



Annual General Meeting

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING WINKDYKNOWE PS

DATE: Tuesday 23rd January 2023

TIME: 6.00PM

VENUE: In school

ATTENDEES – SCHOOL	APOLOGIES
Mrs Angus	Dionne Harrigan
Ms Norquoy	Michelle Blackley
ATTENDEES – PARENT / CARERS	
Donna McLeary	
Jacqui Keast	
Lesley Forrest	
Juliet Redmond	

Introductions and Apologies

Apologies read out

Agenda Points Submitted

- 1- Classes are coming out before 3.15/12, is this impacting the children's learning as the children must be finishing up quite early to be out at that time?

All staff have been spoken to and reminded not to leave the school building before the end of the school day (3.15pm/12.00pm)

- 2- Children coming home muddy/dirty - Can anything be done to stop this happening daily? Is this due to the space because of the building work being carried out?

When it is rainy days, the children will be staying in for wet play. For primary 1 and 2, there is no disruption to the children's play area. Primary 3 onwards are reminded not to go onto the field during breaks if there has been wet/icy weather to stop children getting dirty.

- 3- Why is the school going back to paper copies for homework? Is it not more cost effective using seesaw and teams?

Survey was sent to all parents/carers to ask their views on how homework should be sent out and the overall opinion was that parents/carers have said they would prefer paper copies due to technology issues and cost of technology. The school have listened to the parents/carers and have now introduced paper copies for all classes except for Primary 1 which will continue sending out homework through Seesaw.



- 4- Tempest photos - standard of qualities isn't good! - Can there be something done as this isn't the first time there has been complaints? Can photos be taken earlier so we don't have to pay for them in the same month as Christmas?

Throughout photo day staff and PSW's support all children when the photos are being taken. Suggestion from Lesley Forrest was for the school to contact West Lothian College to see if their photography department would be interested in taking the school photos, which will develop community links. Mrs Angus will contact the college and keep us updated. Photographs are taken near Christmas as parents/carers have requested this as they are given for Christmas presents.

- 5- Bucket at the turning circle entrance of the school gates has cigarette buds, can this be removed?

Mrs Angus to look tomorrow and will update.

- 6- Why do children not brush their teeth in Primary 1-3? Surely this should be implemented especially with the cuts to dental visits.

Childsmile have never contacted Windyknowe for P1 – P3 to have their teeth brushed during school session. The school will contact Childsmile to see if there can be information given to the school for tooth-brushing to begin. The school will keep us updated and will see if there's any new information for our next meeting.

- 7- Is there any update on the nursery opening? Session 2024/2025

The nursery work is still on track and the works to be completed by the end of April. The children will start the nursery in August 2024 and staff interviews will take place in March/April.

- 8- School Championship – Why does Windyknowe not take part in the swimming school championship for the children. From aged 9/10 years. Takes place in West Lothian although this year, it was in East Lothian.

Mrs Angus was unaware of this event taking place and has asked Juliet if Gordon Redmond could keep the school updated for next year's application to ensure this is set up for next year so that children are able to take part.

- 9- Is there a possibility of the coffee mornings being held after payday/end of the month to ensure all children are included?

All children taken to the coffee mornings even if there has been no donation handed in as no children are ever excluded from these events due to cost.



Future Dates:

- Tuesday 26th March
- Thursday 16th May

**Windyknowe Primary School
Parent Council Meeting
Head Teacher's Report
23 January 2024**

Christmas Reflection

A very positive experience was had by all pupils in the lead up to Christmas: Parties, Santa gifts, prizes, buses for masterclass performances, bus for P7 transition event, P7 DJ and P7 pizzas were all paid for from school fund. We received a lovely donation from one of our grandpas of additional selection boxes to support with prizes. The Christmas Fayre was a great success thanks to our hard working PSA and all of the other festivities eg cooking and baking vertical learning groups meant that the school was buzzing with excitement. The P1 nativity was super and it brought our new p1 parents together as a community. Enterprise goods which the children made were of a very high standard and sold well. We bought a range of art and craft materials so that children could produce some extra fancy crafts. The wall hangings in the hall added to the Expressive Arts experience which the children enjoyed.

Generation Science

We, once again, welcome Generation Science to all classes over the next few weeks. This costs us £1980 but is well worth it for the experience the children get from working with real scientists.

School Fund Update

£25,962.40 in fund
Outgoings
Camps
£15,915.63
Generation Science
£1,980
Swimming Bus
£90
Leaving £7,976.77

Attendance

We continue to monitor our attendance across the school to ensure that every single pupil gets the best opportunity that we have on offer. Phone calls, letters and meetings all take place behind the scenes to encourage parents to stress the importance of children being in school with their families. Our attendance across our school is currently good but could be better.



Float Coffee Morning

This was very well attended. We raised £743.75 for materials for our float. A group of parents have set up their plan. We voted with the children to gather their ideas for the float and the result of this vote is that the theme this year is 101 Dalmations. We will transfer these funds to our PSA so that materials can be bought easily as and when required.

Lendrick Muir and Fordell Firs

We are currently confirming numbers for our P5 and P7 camps. We have a high number of pupils attending each and really look forward to our time away with them. P7 is at the end of April and P5 is in May.

Classroom Visits

Over the past few weeks our SLT has been visiting classes, looking at pupil work and talking to groups of pupils from each class. We are very happy with what we saw and what the children are telling us.

Staffing

We will be sorry to see Mrs Magee leaving us this Friday. She is going to a promoted post of principal teacher in North Lanarkshire Council which she is absolutely ready for. We will miss her and wish her every success in her new role.

Ms Brody is back working on a Wednesday and Thursday with P5.

Miss Skippens is working across P1 and P3.

Building Works

We are delighted with the progress which is being made. The nursery building is looking great and we anticipate that all of the works will be complete by the end of April. The furniture which is in storage needs to be returned to our school once the nursery is handed back to us so that we can start setting up all of the areas again for use.

School Improvement Plan

We are making good progress with our priorities this year: Developing Young Workforce, Science and Technology, Numeracy and Problem Solving and Enterprise. We will be working on our self-evaluation in May and the Standards and Quality Report will be out to you after the Summer.

Attainment

Our mid-session attainment picture is as follows:

Literacy	Numeracy
P1 – 92.3%	P1 – 90.3%
P2 – 81.4%	P2 – 88.3%
P3 – 80%	P3 – 88.6%
P4 – 90.2%	P4 – 90.2%
P5 – 78.3%	P5 – 83%
P6 – 80.3%	P6 – 82%



P7 – 89.2%

P7 – 89.2%

We have additional support in P3, P5 and P6 at the moment to help a little with literacy. We are pleased with the overall progress this year so far.

Assemblies

P3 will perform their assembly this Friday and P2 will perform theirs on 2nd February. They have been practising this week and both are looking good.

P5-7 Show – Battle of the Bands

The other highlight we have to look forward to this term is the upper school show. Work is well under way with this. This is a great opportunity for children to showcase their talents in singing, dancing and acting and to perform in front of an adult audience.

Cost of the School Day

As a staff we are continually looking at ways to cut the cost of the school day for our families. We all did a training module last week to raise awareness of the struggles some families are facing. Any other suggestions you can think of? School uniform was discussed and ways to bring the cost down. There will be another uniform swap at parent's night and groupcall will be sent to ask for donations before that time.

Any other items you would like me to present to you at our next meeting? Parents were quite happy with the format of the HT report as it is.