

St Margaret's Parent Council Meeting - Monday 28th November 2022

Attendees: Lisa Loran (Chair), Collette Moran (Secretary), Jilly Burns, Stephen McCullagh, Lorna Boyd, Martin Dobie (Church rep), Paddy Conway (ADHT), Anne Crookston (DHT), Isla Wright (Acting HT), Kirstin Shemilt, Stuart Young-Murray, Roz McCracken, Sandeep Pasupulati.

Apologies: Claire Roxburgh, Shazia Imran, Kasia Zduniak.

Opening Prayer – Martin Dobie

More detailed report on ASN provision to be given at the next meeting.

Treasurer post is still vacant.

Two PC members noted interest in taking up the post of Vice Chair (VC) and it was suggested we could have two VC's. Lisa (Chair) contacted the WL Parent Council forum for clarification on whether this was appropriate and has yet to receive a reply. In a bid to conclude the situation the Chair sought advice from Mrs McGarty and they recommended, due to the size of our PC, one VC would be reasonable. The two PC members agreed to discuss the situation offline to resolve the situation.

- 1) Head Teacher (HT) update – see attached.
 - Agreed that an update from the pupil survey will be given at the next meeting.
 - Comment was made of the importance of following up with the Pupil Council Forum to ensure they felt their views were listened to.
 - Agreed the HT report should be sent to the PC (Parent Council) Chair by the Thursday before a scheduled meeting to allow time for this to be sent out to PC members in advance of the meeting, along with the agenda.
 - Agreed the PC will prompt the school office to send a Group call message to all parents notifying them of a forthcoming PC meeting and this should include the link to become a member of the PC.
 - Agreed the PC email will be permanently on the weekly Roundup.

- 2) STEM review – see attached HT update.

- 3) Vision and values update
 - Work is taking place to review St Margaret's vision and values, and this is being conducted with pupils playing a key role in their development.

- 4) Uniform policy consultation
 - The Pupil Council has been involved in devising the uniform policy. In order to ensure all pupils are represented further discussions will take place with a larger number of pupils before then being considered by members of the PC.
 - PC members felt strongly that affordability should be a key consideration in the final policy. In addition, where uniform can only be bought through online suppliers this can create barriers for some families.
 - It was agreed that some parts of the uniform are likely to be compulsory with some scope for flexibility.

- 5) Family Learning suggestions

- Several ideas were put forward on possible Family Learning opportunities e.g., subject choices, careers, senior phase, curriculum detail/resources, Teams, homework and mental health/wellbeing.
 - It was noted that some information on the school website is out of date and requires updating.
- 6) Participatory Budget
- Agreement was sought from PC members for a portion of the budget to be used to pay for school trips for children/families who may not otherwise be able to attend school trips. PC members agreed with this proposal.
- 7) Wellbeing update
- A commitment was made to carry out wellbeing surveys approximately 3 times per year.
 - Attendance group set up.
 - DHT was delighted to confirm a Family Links Worker has been appointed to focus on supporting pupils with low levels of attendance.
- 8) AOCB
- Chair agreed to email the council to raise concerns over the difficulties of the recent survey collecting feedback on council cuts. PC member Jilly Burns agreed to help with the content of this email.

PC member Lorna Boyd attended a recent Health and Wellbeing Champ meeting, main points discussed were around family engagement e.g., importance of home learning, having space to learn, support with learning and making time for each child. There was also discussion on Self-Regulation, teaching children from an early age about their behaviours, thoughts and emotions. Video to follow.

Next PC meeting is scheduled for 23rd January, in person in the school library, starting at 6pm.

Closing Prayer – Martin Dobie