

Minutes of Wallace Hall
2-18 Parent Council Meeting
Monday 11th September
7pm School Library

Present: Emily McClennan (Chair), Jane Valentine (Treasurer), Laura Keenan, Sharon Young, Maria Navarro de Sepúlveda, Alice Stilgoe, Leah Belford, Calvin Ruysen, Barry Graham, John Blair, Judi Park, Sarah McDiarmid, Angus Forsyth and Daisy McFegan

Item	Details	Action
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies Apologies: Claire Ingram, Mark Ingram, Caroline O’Hara, Jillian Maxwell</p> <p>Welcome to the Head Boy and Head Girl, Angus Forsyth and Daisy McFegan</p>	
2	<p>Approval of previous minutes Previous minutes were approved by Judy and Laura</p> <p>Emily sent out the minutes and agenda but is not sure if they were shared on facebook</p>	<p>Finlay to please post minutes and the agenda on facebook</p>
3	<p>Matters arising As per the last meeting, Stuart Mackintyre has now been removed from the members list by Jane. The list has been updated to the website and sent to the Parent Council Board and Education and Learning.</p> <p>Anne Andreas will step down from the Parent Council (PC) as she no longer has a child attending the school. Suzanne Renwick will also step down</p> <p>The PC information booklet needs to be updated with changes to members</p>	<p>Anne and Suzanne to be removed from the website and mailing list</p> <p>Jane will action after the AGM</p>
4	<p>Correspondence Sally, the Community Education Coordinator for the British Red Cross covering Dumfries and Galloway has been in contact to offer free first aid workshops at the school. The Red Cross have courses of 1.5hrs for adults, and shorter courses for young people (10 years and up). Maximum capacity for a course is 35 young people or 15 adults.</p> <p>A family in Dumfries have raised funds for Hampers at Christmas time. Wallace Hall received some last year.</p>	<p>Emily will pass on the introduction to Barry who is interested</p> <p>Emily will pass the correspondence on to Barry</p>

<p>5</p>	<p>Introduction to the Head Girl and Head Boy Invited to experience a PC meeting</p> <p>Daisy McFegan has been at Wallace Hall since nursery, is interested in rugby and netball, and her team won a regional netball competition today. Daisy works at Thomas Tosh.</p> <p>Angus Forsyth enjoys football</p> <p>Emily, Barry and other members of the PC explained the role of the PC and how it can be used to raise issues and help support important area of work or priorities for the school and pupils.</p> <p>Explanation was also given of the Pupil Voice Group which serves to represent the pupils allowing them to raise important issues. Important for them to see progress. It seeks to empower them. Last year they asked for and designed school hoodies.</p>	<p>Maybe we can invite members of the Pupil Voice Group to future PC meetings</p>
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<p>6</p>	<p>Sub-committee reports</p> <p>Fundraising</p> <p>The sub-committee hopes to do something around Halloween including the popular colouring and pumpkin competitions. Perhaps a small haunted walk. The resources are there to do it again this year. Last year £180 was raised. Spoken to parents / carers for EL7 who are in</p> <p>Hope to do something in term 3 for end of year expenses. Will need some money for Christmas presents, party stuff and crackers. This generally costs around £350. Sponsorship from local business would help, depending how much is made from Halloween events.</p> <p>(The school Charities Committee will decorate halls and rooms for Halloween and vote for the winner. The school Social Committee is hoping to get the Halloween Disco started again. Permission has been given to do a scary game of hide and seek across one of the floors. Planning traditional games as well such as apple ducking.)</p> <p>A question was raised about what are we (the PC) fundraising for? Should we be fundraising for presents and sweets? Are there other items that would be more valuable to the school? What have we been buying with the funds raised? It was noted that some sweets are kindly given by teachers at their own expense.</p> <p>It was observed that it might be sensible to agree the priorities to fundraise for and to have targets to aim for. There was broad agreement that this would be beneficial.</p> <p>Learning and teaching</p> <p>Not discussed</p> <p>Travel planning and safety</p> <p>End of last year we were promised yellow lines on East Morton street which are now faint and faded. It did not happen over the summer holidays. Nothing has been heard back from the person Jane has been dealing with – Kieran McCrudden. He could have moved on to another role.</p> <p>Janes is speaking to Thornhill Active Travel Group. Their issues overlap with the school's. They ran a four day pop up event and did a community survey including a focus. Results show it has been well received in community. They will be meeting Amy to looking at reducing speed limits on A76, proper road crossings and designated drop off areas for parents.</p> <p>School patrol crossing. A parent feels that the new crossing place is less safe. The route was changed by the council's Mark Adams. There was no communication down to primary or to parents of this change. The letter on the change has now gone out from the school.</p>	<p>The sub-committee should meet to help formulate these plans.</p> <p>It was agreed to proceed with hosting the Halloween event on the Friday evening with parent/ carer support if teachers find it difficult to attend.</p> <p>It was agreed to go ahead with the Christmas Card design</p> <p>To help explain what is purchased with funds raised, Jane will send out a list to those members of the PC that are interested to know</p> <p>Jane has been trying to find a new contact and will keep going at it</p> <p>Emily will email Mark</p>
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<p>7</p>	<p>Treasurer's report The income and expenditure report is out. £336 is in the bank for the Primary £1,108 is in the bank for the Academy There are no outstanding requests for funds The PC annual return and financial statement has been completed and was sent out to Education and Learning. The D&G allowance should come in around Christmas time or January and is expected to be around £200. Jane completed the end of year accounts over the summer holidays. They are being audited by our previous Treasurer and will be distributed ahead of the AGM in October</p>	<p>Jane will go through the end of year accounts at the AGM</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Head Teacher's report ELC A new group of children have started. Teachers getting them settled in their daily routine. An optional uniform is being considered with its own logo if parents and children want to do that. In terms of staffing - Jody Anderson is coming back; Amy Gault is on a fixed term contract until Christmas; and Suzie McGinly is stepping back from ELC due to home commitments.</p> <p>Primary P1 has 20 new pupils. Classes are setting up their Charter with rules, rights and responsibilities. Working towards the Gold Award on rights and respect in school. P5 have been out on trips to Drumlanrig and fishing. P7 will be doing some bikeability work so they are safe around school and the community.</p> <p>Secondary We have a new Head Boy and Head Girl and their Deputes, Angus MacCormick and Kyana Curry. They are a key part of the school connecting pupils to the senior management team. We have over 70 pupils signed up to be prefects. Looking very smart with their blazers. They will have training with Mr Blair on the role of a prefect. In PE we are developing links to our Houses by having set coloured t-shirts for each House for S2-S6. This will help to build individual's relationships with houses. Statistics for S4 to S6 exam results were shared. The results show that Wallace Hall students are doing better than the authority average because of the support of our pupils, parents and staff. Barry commented that he appreciates Advanced Highers as they help to bridge the gap between school and university learning. The big positive, is the overall positive trends year on year. Barry thanked all those who helped prepare the pupils for exams.</p>	<p>Barry will share the exam results in a letter</p>

<p>9</p>	<p>AOCB Emily said she is more than happy to step aside if someone else wants to be Chair when the PC next meets at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Emily joined the PC to help with fundraising and events and being Chair does take up time. Barry said the PC is such an important part of the school. It has taken forward lots of positive things over many years and it is something the school would like to see continue.</p>	<p>Emily and Barry will promote news of the AGM</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Date of next meeting The AGM will be 9 October The next PC meeting will be 27 November</p>	