

Tynewater Primary School Parent Council
32 Crichton Road, Pathhead. Tel. 0131 271 4710

Meeting No. 62

Minutes of Meeting of Tynewater Primary School Parent Council
Held 9 March 18:30-19:30 in Tynewater Primary School

Present	Shondra Riley Lynsey Roy Julia Critchley Jane Brown Douglas Lawson Laura McDonald	Chairperson Clerk Parent member Co-opted Member Head Teacher Teacher
Apologies:	Nicola Marr Sally Barlow Eileen Busson Gill Penfold	Treasurer Parent member Parent Member Parent Member

Minutes of last meeting/matters arising:

SR to release Activity Plan

SR advised that this is a management tool and it is not necessary to distribute to the wider Parent Forum.

SR to report the results of the Family Night Poll

Results show that a Family Quiz Night is the preferred activity. SR will circulate results to the Parent Forum(included at end of minutes). A date for early May will be confirmed at a later time.

LR to present notice board options to the Parent Council

This action is deferred to the next meeting.

GP to report on the suitability of school shoes for the daily mile

This action is deferred to the next meeting.

DL to explore further maths sessions for other year groups

DL explained that there was discussion with the staff about holding sessions after the summer holidays, possibly at the curriculum evening.

LR to investigate community First Aid Classes

This action is deferred to the next meeting.

SR to contact Department of Environmental Health re: dog fouling

SR advised that the situation with dog fouling is still not resolved and could result in a "Please, Because, Or Else" campaign, which could involve the school and the entire community. The Pupil's Eco Committee would be actively involved. SR reported that a Tynewater Parent has suggested a banner could be purchased and attached to the school fence hoping to deter dog owners from leaving dog mess. SR will contact Midlothian council about extra bins and signs. SR will also mention to the Council about the dangerous state that has been left when the garage was knocked down at the school gates.

LF/JL to discuss with the Pupil Voice Group re: dog fouling

This action is deferred to the next meeting.

Treasurer's Update

The total balance to date stands at £5776.86.

Head Teachers Report

DL reported that the term is going well. There was an excellent turn-out for the parent/teacher meetings with 99% of parents giving positive feedback and encouraging comments.

Teachers are currently conducting Standardized Assessments with pupils.
Mrs Clark has been in school on a number of occasions for her “keeping in touch days”.

In August, P1-P2 classes will have a full 25 hours a week of teaching time rather than the current 22.5 hours. This is a new initiative across Scotland. The extra hours will come from lunch break. All classes will continue to finish at 3.30pm.

The Reading Cloud has been very popular with the children and they are keen to learn about it and are often asking questions. The children are starting to reserve books that they would like to read next. There is a Midlothian Schools meeting in which Tynewater Primary Staff Members will share their experiences of the Reading Cloud with other schools.

School Wish List and Funding Bid

Before the end of Summer Term 2016, there was an agreement that the Parent Council would pay £580 for new outdoor equipment. DL will liaise with pupils to present a final wish list. Funding for team sports tops with 'Tynewater Primary School' on the back was also agreed. LR will price sports tops with Image Scotland.

The staff are keen for pupils to have access to a scheme called “Star Accelerated Reader”, which integrates with the Reading Cloud. This costs £4,274. The staff have requested the Parent Council pay half this amount (£2,137). The bid presented is the cost of a 3-year subscription. Star Accelerated Reader will allow comprehension questions to be more accurately chosen and will assist the teachers to make sure that the children are reading at an appropriate level for their ability. The staff have done a vast amount of research to check that it is the correct scheme for the school. As the full Parent Council was not in attendance, SR will inform all Parent Council Members of the bid and a formal decision will be made by vote.

A forecast bid for Digital Learning supplies was also presented. It was suggested that staff could approach a company for funding to buy iPads and iPad software for the pupils and digital cameras for each class. In the event that funding is not attained, the Parent Council will consider this bid in early 2018.

AOB

There was a discussion regarding pupils fund-raising for charity, LR will investigate further and this could possibly be done after the summer holidays.

The Parent Council has funded £630 worth of items for the Nursery. SR will take photos to circulate to the Parent Forum.

The current film license expires 31st March. The Parent Council will soon take a view on whether it is worth renewing.

LM and SR suggested there be a school disco for Halloween this year.

Responses to the School Breakfast Club are still filtering in. The survey closes on 31st March. There were some comments that parents didn't have much time to respond to the survey previously so there is a longer response window this time. The results will be published after the Easter Holidays and an action plan will be formed.

Members of the Parent Forum have raised the subject of the daily mile. Currently P5-7 take part in the daily mile. They run on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, weather permitting. The children benefit greatly and there is a marked improvement in their work after a run. The children who find it difficult or do not enjoy running can walk the mile. On bad weather days there is often a dance routine in the hall, which is, normally, choreographed by the P7 pupils. DL confirmed that P1-4 will resume the daily mile (or a portion of) soon.

It has been decided that the AGM would be held in October this year.

Summary of Action Points

- ⌚ GP to report on the suitability of school shoes for the daily mile
- ⌚ SR to update on the progress of the Dog Fouling campaign
- ⌚ SR to report on Midlothian Councils response to the state of the knocked down garage at the school gate.
- ⌚ LR to price a banner for the Dog Fouling Campaign
- ⌚ LR to price sports clothes with Image Scotland
- ⌚ SR to confirm PC decision on funding 50% of the Star Accelerated Reading subscription
- ⌚ DL will liaise with pupils to present a final wish list for outdoor equipment

Deferred Actions from previous meeting:

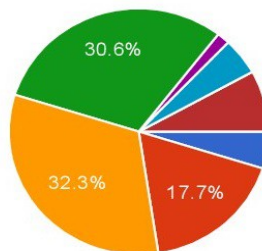
- LR to present notice board options to the Parent Council
- GP to report on the suitability of school shoes for the daily mile
- LR to investigate community First Aid Classes

Date of Next Meeting

28th April at 11.00am – 12.15pm in Community Room 2

Family Night Poll Results – 62 votes

What type of Family Night should we have?



Quiz Night 32.3%

Mystery Night 30.6%

Bingo Night 17.7%

Beetle Drive 8.1%

Parlour Games Evening 4.8%

Family Movie Night 4.8%

Lego Tournament 1.6%

Paperplanes Tournament and Maths Night both received 0% of 62 votes