore	Orchard toys, monster bingo, doodlebugs, creepy castle
Woodlands	Amazon jigsaws
Lighthouse	Amazon 2 chicco bullet balance bikes
Haven	Asco fingers and toes, party number puzzle, sorting houses
P1A	P1 classes grouped together
P1B	Amazon bananograms, jcb multiconstruction, Melissa and doug castle wooden figures, farm family set, aquatic nature tube
P1C	Water fun set pretend and play airport set
P1D	Fuzzy felt sets parachutes jumbo tweezers
P1E	Insects convection poly bag
P1F	Workbench all Amazon website
P2A	Amazon, slug in jug, yo ho ho, tummy ache, fruit frenzy, super marble run, giant snakes and ladders, hairy mcclary story collection
P2/3	Amazon construction boxes and tool box
P2C	YPO lego brick set, octoplay, dominoes, peg boards & pegs
P2D	Amazon games and puppets
P2E	Junior Monopoly, Beads from Amazon
P3A	Multilink cubes P3a and b clubbed together
P3B	Multilink panorama scene
P3C	
CP UNIT	Yellow Room – YPO Easigrip Tweezers, Talk Tinie Cards, Big Point
P4A	Football Table Top Game, Pig goes pop
P4B	Monopoly Puppets lego
P4C	Lego, Football Table, Kerplunk
P4D	Lego pavilion Pop up relay set
P5A	Deluxe Mini Desk top table, Kids Compendium Velcro Darts Wii Dance Game, Giant 4 in a row
P5/6	Berol Pens
P5C	Connect 4, Guess who, Pictureka, Frustration, Twister
P5D	Hama Beads Football Table
P6B	Sports Table, & Sea Monkey, Football
P6C	Lava Lamps
P6D	Beanbags
P7A	Football Table, Electronic Dictionaries, Twister, Spiral Art, Spir-Animal
P7B	Snooker Table
P7C	Berol Pens

2. School Grounds Sub Group

2.1 Gardening Club

A trio of parents (Dee Davison, Frances Soutar & Matt Ginge) ran the lunchtime Gardening Club for P5-P7 pupils in the John Muir Campus for three years (2008-2011), which was actively supported by local businesses and ELC Amenity Services. *Please see the attached Gardening Club 2008-11 report.*



This year, 28 Class Gardening Reps have been recruited to maintain the enclosed central garden of the John Muir Campus so that every P1 – P3 class has their own weed-free plot to grow vegetables and flowers in. There are even longer term plans to have a community chicken coop and polytunnel on the site of the recently demolished Lighthouse Nursery portacabin!

2.2 “Stop, drop & hop campaign”



When the Parent Council and the school became concerned about the increased risk of accidents occurring within the playground near the school and the nursery, 3 parents (Audrey Cameron, Grainne McIntyre & Eden Blair) quickly came up with a campaign to deal with this. The “Stop, Hop & Drop” campaign encouraged pupils (and their parents) that they needed to walk within the school grounds and so needed to get off their bikes, scooters and ripsticks at the school gates. So in mid-April 2012, the campaign was launched. Helen Gillanders (HT) and Audrey Cameron (Co-Chair) introduced the new campaign ‘STOP, HOP and DROP’ to the pupils at the assembly. It was great to see so many children ‘stopping’ and ‘hopping’ off their bikes, scooters and ripsticks at the gate before entering the playground this morning! All took their bikes and scooters and ‘dropped’ them off at the bike stands. This parent-driven initiative now requires minimal enforcement by the School Management Team.

3. Healthy Living Sub Group

3.1 Daily Healthy Snack Trolley



Cathie Kerr and her husband, Robert, have recently retired from running the Healthy Snack at Dunbar Primary School. Cathie was responsible for setting up and managing the Healthy Snack service for our children, with aid from numerous volunteer parent helpers for the past 9½ years. We are indebted to her and Robert. We hosted a ‘thank you’ coffee morning for Cathie and Robert on 14 November 2012 in the John Muir campus Dining Room.

Ian Laing (pictured below), another Grandparent, has taken over and co-ordinates the orders, deliveries and food preparation as well as the volunteer rota. Parents and grandparents sell healthy snack to pupils at both campuses at break time every morning. The profits are used to buy relevant equipment for the school. This April, a new snack trolley and mobile kitchen were purchased.





3.2 Bug Busting weekends

Janet McDougall Welch decided to set up regular Bug Busting weekends throughout the school year to ensure that as many parents as possible checked their children's hair at the same time to try to reduce the number of families affected. She produced an Information Sheet ([attached](#)) distributed to every pupil in January 2012 and always available on our Parent council website. The Bug Busting weekend dates are on the 2013 School Calendar and she set up a Facebook awareness page. Before every Bug Busting weekend, she contacts the 2 local chemists so they are stocked up on products and email and Facebook reminders are sent out.

Bug Busting Weekends

1. 13-15 January 2012
2. 4-7 May 2012
3. 14-17 September 2012
4. 9-11 November 2012
5. 11-13 January 2013
6. 15-17 March 2013

3.3 Big Pedal, Bikeability and Dr Bike

Most of our pupils cycle, scooter or rip stick to school, and many parents cycle too. Cycling initiatives have been set up by Morag Haddow. Cycling to school is actively supported by our local bike shop, Belhaven Bikes, owned by parents, Mandy and Colin Cairns Ford.

The school takes parts in the Big Pedal competition annually. The Big Pedal 2013 took place between 28th February and 20th March. Belhaven Bikes offered 20% off bike servicing until 28th February to get everyone's bikes safely back on the roads after the winter. They also generously offered parents without bikes, the free use of their hire bikes during the 3 weeks of the Big Pedal. In February Morag Haddow talked to the Parent Council about how the Parent Council could support the Big Pedal and proposed that it would be good to have a public bike pump that would be installed at the John Muir Campus for cycling pupils and parents to use and the Parent Council agreed. She had quotes for a variety of models and the Parent Council purchased the robust £290 model. Sustaining Dunbar bought 1,000 blank postcards for pupils to design Big Pedal adverts to take home to parents. As we got more points for bikes, our school's slogan was '*scooters are super but bikes are better*'. On the first day, Thursday 28 February, the school rewarded all parents who arrived on bikes with a sticker and a flapjack! On Friday 8th March, virtually every pupil, parent and teacher came to school on their bikes to win a key stage of this competition. '*Superhero Day*' was on Tuesday 12th March and pupils came dressed as a superhero but kept their capes safely in their school bags! '*Bling Your Bike*' was on Tuesday 19 March and there were Easter Egg prizes for the best 'blinged' bikes at each stage. Dunbar PS came 6th in UK but we won the large primary school category in Scotland! Dunbar Grammar School also won the secondary school category and was 3rd in UK.

Morag Haddow and Sustaining Dunbar have initiated "**Twenty's Plenty for Us**" campaign, which has been supported by the Parent Council as so many pupils and parents cycle etc. to and from school. Dunbar is part of the national "Twenty's Plenty for Us" campaign and 20mph speed limits on residential roads will be trialled within the new housing of Dunbar.

Morag also organises **Bikeability** where trained teachers and parents provide pupils with cycle training in school time. East Lothian Active Schools and Sustaining Dunbar offer regular Bikeability Assistant Training for volunteers e.g. Friday 15th March 2013, 1.30-4.30pm. Bikeability volunteers who have completed this course will be able to help P6 teachers to run cycle training with their classes and if there are enough parent volunteers, the training may be extended to P4-5 pupils.

4. Keeping Parents Informed

4.1 Parent Forum Newsletters

These supplement the regular newsletters provided by the school and we aim to issue these once a term.
Please see examples provided

4.2 Parent to Parent Year Guides

A Guide for P1 parents has been produced by the Parent Council and 9 versions for every year group; ante pre-school, pre-school, P1 – P7 are being developed for the new school year (2013-14). The Ante Preschool Guide will be distributed to new parents via the Health Visitors in Dunbar Medical Centre before their child starts school Nursery and copies will also be available to download from the Parent Council website.

4.3 Communication Questionnaire

In order to determine whether the Parent Council was keeping parents fully informed, we created an anonymous Communication Questionnaire in May 2012, to identify what we were doing well and what we could do better. We also wanted parents' feedback on how well they thought the school was communicating with parents. This helped the Parent Council to decide where to focus our energies this year (2012-13), and give the Senior Management Team at the school, parents' perspectives on the things being done well and the areas for improvement in terms of school communication. We encouraged parents to be totally honest and frank with their opinions on <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MKCBZTL>. The results were published on the Parent Council website, and presented by Emma Hexley, Treasurer, at the June 2012 Parent Council meeting.

4.4 Information Sheet for parents about bullying and social media

This has been drafted and circulated for comment. It will be published on the Parent Council website and included within all versions of the Parent to Parent Year Guides.

5. Delivering the Curriculum Sub Group

This group is supporting non-literacy initiatives and is planning a major numeracy initiative for 2013-14, based on the best practice learned from Readathon and 'Dunbar Reads Together'.

6. Literacy Sub Group

6.1 Library Volunteer Team

This large team, led by Lorraine McLuckie and Rhonda Elliott, run the libraries in campuses, ordering and processing all the books and managing the lending systems, as well as purchasing and managing the equipment within the two libraries. The rota of volunteers ensures that volunteer Librarian parents are in the library when classes come to use the library during school hours. Full training is provided to every new volunteer.

6.2 Birthday Books

A pair of parents (Sharon McVitie and Liz Adams Todd) use school events to encourage parents to buy Birthday Books that are kept in the library or in the child's classroom.

6.3 Readathon

This remarkable reading initiative was created by a small team of parents (led by Janet McDougall Welch, Lorraine McLuckie and Rhonda Elliott) in 2009 with the objective of making it cool to read as much as possible during one month in the spring, with amazing individual, class and year group prizes acting as excellent motivators. As well as encouraging reading with / alongside the rest of their family, it is the most successful Parent Council annual fundraiser. These funds have been used to refurbish the John Muir Campus Library and update its stock and then, when the Lochend Campus opened in 2011, to furnish the new library and purchase all of its books. Readathon has proved to be an effective and popular initiative.

- March 2012: Pupil participants = 517 (51.2% of school roll) Total raised £9,235
- April 2011: Pupil participants = 521 (58.4% of school roll) Total raised £11,022
- March 2010: Pupil participants = 458 (50.3% of school roll) Total raised £9,825
- March 2009: Pupil participants = 369 (40% of school roll) Total raised £8,500

6.4 Dunbar Reads Together

This is a school literacy initiative lead by DPS teacher, Lindsey Barley, that the Parent Council fully supports and for which, we provide funding. [Lindsey will provide information on this fantastic community wide initiative.](#)

7. Science, Maths, Technology & ICT Sub Group

7.1 Annual Dunbar SciFest

As so many scientists live in Dunbar, we're keen to ensure that our children are given great opportunities to get engaged with and inspired by science, technology and engineering. This prompted the creation of the award-winning annual Dunbar SciFest in 2011, organised by a team of ten parents. In the week preceding the second SciFest in 2012, a Dunbar Molecule Hunt Competition was hosted within 16 local businesses. 2 school stage shows were delivered free to the 5 cluster primary schools on the preceding Friday morning to 1,000 pupils and teachers. Dunbar SciFest 2012 expanded to a weekend event with 40 different event providers and 50 different activities. 261 volunteers delivered SciFest 2012. 83 of the 98 Event Providers volunteered their time and 24 of these were working scientist parents. 154 adult and student volunteers ensured the smooth running of the festival, including 93 parents, 21 teachers and 40 pupil & student volunteers. While the majority of our 2,500 weekend visitors were families from the Dunbar cluster area, we also attracted families from throughout East Lothian and much further afield.

- This local science festival won the National Science & Engineering Week (NSEW) 2012 Best Community Event Category Award.
- SciFest 2012 was nominated for a 'Parents as Partners in Learning' Award in the Scottish Education 2012 Awards (Smarter Scotland & Daily Record).
- Creative Scotland's Creative Places Awards: Dunbar SciFest collaborates with other festivals in East Lothian. In January 2013, Lammermuir Music Festival, Lennoxlove Book Festival, Fringe by the Sea and Dunbar SciFest were shortlisted with Orkney & Kilmarnock for the category: Under 100,000 residents.

[Please see the attached Dunbar SciFest 2012 report.](#)

Presentations on Dunbar SciFest 2012 were given at 2 conferences:

- East Lothian Learning Festival, 07.09.12
- SPTC Conference, 10.11.12

Dunbar SciFest 2012 was cited in the Education Scotland "*Inspection of the Learning Community surrounding Dunbar Grammar School*" report (09.04.13) "*Volunteers in community groups and organisations work very effectively to promote events in Dunbar. SciFest, a highly successful annual science festival, has attracted high visitor number and increased interest in science, technology and engineering. Its organisers, from the very strong Parent Council at Dunbar Primary School, are now working to further develop the annual festival to include a week long Education Programme in schools*".


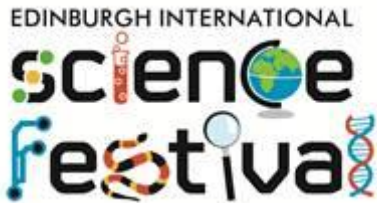




Dunbar SciFest 2013

- **Dunbar Molecule Hunt Competition**



In the week preceding the second SciFest in 2012, a second Dunbar Molecule Hunt Competition was hosted within 17 local businesses. *Please see the attached Dunbar Molecule Hunt 2013 leaflet.*

- **EDF Education Programme within Dunbar PS**

Pupils and teachers from the Dunbar Cluster, Dunbar Grammar School and other specified East Lothian primary schools will attend FREE Workshops & Stage shows within Dunbar PS. Deaf and hard of hearing pupils from throughout Edinburgh and the Lothians will attend a FREE show “*Fantastic Forces*” presented in British Sign Language delivered by the SIGNtific Team from the Science Museum, London. We could offer these free places thanks to generous funding from EDF Energy & the Scottish Government.

		Dunbar SciFest 2013 EDF Energy Education Programme	
		Generation Science , the education outreach programme of Edinburgh International Science Festival, is providing 25 workshops (4 age-specific themes) within the two campuses of Dunbar PS for 1,700 pupils from the Dunbar cluster schools. http://www.sciencefestival.co.uk/education/generation-science	
Monday 11 – Thursday 14 March	1. Marvellous Magnets (P1-3)	180 pupils	
	2. Future Earth (P1-3) Future Earth	480 pupils	
	3. Wonderful Water (P4-7) Wonderful World Of Water	240 pupils	
	4. Body Builders (P4-7) Body Builders	800 pupils	
Friday 15 March	5 morning science stage shows for schools at Dunbar PS's 2 campuses		
	John Muir Campus of Dunbar PS Science Shows for Schools (James Soper) “ <i>The Best Bubble Show</i> ” for 1,000 Nursery & P1-3 pupils 1. 10am show capacity: 500 pupils 2. 11am show capacity: 500 pupils		
	Lochend campus of Dunbar PS Dr Bunhead (Tom Pringle) “ <i>Dr Bunhead's Exploding Energy Show</i> ” for 1,000 P4 – P7 pupils 1. 10.15am show capacity: 500 pupils 2. 11.15am show capacity: 500 pupils		



	<p>Donaldsons School for the Deaf, Livingston</p> <p>Science Museum, London, SIGNtific show “<i>Fantastic Forces</i>” presented in British Sign Language</p> <p>For deaf and hard of hearing pupils from throughout Edinburgh & Lothians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10.30am show capacity: 180 pupils 	
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Please see the attached Dunbar SciFest 2013 Programme

Dunbar SciFest 2013 Mon11 – Sunday 17 March Total visitor numbers: 6,500		
Education Programme (Mon 11 – Fri 15)	25 Generation Science Workshops: 1,760	5 Stage shows: 1,060
SciFest Weekend	Sat 16 March: 1,769 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Muir Campus: 933 SCI-FUN, Bleachingfield: 506 Dunbar Library: 330 	Sun 17 March: 1,824 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Muir Campus: 1,246 SCI-FUN, Bleachingfield: 578 Dunbar Library: Closed
Three evening Events, Thurs 13 – Sat 16	60	
3 Book Club Events	30	

A detailed report for the Scottish Government is currently being produced by Dee Davison.

7.2 Fortnightly Saturday Science Club

A small team of ten parents deliver the bi-monthly Dunbar Science Club. Our objective is to inspire and encourage an interest in science amongst children living in the Dunbar cluster area, by running an annual programme of varied workshops provided by local scientists – primarily volunteer parents. We deliver three hour-long Saturday morning workshops twice a month at 9.30, 10.30 and 11,30am Our long term objective is to have a science lab in Dunbar Primary School’s Lochend Campus, which would also be available for all the cluster primary schools to use. East Lothian Council will provide the laboratory room and we will secure funding to equip it.

Please see the attached Dunbar Science Club report.

8. Visual & Performing Arts Sub Group

8.1 Little People of the World project

In June 2012, 1,000 30cm paper figures were individually hand crafted by the smallest pre-schooler to the eldest primary 7 student. Each one celebrated each child’s unique talents but as a whole expressed what an amazing community they make when displayed together. This project was created by Susan Mowatt, Wendy Morrison and Julia McAlpine, parents who have various artistic backgrounds. It was inspired by the people of the world coming to the UK for the London Olympics. It was funded by the Parent Council’s Christmas Card fundraiser. The project film and photographs are on the Parent Council website and You Tube:

https://www.youtube.com/embed/SmkB0_qWwrc?rel=0%22%20frameborder=%22%22%20allowfullscreen%3E%3C/iframe%3E

8.2 Artist In Residence programme, funded annually by Christmas Card sale

Artists in Residence will be employed for all P3 pupils and P6 pupils at the same time every year, so that this activity will be embedded in the school calendar of activities. These artists will also provide CPD for teachers. It will be trialled with P3s in May 2013 using a John Muir theme and a local artist Ross Combe and rolled out annually from 2013-14.

8.3 Creative club, self funded

In 2013-14, an after school Art/Creative Club will be run e.g. on Tuesdays, for 1-1.5 hours in the Lochend Campus Art Room, once a week for 4 week blocks. Pupils will work with an Artist who's a specialist in a particular medium e.g. printing, portraiture, sculpture, textiles, pottery, photography, computer animation etc. Ideally four blocks would be offered each school year in e.g. September, November, January and May. This artist will also provide CPD for teachers.

9. Nursery Sub Group

9.1 Toy Sale

The December Toy Sale is organised by a team of Nursery parents (see 5.1 for more information). It's a great social event, particularly for new Nursery parents. The money raised is spent on equipment on the Nursery Teachers' "Wish List".

9.2 Nursery Gardening Team

A team of nursery parents manages the Nurseries raised beds and other planting.

Support for Dunbar PS Parent Council from East Lothian Council

Darrin Nightingale, ELC Head of Education "I would like to support Dunbar PS Parent Council's nomination of the Dunbar Primary Parent Council for the Parents as Partners in Learning Award at the Scottish Education Awards 2013. Dunbar PS Parent Council are fantastic partners to the school getting involved in numerous initiatives, events and programmes all with the objective of enriching the pupils learning journey. Examples include Readathon, Dunbar SciFest, Dunbar Science Club and the Gardening Club and these could not happen without the commitment of a very diverse, talented and valued group."

Karen Haspolat, ELC Quality Improvement Officer. "I would like to support Dunbar PS Parent Council's nomination of the Dunbar Primary Parent Council for the Parents as Partners in Learning Award at the Scottish Education Awards 2013. I would like to support the nomination of the Dunbar Primary Parent Council for the Parents as Partners in Learning Award at the Scottish Education Awards 2013. The Parent Council is very supportive and has a real focus on the young people and their learning. There have been a number of initiatives led by the Parent Council which has transformed parental involvement in the school. One of the early developments was a Readathon to raise money to buy books for the school library. This initiative supported the focus the school has on raising attainment in reading. The annual Dunbar SciFest has been entirely led by the Parent Council and is fast becoming an annual attraction for visitors from further afield than just the local community. This two day event involves the local community and partners from across Scotland to enthuse and engage young people in science. The Parent Council has also been crucial in supporting the 'Dunbar Reads Together' development which has engaged the whole community in supporting young people to read. Through this inclusive, community approach, Dunbar Primary Parent Council has managed to reach and involve a wide range of parents. This has enabled the school to 'recruit' more parents to support learning in the school itself and has led to a very supportive team of parents and volunteers who are timetabled to support learners across the school."

Don Ledingham, ELC Executive Director "I would like to support Dunbar PS Parent Council's nomination of the Dunbar Primary Parent Council for the Parents as Partners in Learning Award at the Scottish Education Awards 2013. Dunbar PS Parent Council is a shining example of a supportive body. It is constantly encouraging and assisting with initiatives within and without the school, all with the aim of encouraging pupils' achievements."



Iain Gray MSP & Fiona O'Donnell MP "I would like to support Dunbar PS Parent Council's nomination of the Dunbar Primary Parent Council for the Parents as Partners in Learning Award at the Scottish Education Awards 2013. The Parent Council are very proactive ensuring that the children's experience of school is further enhanced by out of school activities such as the remarkable science festival which has attracted wide spread recognition."

Prepared by Dee Davison, Co-Chair, Dunbar PS Parent Council, 23.04.13