

Leith Primary Parent Council Meeting 25th November 2020 6:15pm via MS Teams

Attendees: Nikki Dunne, Angie Brack (AB), Kate McDonald, Linda Hawkins, Ali Wiseman, Laura Sheen, Nicola Lamberton, Sarah Fraser, Rebekah McVitie, Fiona Craig (FC), Dimos Kambouroudis/Melisa Rodriguez, Kirsty Welsh, Alana Clarkson, Lauren Sweeny, Fiona Lamb, Rachel Riley, Judith Weir

Apologies: Veronica Melichar, Lindsay Grant,

Agenda

1. Future meeting dates have been set **Wed 20th Jan, Wed 24th March and Wed 26th May** – AGM – assuming they are all Teams unless things change.

Update – photos of individual children has taken £2,153.50 in total plus there's a late order too. There were expenses of approx. £600 costs for prints and photographer comes out of this total.

Tea Towels – 75 pre ordered and paid for and have arrived. There are a small number spares.

Calendars – now on Parent Pay to order – thanks to Rebekah for scanning and organising the portraits and big thank you to Andrew for all his design work over the years. Anyone interested in taking over from Andrew as Evie (his daughter) leaves in June. He's done a how to guide for anyone willing to take over so you wouldn't be left without guidance. He's also happy to talk through the process if required. Rebekah is also leaving this year but Nikki can potentially do Rebekah's role. **Do you know your way around any graphic design software or know someone who does – please consider taking on this role for the 2022 calendar!** This is a significant fundraiser for the school which raises £2,000+ every year.

Other updates (not discussed in meeting)

The **Streets of Leith raffle** is still live with a good selection of streets to buy (£5 per street) Great odds to win this year as there's a maximum number of streets that can be sold unlike a traditional raffle. [lppc-fundraising \(lppc-fundraising.azurewebsites.net\)](http://lppc-fundraising(lppc-fundraising.azurewebsites.net)) Please support this and pass the link/info on to friends and family. You've got another couple of weeks to buy a street – the draw will be done by Miss Craig on Monday 14th December which we hope will be videoed and posted on website/Twitter etc. If you'd prefer to pay in cash please contact leithppcsecretary@gmail.com

Christmas cards Project – 184 orders raised £258.50

2. Head Teachers Update

Continues to be a busy term. Staff are grateful for the money donated for playground extra equipment/toys – awaiting order to arrive. **Staff collating the book titles** for us to order for the classes too.

P7 have been charged with designing the backdrop for the new playground stage. The Edinburgh International Festival have picked out a designer to pull the design together which will be applied to the stage.

FC due to meet with someone from Edinburgh Trams group who want to help us develop the playground in some way – she's unsure of detail (££££!) at this stage. **FC will keep us posted of meeting with Edinburgh Trams and what they are willing to do/offer.** No further forward when current playground plans that will be done by the council as they have a long list of projects to complete. Playground equipment – school is thinking of zoning areas from 2021... there should be a lot more for children to play with after the Christmas holidays

There will be no touring panto or Lyceum trip due to covid but school are planning to give each child in school a small gift to make up for them missing out. School are looking at putting together some small food parcels for families they know are struggling, combination of staff and the food bank working together on this.

Photos of some of the pupils busy learning and playing are now in the entrance area of school, using frames donated by Wee Blue Coo – which we will be able to see once we're allowed back into school. Those workmen doing the ceiling/wall renovations have also painted the area as a favour to the school which we're very grateful for.

Ceiling works are coming along well – art room next, all rooms they've done already include wall repairs as well as ceilings. Rooms have been painted as well which give a renewed look to many of the classrooms which was needed.

Staff – recruited some new PSAs and new faces in the nursery as well including 2 Early Years Practitioners to work with the P1 and P2 classes as well as nursery.

66 new I-pads will be delivered soon. Being set up by the company we buy then from which makes it easier than having to do it by school. This means approx. 8 devices in each class.

Review of values and aims of the school – an email was sent out this week asking parents to review and comment. Some children coming back needing a greater level of need. Also need to remember that we may need to do blended learning. **All views are taken on board so please complete the survey.**

New anti-bullying policy being developed which will be sent out LPPC for input prior to wider distribution. **FC to supply this document for LPPC to distribute**

New handbook will be on school website – a live document

New school newsletter coming out next week

Delighted to announce that Angie Brack & Mr Stuart will be staying on until summer session ends. Expanded leadership capacity is a good thing to support the school during this difficult time.

P7 sex education – there's a whole new programme of learning for the subject. This will be initially covered by P6 and P7. There are tools for parents which covers what is taught in class. **The website is [Second Level - RSHP](#)** There will be an information session for parents in the new year.

Ali W – food parcels – can families who are able, donate items? AB – need specific items so school would rather not have actual items donated. AB suggested parents could donate money to LPPC which is ring fenced and given to school to spend on what's needed.

Staff in the past had been happy for families to donate food bank items rather than accept gifts at Christmas. Kirsty suggested we do the foodbank donations again this Christmas.

FC – highlighted we need to be mindful of diverse community and some families will be in a difficult position for the first time due to covid – need to make sure we don't put any pressure on anyone at the moment.

FC and school staff are aware of who may be needing support at the moment. School looking into accessing gifts via Cash for Kids mission Christmas to help some families with getting gifts for those who need support. There's been significant number of families who have already come forward.

AB – compiling a booklet to help people know where they can go for support and don't need to ask the school for help. **Nikki going to think about how we can get the message out that families can donate to the school food parcels.**

- 3. Christmas** – last year LPPC paid for in-house panto for younger pupils and Lyceum subsidy for older pupils trip to theatre. Options for LPPC to support this year as they can't actually attend theatre this year. Lyceum are doing Christmas stories set 15 min x 12 – first few free to watch and final 4 for a charge – school can watch for £50. Brunton – panto 45 mins free for schools but a donation. FC thinks this would be great and grateful for either or these options. Rebekah – feels we should definitely support any live theatre at moment. Vote - YES to both. £50 for Lyceum and £50 for Brunton, we will book both. Nikki suggested LPPC could supply a snack to enjoy whilst watching if this was acceptable.
- 4. Leith Chooses** – themes are isolation and food poverty. We've started looking at project snacks and breakfast items for those who may need it. Instant access for staff to give to pupils who need something without making a big deal. Kate has done initial draft of application and would welcome feedback from anyone who has an interest in this.

PSAs interested in doing walking bus which could be a way of getting some breakfast items to those who need this support as well as help getting to school on time.

Needs to be minimal involvement by parent volunteers as they can't access school to help at the moment. Nicola - Should LPPC support this idea prior to potentially get the Leith Choose money? Kate suggested donating actual items such as breakfast bars etc that this could be something parents could do instead of donating cash to the school food parcels. Currently school keeps any leftover packed lunch items to hand out too. It is costing school approx. £15 per week to cover these costs. Vote – LPPC cover £15 per week until we hopefully win Leith Chooses money.

Alana suggesting can we get a list of things they need and would be useful which parents can donate directly to school so families can bypass the foodbank. **AB can provide a list for actual items** or cash. Sarah Fraser said that Greggs do free breakfast club, porridge etc which can be applied for using their website. **FC to revisit Greggs option.** There's also free places available at the school's breakfast club at their discretion. Rebekah – suggested **LPPC volunteers help out with the shopping of these items to take responsibility off shoulders of**

the school staff. Leith Chooses isn't a guarantee so if LPPC can help with this it would be a good thing. Kate – are there any non perishable non food items e.g. toiletries or second hand clothing that families can donate if they are able for the food parcels - FC to get back with a list of items. . Nicola offering to let us use Duncan Place as a drop off point. FC to get back about location of donations and list of items required. Family worker Liz has been working with families too to sort out clothing etc. Sarah F highlighted a police fund for winter clothing that can be accessed.

5. Parent consultations – interim report cards on children up til now which will be distributed on 7 December and a chance to do a call or video with teacher/parents in the new year. If parents want to speak to teacher before new year parents can do that by emailing school to coordinate.
6. Lollipop person at Restalrig junction – due to staggered start time, the lollipop man leaves earlier than many Leith Primary pupils have crossed. Can we get him to stay longer to ensure Leith pupils cross with him too?

Also St Mary's parents are parking and manoeuvring dangerously in the "closed off" bit of links gardens. Parents and school to get in touch to highlight our concerns.

Lorries also have been manoeuvring very close to school. Alana to give us contact name of someone regarding the Trams

7. AOB – P6 residential alternative no word yet. Next week due to hear from council if P7 will be able to attend the date reserved for April 2021. FC/AB to advise when they know about residential

Christmas jumper day, national day is 11 Dec - decorate another plain jumper or wear your own. Lost property coat rail could go outside Friday before the jumper day for parents to donate and swap.