

MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING 6th OCTOBER 2021

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSIONS	ACTIONS
Introduction & Welcome	John French welcomed all and apologised for the technical issues last week when we had to abandon the meeting.	
Minutes & Apologies	Approved	
Councillors Questions	None at the meeting	
School Captains Update	Grace: Lockers - double checking all keys available and finish this week and then advertising. Payment through Parent Pay. S1 £15 all to S4. One year it is £5. Excited to do more projects. Maisie: Events Yearbooks/Hoodies, School S6 Events, S6 Charities - reaching who to donate to, School Events for each Year Group and Exam support to S3 upwards. Today made a video for Midlothian Council to encourage students to take LFD and record the results. Sarah - Poppy Scotland. Ordering wreaths and poppy tins in to start collecting. Remembrance day; teachers looking for poems and stories to share with classes.	
Complex Needs Provision/The POD	M O'Gorman presented. Early Level are - students that are operating at significantly lower than their age so we need to get the barriers to learning for them to be minimised wherever possible. CH praised Mr O'Gorman's leadership and rigour and is a great appointment to the school.	
Performing Arts Academy	Ms Mitchell - DHT discussed this and spoke about why we are launching Performing Arts at Lasswade High. Not only for those who wish to become performers - many background/stage associated opportunities. Creating links with colleges and have new staff in the department. Macy: talked about the opportunities for this for the new S1's. Will help students with confidence and communication, which helps many subjects. You do not need to be amazing at all areas just be enthusiastic in your own areas. LH: plan after October holiday there will be Google Classroom auditions to check interest in the S1's. Mrs McKenzie - Drama teacher and Mrs McTigue Music teacher will lead on this. Students would commit a couple of periods off their timetable and after school times. JF asked if we were looking at past students who were heavily involved in Music/Drama. Ms Hume confirmed yes many had been approached and we hope their involvement will help launch this. JF praised the work on this and welcomed this initiative.	
Parents Council Chair & AGM	Chairs report and finance report previously sent. Elected members in place for this year. JF last year and parents are sought to keep up the links and good work with the school. Parent council need help to pick up some of the fundraising that Fiona Harris worked so hard on for a number of years.	

Head Teacher's Report	Report sent last week. CH discussed key points. CH highlighted the issues with IT/Access/speed; our hardware is out with its effectiveness as it is over 5 years old and very slow. Hopefully; when stock can be provided teaching staff will receive laptops which will help. Thereafter students will receive devices. SF hoping to enhance the Parents Evening by live links.	
Live Chat to answer question from chat function	Chat attached and questions answered throughout.	
200 club draw	200 Club Draw - Numbers £24 per year £2 per month and this helps greatly for fundraising for the benefit for the school. Please support events that are upcoming.	
AOCB	JF; hoping to have an update from Scottish Government on face coverings etc. CH yes we hope to hear something soon. FSM extended to end Oct so indicates that catering not ready yet. School looking to alter the one way system in the stair wells. Minor changes we can do but need to wait for further advices. JF asked if there was an update on the question on changing the December holiday dates. No update yet but expect it soon. JF closed the meeting	
Chat saved from meeting is attached.		

Contact names for information: If you wish a query or comment to go to a particular person, please add their name to subject field in any e-mail into the dedicated Parent Council email address and this will be forwarded to them, thanks.

Joint Chair - John French (JF)

Joint Chair - Rebecca Lewis (RL)

Treasurer - Chris Hurst (CH)

Skills Bank - John French

Head Teacher - Campbell Hornell (HT)

Ruth Watson - School Business Manager (RW)

Parent Council dedicated e-mail:

ParentCouncil.LasswadeHS@mgfl.net

Next Meeting date Thursday 18th November 2021 at 19.00 via Zoom meeting