

DUNBAR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held On: Monday 1 December 2014 at 7-9pm at John Muir Campus

Tracy Gillespie (Co-Chair)
 Lisa Lumby (Vice Chair)
 Margaret Brown (Treasurer)
 Jane Lockett
 Suzanne Burgess
 Tracy Drysdale
 Jacqui Preston

Helen Gillanders
 Susan Brennan
 Jaclyn Eeles
 Malcolm Pulner
 Julie Adams
 Lucy McCloughan
 Joanne Robinson

Apologies:

Sarah Horsburgh (Vice Chair)
 Dee Davison
 Will Collin, Dunbar Community Council

Trudy King
 Fiona Houghton

1.	<p>APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING Tracy Gillespie (Chair) opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The November minutes were agreed by Julie Adams and Jacqui Preston.</p>	ACTION
2.	<p>BUTTON VOTE – Parent Council Survey on their activities The button vote results and suggestions were discussed.</p> <p>Fundraising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reusable Bags: Pupils will be taking part in a competition to design a reusable bag as part of an enterprise school project. • Nursery Tea Towels: Suzanne will survey the Nursery parents to see if this would be of interest and viable. Suggested doing for Pre-School children, possibly in May. <p>Communications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication was seen as the main issue as parents don't fully understand what the Parent Council does, or what money is spent on. It was suggested that the PC may add information onto the end of the school newsletter so Tracy to provide something for December newsletter. Graphics e.g. pie charts) were suggested as a good means of displaying information on funds raised and purchases bought by the PC (Lucy offered to assist). • There was a great deal of support for a 'Communications' team: Jane Lockett, Lucy McCloughan, Tracy Drysdale, Suzanne Burgess, Jacqui Preston and Tracy Gillespie who will look at the best way to share information with and engage parents. They agreed to meet in early January (Kathy to give contact details to Tracy) to discuss the best way forward. • The financial report to be requested from Emma Hexley for last session. • Suzanne will look at downloading the school calendar onto the website. • School Blogs: It was requested that out of date information be removed from school website and homework to be put on also. P6/7 pupils are encouraged to comment on blogs. 	<p>SB</p> <p>TG</p> <p>TG/KD</p> <p>TG SB JE</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed to stay with the current arrangements for the Dress Down Day on 5th December following some discussion around Christmas Jumper Day on 12th December 	
6.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that the PC will buy a present for lby Robertson, Janitor, who is retiring at Christmas holidays. • Alison to check the progress of the Travelling Book orders. It was noted that because of the system of written requests by the pupils, some parents felt under pressure to buy books. • There still seems to be a problem with P1 lines. (Suggested sending Groupcall to all P1 parents asking to wait behind the lines.) 	
7.	<p>DATES OF NEXT MEETING (7-9pm)</p> <p>The next meeting will be held at John Muir Campus on: Tuesday 13 January 2015 at 7.00pm.</p>	

Signature of Chair: Date:

PARENT COUNCIL BUTTON VOTE RESULTS

1. I understand what the Parent Council is for [Yes/No]
2. **Yes 85%, No 15% (Yes: L 83%, JM 87%)** *361 responses*

3. I know how to contact the Parent Council [Yes/No]
Yes 73%, No 27% (Yes: L 71%, JM 75%) *349 responses*

4. I know how I can get involved with Parent Council activity [Yes/No]
Yes 77%, No 23% (Yes: L 77%, JM 76%) *367 responses*

5. The Parent Council does a good job [Agree/Disagree/Don't know]
Yes 65%, No 5%, Don't Know 30% *367 responses*

6. The Parent Council spends the money raised wisely [Agree/Disagree/Don't know]
Yes 50%, No 1%, Don't Know 49% *403 responses*

7. My preferred way of interacting with the school is through *310 responses*

Speaking to teacher at drop off/pick up	29% (L 15%, JM 49%)
Phoning the school	41% (L 45%, JM 36%)
Speaking to my class rep	2% (L 1%, JM 3%)
Emailing the school	29% (L 40%, JM 12%)
Other	Lochend: Enjoy getting texts, if concerns then a meeting JM: Reception, information evenings, letters to teachers

8. My preferred way of hearing about what is going on at the school is *312 responses*

Letters home	27% (L 24%, JM 32%)
Email from school	62% (L 66%, JM 57%)
Looking at school website	7% (L 8%, JM 6%)
School Twitter feed	3% (L 2%, JM 5%)
Other	Facebook, Texts (5 votes) School website needs updated (4 comments)

9. I'd like the Parent Council to.....

More emails (x4)
More letters
More info
More communication
More info about what's happening (x2)
Communicate (x2)
Find more ways to allow working parents to become more involved (x2)
Tell us by email what aims for year are and what costs will be
Calendars are great, would like to see Parents year diary
Something special!
Keep doing great job
Keep doing what you're doing – thank you!
Carry on doing a great job
More accessible please
What has money been spent on?
Car boot sale (x7)

Dress down for charity (x3)

Cake stall

Better summer fair

Keep website up to date

Movie night for school funds, children can sell popcorn, tickets etc

Tell the school to give less arty homework for P4 & P5, and more three-Rs

Make reusable bags with kids' class drawings like calendars, or teatowels

Share what you've achieved with parents. I know what you're there for but I don't know specifically what you do, how you spend money etc. I'm sure you do a fantastic job, you just need to shout a bit louder then more people will understand your goals and get involved. Hope that's helpful.