

Leith Primary Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 31 March 18:15 – via MS Teams video call

Attendees: Nikki Dunne, Judith Weir, Fiona Craig (FC), Lauren Sweeney, Nicola Lamberton, Ali Wiseman, , Angie Brack (AB), Rebekah McVitie, Jenna Caplan, Fiona Lamb, Anelli Kuukka, Gayle Blair, Rachel Andrew, Linda Hawkins, Alana Clarkson.

Apologies: Veronica Melichar

[NEXT MEETING Wednesday 26 May @6:15pm – the last one of the school year, AGM!](#)

1. Headteacher update

Great for everyone to be back, lovely to have kids in. Everything appears to be going quite smoothly from our end. Obviously a lot of logistics still to keep on top of, but children have settled back in really well.

Routines seem to be working really well, because we've been getting lots of support from parents. There have been a few issues about Wellington Place parking and driving and PC O'Donnell is aware of the issue and he and his team will attend on regular patrols which will hopefully make a difference.

Still staggered playtime and lunch time and that continues to work as well as it needs to, we've playground equipment and the children are making good use of the materials – funded by LPPC – thank you for that. We no longer have the shed in the playground and it has freed up that part of the playground so children have more space. But the whole playground needs the revamp but we aren't any further forward at this time. The original design which was the outdoor classroom and the infant playground which we can look at for development

Parent nights consultation – from teachers perspectives it went relatively smoothly with a handful of technical glitches, they've made alternative appointments.

New sets of i-pads are now in school and Miss Scott-Dickins is arranging for those to be distributed across the school. Also chasing up borrowed devices from lockdown. If LPPC were looking to support with digital equipment that would be something the school would definitely find useful. The vision for the council as a whole is that every p6 and p7 every child has 1 device for each child. Further down the school aim is 1 device to 3 children. Mindful that i-pads have shelf life so these need updating. Council are very keen on i-pads in terms of tablets, alternatively laptops are an option and equally useful but are more expensive than i-pads. Nikki highlighted that SNP have said that they will fund for every child to have their own device however this is yet to be seen. 139 devices in school at the moment and 330 pupils. Focus is on P6 and 7 but don't want younger pupils to miss out. A class set costs £10,000.

2. P7 end of term celebration and how LPPC can support

Sports and outdoor learning have acknowledged as the P7 missed out on their P6 trip so have created an epic day out. 11th of June our P7s will go to Bonaly scout centre. Leave school at 9 to arrive at 10, spend the day there – 1. Mini hike in Pentlands, lunch, 2. On site challenging activities, evening meal, 3. Evening activities. Leave Bonaly at 9pm back to school about 10pm. Both classes will go and swap activities so they remain in their bubbles. Cost is £38 per child, school can support to ensure all can attend. Bag pack money is still there and there's £20 per pupil from LPPC put towards the trip. Nikki suggested that some of the funds raised through

bag pack should be kept back to do something else, t shirt, hoodie, etc **Angie to work out PEF funding and will send a letter out shortly when there's final costs and she knows money available.** The staff have already asked the pupils to think about what they'd like to do as another thing to celebrate – this will be worked on during first week back. **P7 parents willing to help plan etc, there will be a separate meeting with some pupils too, aiming for 2nd or 3rd week of term to discuss with parents and pupils – please get in touch if you'd like to be part of that meeting.**

3. Update on after school clubs (not CLASP) including Active schools.

At the moment not available to do due to requirement to stay in bubbles. Lee Goodfellow the Active Schools co-ordinator has spoken to school and realistically it will be August before anything can re-start. **If anyone has any ideas of clubs, sport or non-sport related, that they think would be a good addition to school get in touch please.** It is hoped that the drama club will re-start in August, in the past there has been art club. There is the option of using Duncan Place community hub as well as school rooms as venue.

4. Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer Posts for 2021-2022 school year. Job Share is an option!

AGM 26 May coming up. **Please get in touch if you'd like the job specs for each role,** job share is an option and the role doesn't include everything that current role holders do, they aren't part of the role. We do usually have people who look after sub groups – e.g. library, grant, playground – we are looking for people to head up these teams/groups. They don't need to be formal and could be several people covering.

5. Calendar 2022 – we need help for this project to continue.

Anneli Kuukka is happy to do the design and Nikki is ok to stay involved. Organising adverts and admin are the areas that need some support. It isn't high pressure project, adverts come in fairly easily, no hard sell needed, but lovely to do and fun. **Please speak to Nikki if you'd like to find out more how you can help.**

6. End of year class photos

FC said it shouldn't be a problem if it is done outside, class stays in their bubble. The individual photographer we used in autumn is available to do this again. Means we won't make as much as previous years as there would be a cost for photographer, normal daily rate is £295 but she would do us a deal. We discussed ability to offer a digital version as well as prints but there are issues with sharing of digital files and all parents would have to give consent. Therefore we will stick with prints as offered in previous years. Previous years we did formal and fun photo in previous years. Need to check with Lorraine about how it would work on parent pay. For nursery it might be more awkward due to bubbles and different children coming in on different days. It would mean one cohort would be missing if pics are taken on a single day. **Nikki to look into how to try and include all the nursery children if photos are taken in one day.**

7. Low Traffic Neighbourhood project update from Nikki

Council proposal to make Leith a low traffic neighbourhood, Nikki attended a meeting and there's been a public consultation ran along side the proposal. Two parts – cycle route bottom of Leith Walk to Ocean Terminal and looking at specific roads and how it can be made better with lower levels of traffic. **If anyone else has any areas they have concerns about on their walk to school let Nikki know.** Nikki can bring this up at the next meeting. There's another proposal on going about making Links Place permanently closed to traffic, not just due to covid extra space.

8. Any other business

Playground redevelopment

Nicola asked about playground development plans – she's wondering if we can work more with the community payback team, doesn't look like Parks Team have time to do it at the moment. FC happy to explore that option but she needs to chase up people at the council, especially around safety. If we can get some things done before waiting for the council that's great. If there's anything to do in addition to the original plan, something to compliment the council design. Triangle area – away from football area, perhaps benches or a boat themed kit. Also look at a shelter now that the old bike shed is away. **Nicola to explore this with FC and the community payback team.**

School kitchen will be upgraded, 15 week project, starting in May. Food will be brought in during this time rather than made on site. Pupils will still get lunch but it will be brought in. Delayed from last year. This won't affect access to actual dining hall. Access to kitchen will be from outside. 4 classes currently use the dining hall at the moment, most use their classrooms. Clasp will also be able to use it.

Building work, walls and ceilings – at the moment There's still 1 more room on the first floor which might be done during summer, ground floor 3 classrooms will need to be done at the same time as walls impact on each other – this will be done during the summer holidays. Office spaces also need looking at which will be done during summer term and holidays.

Library – Veronica willing to help to sort out the books etc PSA and some pupils have been sorting things out. Still a bit away from being up and running as it was. Pupils really enjoying the books funded by LPPC.

Noticeboards – can one of the new boards be moved from front of the school to within the playground. It might depend on if parents being allowed back into the playground. Need to decide what content to put in the notice board. In the past notices of things coming up, newsletters, important information. FC doesn't mind if it is one for LPPC and one for school or to do half and half. Easy Fundraising and School Lottery both tick along and if we can promote those on the notice boards. Janitor will put a clear plastic screen on it to protect it from vandalism.

Foodbank – still going well and is well used. Core of around 20 people coming regularly. School also put things outside for people to collect from there so it doesn't go out of date. Liz the family support worker has been helping those who go in to collect items, then AB or HS do other days. Going to add the left over calendars for others to take. Also keep some aside for the new P1 in-take in August. We can still donate 2nd hand clothes to the foodbank, but school got a grant from Asda for brand new school uniform. Any donations that have come in are in the parent room and will be laundered at some point and put out. Other items are welcome not just school uniform.

The mystery guardian angel  who supports the foodbank has also donated money to give each child a chocolate egg tomorrow, they've made sure there are non-dairy options too.