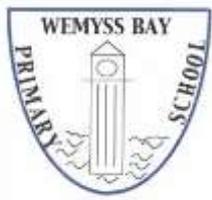


Wemyss Bay Primary and Nursery

Parent Council Newsletter

<http://wemyssbay.inverclyde.sch.uk/parents/parent-forum-parent-council/>

June 2017



The School and Nursery Class have a very **active Parent Teacher Association (PTA)** which organises a variety of fundraising and social activities from which all pupils benefit.

Parent Councils play an active role in supporting parental involvement in the work and life of the school, while also providing opportunities for parents to express their views on children's education

2016/2017 Summary

The end of term is nearly here! With the holidays just around the corner we thought it would be a great time to summarise the achievements for the 2016/2017 school year and thank the brilliant PTA and Parent council volunteers.

Once again the PTA has been absolutely amazing with both the quality of the events and activities they have organised not to mention the money they raised for the school this year.

Both the Parent Council and the PTA will continue to need parents to get involved next year so if you are interested in helping out in anyway please get in touch at the start of the next school year.

Jane McNeill leaves the parent council at the end of term after being involved for over 9 years with the Wemyss Bay and Nursery Parent council. We are indebted to Jane for all her enthusiasm and hard work over the years. It has helped shape us into a better parent council for the school and we wish Jane and family all the best as her son moves onto high school.

Your Parent Council:

Jane McNeil, Mick Barry, Lyn Brennan, Claire Leslie, Gerard Robertson, Gordon Leitch, Emma Allen, Nicola Robertson, Donna Gairns, Lesley Banks, Wendy Wilson

Your PTA:

Fiona Kane, Louise Ward, Janet Blackstock, Claire Miller, Caroline Barry, Beth MacLeod, Lynne McGachy, Lyn Brennan, Donna Gairns, Belinda Graham, Ailsa Robertson, Hazel Leitch and Nicola Robertson.

PTA Summary for the Year

The work by the PTA to raise funds for the school and organise so many brilliant events for the students is absolutely astounding. I'm sure I'll miss something but here is a rundown of the many events that took place over the last school year:

- **School discos** – Always a huge hit with the children, we've had Schools discos for Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter and most recently the Shorts'n'Shades disco to end the term and kick off the summer in style.
- The PTA was a huge support throughout the **Christmas cracker event** as well as the Nursery - **P2 Nativity** where they generously gave their time serving teas and coffee.
- **Krispy Kreme doughnuts** fundraisers have been very well supported by both parents and students alike and have been a successful (and very tasty) way to raise money.
- **Stamptastic**, using the code issued via the school newsletter the PTA have been able to raise even more through commission on sales.
- A fantastic **school sports day** ended brilliantly with ice-creams for everyone thanks to the PTA and some excellent contingency planning by Hazel and Ailsa.
- **Leavers Dance**, the PTA support with set up, room decoration, photographs, balloons and keyrings for the P7s, food, drinks and ice-cream to really make a very special day for the P7s and their families.
- **Ladies Night** – A fantastic fundraiser with many a sore head the next day. Huge thanks to all of the local businesses who generously donated gifts for our raffles.

A big shout out and thanks to all our **parent helpers**, who can't always make meetings or every event, but who willingly lend a hand throughout the year.

Communications

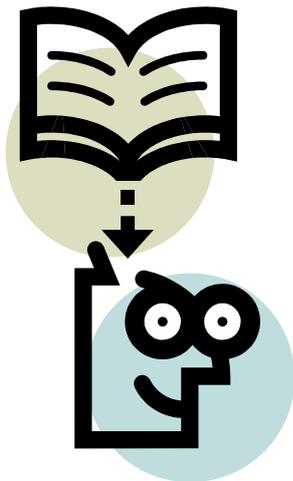
This past year we've tried to improve communication between the Parent Council and the rest of the of the parent body. The main aim was to improve the understanding of what the Parent Council is for and also to let everyone know about measures we have taken to help the school. A new display board with information about the PC and its members was created in the corridor leading to the gym hall.

A Facebook page with information about meeting dates, minutes of previous meetings and any other related business has been set up. The page has been liked 99 times and some posts reaching as many as 500 people.

<https://www.facebook.com/WBParentCouncil/>

We attempted to film the school nativity this year but unfortunately there was not enough time to set this up properly but it's something the PC are looking to do in the future.

Finally this newsletter you are reading now was a new venture by the Parent council and one that we hope to continue into the new school year.



Reading Group

The Parent council supported an **author's visit** (Angela Proctor) for the older children (P4-7). This proved a great success and plans for similar events next year are afoot with local author, Paul Bristow. Paul would be ideal for story telling sessions about local landmarks in a mythical and fun way that would be great for the younger years in the school.

On a weekly basis the parent council supports **classroom-based lending libraries**. We've been helping the nursery log all returned books, assist the children in choosing a new book, read them a story and update the log sheets. This support will continue in the new term.

A new initiative this year was a **book swap** for all the students. Leaflets were sent out to all families and hopefully if enough donations have been made then we'll be able to organize something before end of term. If not then it's definitely something that we will look to have in place for the new term.

Science!

The Parents Council is committed to supporting and promoting STEM (Science Technology Engineering Maths) subjects within the school in particular the initiatives Ms Giambatista has been running.

This year we helped run the after school science club for interested students. The theme was **Zombie Apocalypse training camp – using science to survive**. Over 6 weeks the students learned various science themed skills and experiments to purify water, grow food, make electricity and understand how diseases spread.

A big thank you to **Martin Ward** who donated his time to the school to sort out the many Science resources and equipment that the school has accumulated. Thanks to Martin and Ms. Giambatista's sorting and labelling the school now has a fantastic library of science resources for all students and teachers to use.

And finally we were able to arrange a £300 donation from HSBC's local community fund that has been given to the school to spend as they see fit for the students.



Have a great Summer!

Remember Inverclyde Council will be running the Summer Play schemes at the school from the 4th July until Friday 28th of July, 9.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 4.00pm. £2.50 per session per child and are open to P1 – P7 children. For Further information contact **Elaine Murray 01475 213121**