



Annual General Meeting

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING WINKDYKNOWE PS

DATE: Tuesday 3rd October 2023

TIME: 6.00PM

VENUE: In school

ATTENDEES – SCHOOL	APOLOGIES
Mrs Angus	Dionne Harrigan
Ms Norquoy	Laura Weir
	MSP Pauline Stafford
ATTENDEES – PARENT / CARERS	
Donna McLeary	
Juliet Redmond	
Helen Thompson	
Jackie Keast	
Emma Clark	
MSP Harry Cartmill	
Rhona Tait	
Michelle Blackley	
Claire Anderson	
Claire Mitchell	

Introductions and Apologies

Apologies read out

Agenda Points Submitted

1. School photos – When will photos be taken? –
On the school’s annual calendar and will be in the newsletter. Tuesday 21st November.
2. Parent portal Scotland – on Facebook, they are advertising that they will be the sole source of information in West Lothian. Can the school send more information out and what will happen with expression app, seesaw etc?
Seesaw and Teams will still be in place. IPay will also stay the same. It’s to keep all school apps in one place. The school have had no advice given on other use of the parent portal however if any information changes, this will be shared with parents.
3. Breakfast club – Parents were under the impression that children who don’t eat breakfast but still attend, stay in the hall until there is supervision in the playground? This can be confirmed. –
Supervisors are on duty from 8.25am, the children will be able to go outside when there are playground supervisors are in the playgrounds. All children who attend breakfast club should be encouraged to have a drink at least.
4. Will the link for parent’s evenings be sent out before the October holiday? –
Yes, trying our best to be sent out before Friday. Failing this it will be the first week back to school after



the October break.

5. Helen – Feedback on seesaw

It's been lovely to see how Mrs Angus has been commenting on the posts which has been lovely to see for both parents and children.

6. Can information on the 'what's on', be updated before it happens?

Mrs Angus has taken this on board and 'What's on' information can be added the week before if we are aware of events that far in advance.

Future Dates:

- Thursday 30th November
- Monday 29th January
- Thursday 16th May

Windyknowe Primary School

Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 3 October 2023

Head Teacher's Report

In Windyknowe we feel that it is essential for our children to be open to as many different learning experiences as we can offer from story telling to drama and music to sports to community education to outdoor education. Sometimes we can provide these ourselves and other times we invite people into school to talk or perform to them. We appreciate this can increase the cost of the school day. However, we do everything we can to minimise cost, ensure all can participate while promoting experiences that perhaps some children may not otherwise have. Over the past term we have brought the following learning opportunities to our children.

Author Visits for P2-P7 and writing workshops

The children had a great time listening to both authors who visited this term and their writing skills have developed really well following the visit.

Tai Kwon Do and Judo Taster Sessions for P1-P7

To widen children's experience we organised taster sessions for all classes which they enjoyed



immensely.

Zoo Lab for P2,3,4

As always, the children had a great time learning about different species of reptile and creepy crawlies. Lots of information was shared about how and where they live, what they eat and what they enjoy doing.

P6 canoeing and team building days

This went down very well. Each P6 had a full day of canoeing and team building with active schools at Linlithgow. The sun shone down on them and they all returned to school desperate to share their achievements

Jungle Book performance – P1-P7

We asked M and M productions to come into school to perform Jungle Book. The children really enjoyed their performance and a workshop followed for upper primary classes.

P7 Assembly

P7 opened our year with the first assembly. They set the bar high for all of the younger classes to follow. Their theme was around how the 4 capacities shape our learning and what we all aspire to be. They spoke very articulately and held the attention of their audience throughout. Their choice of songs to accompany the script was most appropriate.

Fire Brigade for P6 and P7

The local fire brigade came in to speak to P6 and P7 about fire safety today. Children listened very carefully and took on board the messages received.

Royal Conservatoire Quartet performance for P4 and P5

We were fortunate to have a quartet from the Royal Conservatoire who came to perform a selection of music for our middle school. This really inspired some of our children to look into developing their own music skills

P3 Library Visits to the local library

Both P3 classes walked up to the library today to experience what a real library looks and feel like. They got a chance to have stories read to them, have a look around and talk to the library staff.

European Day of Languages – all classes took part in Eurovision song contest by recording their songs in another language and voting for one another. In addition to this there was an increase in talking a different language as part of the curriculum offer.

Book Fayre during parents' nights

The usual book fayre will be available during the week of parents nights.

Clothing bank during parents' nights



We are offering parents the chance to purchase items from the clothing bank on parents night at a cost of 25p per item. We will see how this goes and if it goes well this could be on offer more throughout the year.

Halloween Party

Our party will take place on Monday 30th October for all children. As always, we ask for parent helpers as this is a PSA run event.

School Fund

We have used our school fund to subsidise many of the above events. I will provide you with an up to date statement on 29 January after all of the expenditure for next term.

Parent Consultations

Formal consultations will be Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th October. These can be booked online when the system has been set up. We expect this to become available the first week back after the October week if not earlier.

Building Works

This continues to be happening in our nursery building. We have regular contact with the building team who keep us updated on progress. Everything appears to be going according to the original plan and timescales.

See Saw

We have sent reminder information to parents and carers around how to access information on see saw. This is an information sharing tool so that parents and carers of children in P1-P3 can see the learning which is going on in each class on a daily basis. Parents and carers are encouraged to post comments or share info from home which supports the learning process. We are doing as much as we can to ensure parents and carers can be involved in their child's learning.

P1-P3 Literacy and Numeracy Workshops

We offered these to all p1-p3 parents and carers. About one third of parents and carers attended across the 3 stages. These were on offer to help parents and carers know what we are teaching this year and how they can support learning at home.

Students from Edinburgh College

We have students coming to Mrs Smyth's class and Mrs Hasting's class from 25 October for their placements.

NYCOS

Nycos will be visiting P4 from November for a block of lessons.

Tempest



Tempest will be joining us on 21st November to take families and individuals