

**Minutes of Wallace Hall
2-18 Parent Council Meeting
Monday 13th December 2021
7pm via Teams**

Present: Louise Cochran (Chair), Katrina Galligan (Secretary), Barry Graham, Jane Valentine, Melanie Halliday Anna Meredith, Euan Mack, Ann Andreasen, Maria Navarro de Sepulveda, Edward Smith, Olivia Andreasen, Judi Park and Jane McMillian

Item		Action
1	<p>Apologies: Charlene Henderson, Sharon Young, Mark Ingram, Claire Ingram, Caroline O'Hara, Lynne Maxwell, Kerry Fry, Laura Weir, Lynn Smith, Katharine Ellicott and Jillian Maxwell & Laura Keenan</p> <p>Welcome – LC welcomed everyone to the meeting</p>	
2	<p>Approval of the Minutes from last meeting Monday 8th Nov – Minutes approved and agreed as correct. Approved by JV & seconded by MH</p>	
3	<p>Previously point five moved to point three on Agenda Presentation from Jane McMillian Modern Languages Appendix One</p>	
4	<p>a) Rollover Still no takers for position of Vice-Chair. b) Rollover Still no takers for roles c) Card has been written and given to Anna to send to Cathy d) Waiting on one form from PC and a couple from School Travel Plan Sub-Committee members.</p>	
5	<p>Email received from Charlene Henderson given her resignation from Parent Council. Thank you to Charlene for her service on PC over past years. Updated PC Members list to be sent to the office and Vanessa Morris</p> <p>A survey for PC Chair has been received, LC has completed this and we will receive results.</p> <p>Skills Development Scotland session 14th Dec 7-8pm Foundation Apprenticeships for Parents and Carers</p>	KG

6	<p>a) No Report.</p> <p>b) Looking into ideas for next year. Raffle is ongoing includes ELC & Secondary. Doing this in a covid friendly way. AA has made hampers for this.</p> <p>c) Doing a raffle involving entire school. Thank you to everyone involved.</p> <p>d) JV has taken over from LC. Had meeting a few weeks ago. Survey ongoing. No date from Tony Topping yet. Start the document in January after Surveys been returned. This committee will continue after document is completed to deal with transport issues as they arise.</p> <p>An issue MH brought up is when people don't park in bays and park up the side; its very dangerous. Perhaps get help from PC Adair to address this issue as some abusive behaviour from parents when approached.</p>	
7	<p>OA – House Captains from Primary working on Anti-Bullying Policy Display. Create a Poster or some kind of display to let everyone know about this. Pupil Voice looking at ways to improve learning and teaching and classrooms displays. Review of these. As well as recapping previous class and technology uses.</p> <p>ES- School Inspector in school. Pupil voice got to speak to them about covid recovery and how everyone is coping since being back in school and with changes. Advantages and disadvantages. S1-S3 got to speak to them about their feelings and their views.</p> <p>Working with HE Dept to create Mental Health PSE Lessons. As well as creating a survey for S1-S6 on how everyone is coping with school life and previous lockdown and find out worries and what can be done to improve. Trialled with S1 and S2.</p>	
8	<p>Income and Expenditure sent out before meeting for PC members to view.</p> <p>JV is now main contact and signatory and can remove all the old signatories</p> <p>Allowance not received, but we have received an email and they had started making payments and hopefully will be received before Christmas.</p> <p>Pledges agreed via email by everyone:</p> <p>Books - £420</p> <p>Christmas Party items - £350</p>	JV
9	<p>Head Teacher's Report</p> <p>Appendix Two</p> <p>As well as a Thank you to Jane McMillian, Edward & Olivia for joining us tonight.</p>	
10	<p>Science Allocation – Compulsory of 1 science previously 2 but can still take all 3 if pupil wanted to.</p> <p>ELC Parents – Recruitment</p> <p>Discussed at AGM. Discussed ideas to recruit members. With Covid restrictions parents are not coming into school. Although nursery parents do come closer to school. BG to speak to ELC Staff for Ideas. Staff could in theory speak to parents as they meet them at the door.</p> <p>Inform ELC Parents about what we do. Welcome Letter to new parents to let them know about us and outline what we do. LC and KG will compile in New Year to go out to ELC parents and any new parents throughout year.</p>	LC KG

	Possibly of a 'Meet the Parent Council', where parents can talk to PC about what we do and if they joined what they would do etc.	
	<p style="text-align: center;">Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p style="text-align: center;">24th January 2022 14th March 2022 9th May 2022 13th June 2022</p>	

Appendix 1

Parent Council Meeting – Modern Languages

Jane McMillan (PT English, Modern Languages and Literacy)

Team

- Mrs Jane McMillan, English teacher for 31 years, dual qualified with French, language learning has been one of the big passions of my life
- Mrs Kavi Linh: French citizen, French-Chinese background, fluent speaker of four languages including Cantonese and Mandarin
- Mrs Lauren Currie: NQ teacher, qualified in French and Spanish, has worked as professional translator prior to teaching

Past few years

- S1 and S2 – French 2 periods per week and Mandarin insert 1ppw, rotated with Literacy and Numeracy because of staffing shortfall and lack of third Modern Language
- S3 – everyone has had to take French
- Senior Phase – relatively small but steady numbers taking Nat 5, Higher and Adv Higher, with excellent quality of passes

New system beginning October 2021

- S1 and S2 – 2ppw French (because this is the language most have begun at primary school) 1ppw Spanish and Mandarin rotated on a termly basis throughout the year
- New S3 (from June 2022) – current S2 will have free choice between French, Mandarin and Spanish for new S3 course. Will also be able to choose a second and even a third language if they wish. We expect this new element of choice to result in greater enjoyment and motivation amongst our learners.
- S3 Spanish and Mandarin courses will continue CfE experiences and outcomes up to Third Level. S3 French will incorporate the SQA Languages for Life and Work award.

Progression routes

- New S3 will continue to have the option of Nat 4/5 French in S4 if they choose it, and then on to Higher and Adv Higher French in S5 and S6
- Pupils continuing into S4 with Spanish or Mandarin (from 2023 onwards) will have the opportunity to study for the SQA Languages for Life and Work award, and then progress to Nat 4/5 in S5 or S6 should they wish to do so

Implications

- Diversification is expensive in staffing and in resources
- Our French and now Spanish course books and digital resources are state of the art and the most up to date on the market. The digital service for which we pay annual site licences (around £168 per language per course) are used daily in all classes and include a digital homework platform that tracks pupil participation and attainment, as well as downloadable assessment packs used each term

- Additional school funding has allowed us to invest in some of these resources thanks to Mr Graham and the SMT's continuing support for, and belief in, our vision of a diverse Modern Languages experience for pupils
- Thank you to Parent Council for your interest in, and support of, our efforts to encourage participation and enjoyment in Modern Languages at WHA

Appendix Two

Head Teacher's Report for the Parent Council – December 2021

ELC News:

- iBike were in for 2 days last week. The children really enjoyed these sessions, learning lots of things with scooters and bikes. Children who were not confident riding a bike practiced their balance, coordination, and the use of the brakes.
- We had a paper free week last week. Children were encouraged to use other sources for mark making, such as chalk and white boards, and cardboard boxes. This broadened their imagination, and we are planning on continuing this in the future.
- Sustainability is something we are still exploring with the children. We are involved with the crisp packet project and continuing with our composting. The children are taking ownership by washing out any plastic pots after their snack and lunch, to be recycled.

Primary News:

- all classes are participating in Leg it to Lapland this week, a national competition run by Sustrans to encourage pupils to get active. They have individual passports provided by Sustrans and are completing these to record their activity across the week.
- all classes are busy planning and preparing for their outdoor performances for their families. The windows have been decorated in a Twelve Days of Christmas theme and look fantastic. We are looking forward to welcoming our parents/carers into the playground to enjoy the performances and a hot chocolate/mince pie.
- all classes participated in activities linked to Anti-Bullying Week with the focus being #OneKindWord. The House Captains organised poster competition for each class and there was a non-uniform day.

Secondary News:

- Two pupils attended the launch of Fuel Change as part of the COP26 Conference in Glasgow.
- Online pupil interviews for Career Mentoring are currently taking place. Also part of our DYW programme, over 35 pupils have taken part in virtual mock interviews with local employers.
- Our music department received a generous donation from the Thornhill Music for all Group in memory of John Holyroyd.