



## St John The Baptist Primary School Parent Council Meeting

13<sup>th</sup> January 2026

6.30pm – 7.30pm

### Attendees

Deborah Quinn	Fiona Vornic	Angela Hoey
Jane Hassan	Father Ivan	Jordan Phillips
Mrs Clark	Mrs McNulty	Claire McGraw
Mrs Currie	Miss Parker	Emma Gartshore
James Quinn	Ruth Mellor	Helen Darroch
Chrissie Denham	Councillor Kenny McReary	Councillor Maureen Devlin
Caroline Kane		

Apologies: none

### **Mrs Currie Update**

- Staff Update
  - Mrs Parker is acting Principal Teacher to cover Mrs Layden's temporary move to another school as Acting Headteacher.
  - Currently recruiting but have cover with Ms Ridge covering P7 and Ms Hogan going into P1 taking over Mrs Parker P1 days for now
- Muga Pitch – no update yet
- Huge thank you to Jane Hassan, who pulled together all the donated items to make hampers to be raffled over Christmas – Over £900 raised.. Thank you to everyone who donated on the day!
- The school welcomed Patrick Doyle (former pupil and now a famous composer (think Harry Potter!) and a visit from Grant Cassidy (former pupil and now an amazingly talented session drummer) All who attended were very engaged. Thanks to everyone involved for making it such a special occasion.
- Sacraments coming up – Feb - P3 Reconciliation (6pm) May- P4 Communions (2 slots, 11am – 1pm slots now confirmed) March - P7 Confirmations (7pm)

### **Finance Update and Donations**

- Quarterly Update £119 – Easy fundraising
- £182 made at the December Coffee morning
- £971 Christmas Raffle
- Current balance £3962.40 (check exact amount)

- Transfers of £340 were donated to the school from Parents at Christmas time, **thank you to everyone who contributed, it's very much appreciated.**
- Schools were given money and bought vouchers which makes gives more freedom how the parents manage the support given.
- Many donated via G71 amazon wish lists delivered – G71 got in touch with an offer – they generated the links.
- School would love to be able to utilise this and pass on lists / manage the donations ahead of time next year.

## Fete

- Discussed Let and locations, and amounts raised last year
- The majority found more pro points for the location to be St Johns going forward
- Arrange a date – TBC / Everyone will put in the Group Chat when they “cannot” do, and Deborah will decipher the messages and raise a poll
- Whatsapp group will be created for Fete helpers – approx 32 offered so far

## ACTIONS:

- Continue with planning, keep groups involved and update and next meeting.

## Smartphone by Ruth

- 43% signed up to the pact
- P3 largest majority
- Ruth and the team have offered to support other parent councils – 62 were involved with only 5 in Lanarkshire
- Ruth attended Scotland regional leaders meeting

## ACTIONS:

- Nursery keen to share details, plans to come share the facts and pacts with the parents
- School website needs to be updated on the Smartphone information – the pamphlet will be updated on this – currently not able to be viewed
- All agreed that there will be a standing spot in the SWAY about Pact and Smartphone going forward

## Eco Room

- Ruth has been pulling together a playbook on past eco rooms for the upcoming fete, to help build an easy to follow plan about how this is managed.
- **ACTION:** Ruth looking into training P4 – P7 to join in the stall at the Fete, feedback at next meeting.

## Parking

- Concern raised that many are still parking on the pavements and in the no go zones and children's safety impaired/ also impossible to get prams and wheelchairs etc could not get passed
- Councillors have taken note of the busiest times, and they can look at advising parking attendants from the council to patrol at these times.

- Suggested cones being put back out but this may cause unintended issues with access so we agreed not to do this for now.
- As a Parent Council, and the school team, we want to create a collaborative approach to this issue and would encourage everyone to be mindful of where they park. It's a busy and congested time every day, we expect that. While the majority of parents and carers are courteous and mindful where and how they park, we do need to minimise the risk to our children who attend the school so please let's work together to make it as safe as possible.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Junior Safety Officers – Mrs Currie will have a chat with them
- We would, as the Parent Council, kindly encourage Parents and Carers to Park and Stride with the children when possible please.
- **Parents actions** - The Majority are being picked up from family members – not the parents that are getting the messages of where we can park
- Parents / Pupil involvement
  - Suggestions: buy more of the cardboard little people (Mrs Currie to cost these)

#### **Safety of pupils on walk to Church**

- Children attending church more often – which is a potential safety concern. We agreed, we all want the church visits to continue, so safety measures are requested.
- Children are encouraged single file etc and there are parents / volunteers on the day
- Particularly the bend/ bridge with the narrow pavement seems to be dangerous, recent accidents to residents' properties on this road, which are on the opposite side where the children walk.
- Discussed – Educating helpers and volunteers / involving Junior Safety officers

Questions asked:

- What is the best way to make it safer?
- Can the pavement be broader?
- Can barriers be put in place?
- Is the width within the guidelines?

Councillor's answers:

- Roads can have a safety assessment
- All agree it's a narrow space
- Councillor Maureen Devlin has asked about changing the speed limit to 20 mph, this is currently under review by the Roads Dept.
- Question of who owns the bridge –confirmed as ScotRail
- **ACTION:** Contact details for relevant person passed on to Caroline to progress the above and feedback at next meeting.

#### **Coffee Mornings – for building our Church and School community and School funds**

- Dates for upcoming Coffee mornings confirmed as:  
18<sup>th</sup> Jan , 15<sup>th</sup> Feb , 8<sup>th</sup> March , (15<sup>th</sup> March is the family mass and Mother's day, the youth group are running this one), 5<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Sunday).

- Helen has booked the hall on the dates given
- Claire's poster has been shared to advertise the coffee mornings via the Church and School
- Mrs Currie will share the dates through school communications to parents.

**ACTION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS:** It would be great to build the number of volunteers and people attending the family mass each month, it's a lovely, welcoming atmosphere and we always have a popular range of cakes for parents as well as our children to quality test (Apparently, there are no calories in quality testing!)

#### **AOB**

- PVG's – Catherine in the office will manage PVG process for volunteers within the school
- PVG's for the parent council members have to have one specifically for parent council for example parent council events (where parents are not in attendance), this is in progress.
- Angela thanked everyone for attending and their contributions,

**Next Meeting is the 9<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm – 7.30pm**