



'It takes an entire community to raise a child'

Welcome to the annual report from the Parent Council of Riverbank Primary School.

This is the first report since the school has been open and that the Parents Council has been established, written by the chair to provide an overview of some of the important work that we have undertaken over the year.

The role of the Parent Council is to give a voice to all parents and carers (collectively known as the 'Parent Forum'). We work closely with the head teacher and other school staff to solve general issues raised by parents; to help make decisions that affect parents and children; and to communicate the school's aims and practices to parents. Parents are reminded that they are welcome to attend any meeting of the Parent Council. Alternatively, if there is a problem you wish to be discussed or a suggestion you would like to make, you can approach any member of the Parent Council about it. We are always keen to recruit new members of Parent Council and we recommend it as a rewarding, enjoyable and useful activity.

Parent Council membership 2019 - 20

The parents council have discussed the format of the group and agreed that we don't need to have 'titles' i.e. vice chair, fundraiser etc. as we work well together, we do need to have the Chair and Treasurer position for accounts. We feel there is no requirement for us to make this more formal than it needs to be as we find that is off putting and creates a hierarchy that is unnecessary and doesn't represent us as a council, school or community we want to be inclusive and approachable. We will review this throughout the year and annually as part of the review of the code of conduct.

The members of Parent Council and their roles in the past year were as follows:

Chair – Kerry-Ann Wallace

Treasurer – Lorna McInnes

Fund raising and other members

Billy McGlashan

Chloe Spencer

Dannielle Turner

Grace Obiora

Chris Howat

Rosie Leonard

We have had a fantastic group this year, and I would like to give my thanks to everyone for their hard work. A fond farewell to long-serving Parent Council member Charlotte Craig who stepped down as vice chair but was instrumental in the parents committee up until November 2019.

Overview of our activities in 2019

This year was an unusual one, for numerous reasons but mostly as the first year that the school has been opened

- We worked with Glasgow City Council on the following
 - Name of the school and the consultation
 - Consulted on the proposed school uniform and cost of the school day.
 - Recruitment and Selection of Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher
- We supported the school in its opening to pupils and staff in August 19.
- Worked with GCC in its plans for the school building i.e. colours, layout etc.
- We were present at multiple launch and transition events for the school.
- We supported the school in its opening to pupils and staff in August 19.
- Contributed to the PEF Funding
- Worked with suppliers to get dictionary gifts for all children
- We held numerous fundraising and social events as below;
 - Halloween Disco
 - Parent/Teacher Bake Sale
 - Football Cards
 - Christmas Fayre – Bake Sale

Overview of activities in 2020

As a result of Covid there were no events held by the Parents Council but as a group we applied for funding and were successful in grants of approx £10K – Lottery, £250 Greggs, £400 Neighbourly and £9050 GCC Partnership Funding.

We have used this in the following of ways:

- Farmfood vouchers to support families
- Larders (of basic foods) at both Riverbank and Silverdale Nursery
- Power card top ups
- Activity bags for children
- Formula
- Supported the local Foodbank (North East Foodbank)
- Individual support for families.
- Purchased the P7 Leavers hoodies and hosted a pizza (Socially distanced) leavers gathering.
- We have also been involved in the Recovery Plan (Q&A) with the Director of Education and John Swinney (Education Minister) and we are represented within the Glasgow City Parents Group which is a city wide action group that works with GCC and represents families.

What we hope to achieve in this 2020/21 school years

- Consultation with parents/families on involvement and engagement with PC
- Innovative ways to celebrate (within the COVID restrictions)
- Continue to offer some financial support to families
- Establish a pupil participation and engage more with school children.
- Grow a £1 initiative with the upper school
- Traffic / Parking Improvement Plan.

Parent Council meetings

Parent Council held regular meetings in 2019/20 (August, September, October, December, January, February and then through zoom March, April, May and June) and will host an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November. Tommy Hynes, the head teacher, was able to attend every meeting.

We plan to continue using ZOOM to host meetings until the end of the calendar year and then re-evaluate; please get in touch if you'd like to participate in any way.