

Simpson Primary Parent Council Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition - November 2021

Your Parent Council

Your Parent Council Team for 2021/22 are:

Core Council Members

Chair – Sam Skinner

Vice chair – Jo Alexander

Treasurer – Iram Asim

Secretary – Lisa Black

Events Co-ordinator – Jordana Macdonald

Year Group Representatives – The Parent Council also consists of 2 representatives per year group. These representatives are part of the council to be your voice when you can't attend, their purpose is to help information be shared between you as Parents and the Parent Council. We encourage you to be aware of who your representative is and approach them as required. There are generally class chats on Facebook messenger or WhatsApp groups. If you don't use these apps you can email the PC who will forward on your feedback to the relevant rep simpson.parentcouncil@gmail.com

Fundraising volunteers – We have a number of parents who have volunteered to help coordinate fundraising activities this year. A big thank you to Marion, Emma, Jude and Nicola for stepping up to do this. However, we always need more willing volunteers to help deliver the activities throughout the year, if you want to get involved please get in touch with any of the members or representatives.



Objectives

The objectives that the 2021/2022 Council will work towards are:

- 1.** To open channels of communication between the Parent Council and the school
- 2.** To provide constructive challenge and support, acting as the voice of the parent for the school, with a focus on education, resources and pupil wellbeing
- 3.** To raise funds that contribute to the needs of the school and its pupils

Updates on Parent Council progress are also provided at the Parent Council meetings, all parents and carers are welcome to attend these sessions. The sessions provide a great opportunity to listen into Parent Council and School progress, for you to ask questions and have your voice heard.

The next meetings are being held on:

20/01/21

28/04/21

14/06/21

Fundraising

The PC have been busy working on activities that you will see hit your inbox or Facebook page soon!

Virtual Christmas fayre – as we are unable to run an event in person this year local businesses will be able to promote their business by advertising in a communication the fundraising committee are pulling together. The money generated through the advertising will raise funds for the school.

2022 calendar – this calendar will feature artwork your child has created and artwork from pupils in different year groups representing each season. Calendars will cost £5 each, with each one sold raising £2.50 for the school. The perfect gift for family or friends and a great way to celebrate the school artistic talent.

Halloween - Lorna Brown organised the Halloween treasure hunt that was run on 31st October. Lorna kindly agreed to run this as an activity to raise funds for the school and core Parent Council members donated sweets to contribute to the event. A huge thank you to Lorna for running another successful event that the children who took part in absolutely loved. It takes lots of time, effort and energy to do something like this.

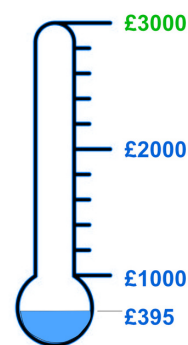


The Parent Council also arranged a dress down day in school on 29th October with kids partaking in various activities with teachers on the day. We hope everyone enjoyed the events.

In total **£362.56** has been raised so far for the Parent Council and we thank everyone who took part and supported all of the activities.

If you have any thoughts on activities that we could undertake to raise funds, or if you would like to become part of the fundraising group get in touch (see details on the next page).

Fundraising Total So Far



Fundraising Goal

The school have asked us to help them fundraise for the following priorities for 21/22:

Outdoor education/equipment – The school has identified that they would like to focus on improving the outdoor areas of the school to provide the best environment for the children in terms of outdoor play and outdoor learning.

School Library – The school unfortunately had to put the library into storage during COVID due to space requirements. The school would like to reinstate this and provide the best reading and relaxing space for children to help with their literacy education.

The Parent Council have set a goal of **£3000** for 21/22 with all money raised supporting the school priorities with specific items being agreed at the Parent Council meeting in April. We appreciate your support in reaching this target!

Easy Fundraising- you can help raise funds easily by shopping through easyfundraising, download the app and see how easy is it to donate.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/simpsonspc/?invite=y2ynnng&referral-campaign=s2s>

You said, we did...

To help us in our role acting as the voice of parents and carers, the Parent Council will be asking for your feedback throughout the year to ensure we are truly reflecting the voice of the Parent Forum.

PC Focus areas survey – We asked what you think we should focus on with responses balanced between Education, Communication and Wellbeing/Safety. We asked how you want us to communicate with you and the majority stated email. We asked what makes a good Parent Council with the theme being good communication, transparency, providing challenge and support and representing the voice of the Parent Forum.

Parent night survey – a number of parent/carers got in touch with the PC about issues they experienced using the booking system which prompted us to send out a survey to capture your immediate feedback. The findings from this survey have been raised with Ms Ferris.

Parking

If it is essential for you to drive to school to drop off or pick your kids up, this is a plea to drive carefully, to park legally and to park safely. The vast majority of parent/carers do this however there is a small minority of drivers who do not. The PC have photos of several cars who, since the start of term, can be seen parking on the yellow and white zig zag lines, parking on a junction or on the pavement, causing an obstruction – all illegal activities. Safe driving and parking is essential for the wellbeing and safety of our children: your own personal convenience is not more important than the safety of our kids.

Highway code:

<https://www.highwaycodeuk.co.uk/parking.html>

Help needed

We still need more people to volunteer for our Fundraising and Social Committee to help with planning and events throughout the year. If you can help please get in touch!

We also ask you to continue sharing and interacting with our activities. Without you we can't succeed!

Getting in touch

Do you have a view on an aspect of the school you want the PC to explore, do you fancy volunteering to help raise funds, or do you simply want to know how to get in touch with the PC? If so here are our contact details:

Email: simpson.parentcouncil@gmail.com

Facebook: Simpson Primary and Nursery Parent Council

Simpson Primary School Key dates:

Calendar form completion deadline and payment
Children In Need dress down
Flu Nasal Spray
Virtual Christmas Fayre advertising deadline
Last day of Term for Christmas
Pupils resume

Friday 12th November 2021
Friday 19th November 2021
Monday 29th November 2021
TBC
Wednesday 22nd December 2021
Thursday 6th January 2022