

ST LOUISE PARENT STAFF GROUP

Wednesday 21 November 2018

PRESENT

Siobhan Mooty, Marie Croser, Karen Johnstone, Gillian Bonner, Jacqueline Duff, Joanna Allison, Lisa Cameron and Elena Gill.

APOLOGIES

G Santangeli, A Welch and G McCoy

- 1) Welcome/Opening Prayer
- 2) HT's report
- 3) Fayre
- 4) AOB

G. Bonner welcomed everyone and M Croser opened with a prayer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

J Duff reported that we have £3195.97 in bank. £357.20 was taken in from the Halloween disco.

HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

School News

The winter newsletter was issued to all families and can be downloaded from the school website or additional copies picked up from the school office. It included up to date information on dates for the coming year and school events and information.

Our pupils have attended sports hall athletics and netball festivals and the football festival is coming up soon.

Great attendance at our 'Find Out Friday' session and very positive feedback on the morning.

After school reading club has begun and children are thoroughly enjoying this, thank you to Mrs Cooper for volunteering. We also continue with our other clubs and the choirs are currently practising for our Christmas events. Multi-sports have now moved down to P4 for a 6 week block and will continue across the year.

All classes have visited the local library as part of our focus on reading or are scheduled to attend and have worked alongside our librarian who has had high praise indeed for the children.

P7 and staff had a wonderful day in Edinburgh celebrating their maths champion award and receiving their trophy from John Swinney.

P2 enjoyed their visit from the local fire station to support their context on the emergency services. As you know we said a fond farewell to our much loved janitor; Mr Ainslie and he would like me to thank everyone for making his time here so special, for the kind gifts he received and will miss us all very much.

All pupils have received their interim reports and we had a wonderful turn out at the recent Parent's Evening.

Thank you for the wonderful support given during the Travelling Books Week and the children bought just over £1000 worth of books which allowed the school to get £500 of new books to support our priority with reading.

I would also like to thank all families who helped us to reach our target for the 'Free Books for Schools' campaign which will also see £550 worth of Big CAT books given to the school.

We were delighted to welcome two S4 pupils for their work experience from St A & St B's who were a credit to their school and thoroughly enjoyed their time with us.

Our pupils continue in their focus groups and are working hard to celebrate the achievements of our school but also to help improve and develop areas within the school.

P7 transition information was sent home with pupils and is going well. They had a great visit to Hairmyres Hospital recently to enhance their class context; 70 years of the NHS and learned a great deal.

P1-3 had a fantastic time during their workshops with Lizzie Finnegan and they were praised for their behaviour and enthusiasm during the sessions.

P6 classes from our school and Heathyknowe will take part in a joined up project involving the Champions for Change Award.

Head Teacher's Report – Parent and Staff Group Meeting – Wed 21st November 2018

P4, 5 and 6 took part in Air Quality workshops today with a company called SYSTRA who focus on, promoting awareness of air quality issues, the benefits of active and sustainable travel, and related issues such as car parking near schools which will support the school's road safety initiatives and travel plan.

Parish News

Further involvement of our school in celebrating 100 years of Catholic Education have included:

- A Decade of the Rosary every Thursday with The Legion of Mary during October
- P4-7 have taken part in confessions with our parish priests
- Father Ivan and Father Sean welcomed our new P1 children officially during the P1 Blessing on 9th October
- Our school was represented at the Reception of the Icon into the Diocese at St Bartholomew's Church on 10th October by two children from our RE focus group
- 13 P7 children represented our school at a special Mass to celebrate having the Icon of Jesus our Teacher in our Deanery at St Collumbkille's on 26th October
- The other 13 P7 children then represented our school at a tour of the Cathedral in Motherwell by the Caritas students from St A & St B's high school where they were given a lot more detail about the Icon on 13th November
- The recent P7 welcome Mass at the high school was a beautiful way of setting the tone for transition and showing the children the community they will be moving onto at the end of this year
- The whole school attended Our Lady of Lourdes Church for the Solemnity of All Saints and Monsignor Millar and Father Sean have added a 1.30pm Mass for our school on holidays of obligation as we thought it would be lovely that we could attend Mass together as a whole school and enable the local parishioners to join us

- P6 celebrated their enrolment into the Pope Francis Faith Award with all our parish priests at a service on 6th November
- Our school was represented by one of our pupils (Caleb Welch (P7)) and our Church Representative (Mrs Croser) at the Civic Reception of the Icon at Motherwell Concert Hall on 8th November and it was a lovely way of celebrating the partnership of the Catholic Church and the State and marking the 100-year anniversary of Catholic Education
- Catholic Education Week runs from 16th– 30th November and children are celebrating this in class and throughout their other commitments

PSG Wishlist

Thank you for subsidising the Charanga subscription for another year.

We spoke before about supplementing school trips for classes throughout the year and we thought that this year as we will be going out of school for an end of year trip, instead of each class getting help towards a class visit throughout the year, that the PSG could contribute to the cost of the buses in June to allow the classes to stay out for longer as these buses are more expensive.

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Road Safety

JRSOs and both head teachers met with Marion Shearer to discuss the school travel plan. We will be launching the travel plan at an assembly on Friday 1st February in both schools and children will be handing out leaflets to all parents and carers at the end of the school day. We will be looking for volunteers from both schools to help implement the suggested strategies planned.

We have recently had a number of issues again within the school car park and have issued further communication and guidance on parking within the school grounds. We are hoping to get the staff parking sign re-painted on the ground and are using cones to indicate the areas that cannot be parked on. We have moved the cones further down our ramp to allow more cars to come into the school at the end of the day and this seems to be working well.

FAYRE

- Sub group was set up but didn't get the chance to meet up.
- 8 stalls will be at Fayre selling a variety of goods.
- We are looking for toy donations
- Toy stall, raffle, 50/50 draw, Tombola, face painting, Santa, DJ, Choir, Children's stall, Homebaking/Kitchen.
- PSG stall – a pocket money stall.
- We will have access to school hall from 1pm.

NEXT MEETING : Wednesday 23 January 2019 at 7pm.