

St John The Baptist Primary School Parent Council

Meeting

19th May 2025, St John The Baptist primary, 7pm



Attendees

- Kevin Smith
- Kelly Weir
- Helen Darroch
- Deborah Quinn
- Fiona Vornic
- Christina Denham
- Jane Hassan
- Father Ivan
- Mrs McNulty
- Mrs Currie
- Miss Louise Parker
- Angela Hoey
- Caroline Kane
- Jordan Phillips
- Ruth Mellor
- Councillor Maureen Devlin

Apologies

- Stephanie Scarafile
- Craig Wilson

Head Teacher Update - Mrs Currie

- Updating PVGs waiting on a clear communication
- Replacement MUGA pitch been agreed following complaint by parent council chair and ongoing communication between HT and SC school estates team. Timescale advised as during the Summer holidays.
- Complaint response answered some questions on the wider community pitch use - not fully answered by the council yet – Kevin will pursue further response update. Discussion re history of pitch access & use at time of School and Moorlands estate being built. Current SLC position is that there is no community access and use is only permitted in School times or via a Let albeit not fit for use for football matches. Access gate via Moorlands estate no longer in use and has been the case for many years.

Building Repairs

- Progression on the roof repairs – due to start on last day of school
- Kitchen replacement works – well underway, awaiting further update re completion date.

Thank yous – Mrs Currie

- Father Ivan for an excellent family mass and all of his support in preparation for 1st communions & confirmations as well as the strong parish and School relationships.
- Kevin and Kelly for their amazing work and commitment, and many years of service to the parent council as parent council members, fundraisers and office bearers.

Finance Report

- Discussed balance - £3904.47
- “Easyfundraising” coming in. Promote this again in new session 2025 / 2026.
- Bank Account change was attempted but currently there is not an account on offer without fees and meets the requirements we need, the type of account that does not require a registered business or charity number for example
- Reached out to other Parent councils for advice on this, and decision to stay until one is available.
- P7 ties covered - Kelly arranging with Logo express

Smartphone Update

- Easylinks are coming with leaflets and information
- These include offering alternatives to smart phones
- Slot at the P1 transition days
- Stall at the fete and gathering ideas for games

Fete Update

- Our community fete is going ahead on 7th June with many plans in place
- Muiredge separate fete on 29th May, Thursday evening we have shared the joint owned resources; popcorn, cotton candy machine.
- Overall community feeling around the fete has been positive
- Sponsorship is so far £1250 to cover key costs such as School let, printing, bouncy castle / mascot hire, face painter etc
- Advertising design work ready and will be distributed in print version in School bags and posters / banners throughout the community.

- Parish Social Development Committee helping volunteering - managing the Tombola offering support of volunteers throughout the day.
- Contacting local neighbours
- Agreed park and ride with Father Ivan, kindly offering the Church Car park
- Angels offered 5 paid staff as well as vouchers and sponsorship
- 13 paid craft stalls so far
- Community links stalls too
- Plea for volunteers and bakers

Future Fundraising

- Spending - bought timber for the reading throne & benches created by MenShed
- Discussed spending Lightening and Sound system - Currently no stage lighting
- Sound is being procured by school
- Lighting quote is over £9,000. Mrs Currie asked that this be considered, by PC for financial support as part of fundraising spend / project.
- Discussion around the benefits of this as well as other educational items, such as reading books that could be bought too. Whilst reading books have been replaced over the years, many are becoming worn and are dates. Books are always a resource that require replenishing to ensure that there are enough at each level and to keep texts current.
- P5- P7 novels are newer and there is a good supply of these. They have been supplemented recently and will continue to be monitored.
- Discussed books & lighting fundraising – importance of supporting the arts and children who shine in this way or don't have experience. However, there is also a need to ensure the school has essential equipment and texts.

Agreed on fundraising

- Agreed to offer money for both books and improvements to stage infrastructure
- Discussed options to specifically fundraise with a set target to consider in session 2025 / 2026

BlueSky Use

- SLC has asked schools to stop using Twitter however there is a need for a simple platform to share communications, particularly time sensitive ones as well as successes etc. BlueSky is SLC alternative.
- Similar to twitter in terms of usage however there is no option to make the private that schools used to be able to do if they preferred.
- Permissions are on Parent Portal
- SLT have access to uploading and there are procedures in place to monitor permissions. This is reviewed and shared with staff. Any errors in posting (Twitter) have been accidental and rectified.

Outdoor Learning

AMCO partnership - Kelly updated

- Wishlist for the children / parents / teachers
- End of June and throughout summer tasks will be done
- Ex pupil going to Glasgow School of Art is contributing

Planting

- Mrs Summers Cooking Club will use our harvest from the planting
- Kevin handing over all details to assist next year to Mrs Summers with materials of timeline on planting etc
- Appealing to parents / grandparents who have an interest in gardening / planting of veg etc
- Jordan shared her husband works with students in Glasgow possible partnership for the future
- Ruth mentioned Viewpark gardens which has been updated

Cost of the School Day

- Fete - free entry for children
- Reduced costs overall and this has been noticed
- St Vincent De Paul donations, discretely managed by School staff.

AOB

- New director of education Lindsay Roberts

Update since meeting date:

AGM & 1st meeting of session 2025/ 2026 - 1st September 2025 7pm to follow the P1 welcome mass. Venue: St John The Baptist Primary.