

SIMPSON PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY PARENT COUNCIL

Name of Meeting	Simpson Primary Parent Council EGM	Date of Meeting:	4 th Nov 2021	
Present:	Sam Skinner (Chair), Jo Alexander (Vice Chair), Jordana MacDonald (Events Coordinator), Lisa Black (Secretary), Iram Asim (Treasurer), Nicola Ferris (Head Teacher), Ms. Plenderleith (Principal Teacher), Mrs. Fawkes (Depute Head Teacher), Mrs. Dandie (Depute Head Teacher), Alison Mc Dermott, Jude MacKay, Lynne Buckner, Patsy Thomas, Debbie McComb, Fiona Byron, Monica Ugalde, Silvia Small, Fiona Duncan, Marion Pirrie, Liane Docherty, Colin Napier.			
Apologies:	Kirsteen Steven, Nicola Gillan, Victoria Nairn, Ruth Harley, Harry Cartmill (Councillor), Emma Scott.			
Agenda:	 Welcome and Apologies Matters Arising Office Bearer Changes Revised Constitution Fundraising & Social Committee Terms of Reference Purpose/Aim of Fundraising AOB 			
Agenda No	Agenda Item	Actions Required	By Whom & Target Date	
1	Sam Skinner welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted.			
	notea.			
	Matters Arising			
2				

Miss Ferris informed the group about recent in-valuable teaching that they received from an external source in the last in-service day. Teaching staff received training on Supporting Children with Autism (ASD). Miss Ferris noted that this was good personal development for the teaching team and will be beneficial in supporting pupils with additional learning needs.

parent consultation

Miss Ferris informed the group that the teaching team recently worked with the cluster schools in doing activities around moderation with numeracy which they enjoyed.

Miss Ferris informed the group that Mr. Weir left on Friday after many celebrations and tears. Miss Ferris informed the group that Mr. Weir is settling well into his new role at Balbardie Primary School. Miss Ferris informed the group that Hannah Leggett has been appointed as Acting Principal Teacher.

Miss Ferris informed the group that the school is now making preparations for Children in Need and Christmas activities.

Sam Skinner asked Miss Ferris if there had been an update on professional photos in school – Miss Ferris confirmed that Tempest will be in school on the 8th & 9th of February. Miss Ferris also happy to highlight to Tempest about the concerns raised at the last Parent Council meeting around the background used for the photos.

Jo Alexander asked if the photos could take place earlier than this in future years – Miss Ferris will contact Tempest to try and secure an earlier slot for next year as this date was all that was available this year. Miss Ferris informed the group that Tempest need to be in the school over two days to complete all photos due to the size of the pupil group.

to – these will

Contact
Tempest
and enquire
if an earlier
date can be
secured for
next year

Miss Ferris

Sam Skinner updated the group on the Primary 1 photo – these will not be routinely taken going forward as the West Lothian Courier have decided to stop this feature.

Revised Constitution

Sam advised the group that that the revised constitution was distributed kindly by the school and thanked all for their comments/feedback. It was noted that the all feedback/comments were used to update the constitution.

Sam asked if there were any final objections to the Revised Constitution – none declared. The Final Constitution will now be accepted and distributed.

Sam wanted to thank all the parents on behalf of the Parent Council for their kindness and support.

3.

4. Fundraising & Social Committee

Sam informed the group that there had been lots of exciting ideas and work going on in terms of fundraising:

- Halloween Hunt and Dress Down Day
- School Calendar for 2022
- Virtual Christmas Fair/Magazine

Sam thanked Jordana, Jude and Marion of the Fundraising Team who were present at the meeting and those absent for their time and efforts thus far. It was noted that the Christmas and Newlands post were still vacant however these roles will now be picked up through the Fundraising and Social Committee.

Sam also noted thanks to Lorna Brown for organising the Wester Inch Treasure Hunt and that the total raised for the Parent Council from that and the Dress Down Day had increased to £394.12. Sam added that it was lovely to see all the children out participating and it created the feeling of the community coming together after a tough few years.

Terms of Reference

Sam noted that the Fundraising and Social Committee Terms of Reference had now been distributed. Sam asked for any final objections to the Terms of Reference – none declared.

Sam advised that it was hoped that having the Terms of Reference in place that would encourage and provide the freedom for parents to get involved with fundraising in any way that they can.

Purpose/Aim of Fundraising

Sam noted that the Parent Council fundraising goal was to raise £3000 for the year. Sam noted that the total would be reviewed and discussed at the April to decide how best to distribute the funds. Sam advised that the new Parent Council Newsletter would show regular updates of Fundraising Activities and include a Fundraising Thermometer showing regular totals.

Sam advised that on discussion with Miss Ferris the money would be used to contribute towards the outdoor areas and restoring the library. Miss Ferris noted that the library was used as extra space during covid restrictions, and it would be good to return it to use adding in some comfortable seating or soft furnishings for the children.

Monica asked Miss Ferris if there was a plan to build a new library however Miss Ferris explained to the group that the room was there, just that it was used as a classroom during the covid restrictions.

Sam concluded this discussion by adding that it is good to have a goal to work towards and a purpose for fundraising.

5.	<u>AOB</u>	
	Sam relayed a question sent in by a parent not present at the meeting for Miss Ferris. Sam asked Miss Ferris about equipment available to children who are left-handed, such as scissors. Miss Ferris advised the group that there are resources and equipment for left-handed pupils in the school however Miss Ferris will take this back to the teaching staff and order if required. It was noted if parents are aware of specific classes experience a shortage to bring this to the schools' attention and resources will be ordered.	
	A question was asked about the arrival of the P1 Tea Towels and if this would happen before Christmas – Sam advised that it would be looked into but that they should be available before then.	
	Miss Fawkes updated the group on the nursery activity — covid bubbles are no longer required and the children are enjoying mixing with each other. Miss Fawkes also informed the group that the children were enjoying having lunch at nursery and they have proper tables set up with covers and chairs — this activity was helping develop social skills. Sam thanked Miss Fawkes for this update and stated that it was good to find out new developments in the nursery.	
	Sam informed the group that due to circumstances out with anyone's control the current committee is yet to be granted access to the Parent Council bank account and PayPal. However, it was noted that this was in progress.	
	Sam Skinner thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.	
Date of Next Meeting	Next meeting set for 20 th January 2022, this will be at 18:30 if in person or 20:00 virtually. Location and time to be confirmed.	