

Saint Matthew's Academy

PARENT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Promoting partnership among the school, pupils and parents & carers



AGM TUESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2018 - CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Firstly, on behalf of the Parent Council/Forum, I would like to acknowledge the commitment and dedication of Mr Colligan and his staff within the school, on what has been a difficult year, not only for our school staff, our children but also the wider Community of St Matthew's. The commitment, compassion and dedication witnessed within the school must be commended. Secondly I wish to thank all members of the Parent Council, who give generously of their time to support the Parent Council of St Matthew's, and also to Canon McManus for his time and support in his role as Church Representative.

All parents/guardians/carers are members of the Parent Forum. The Parent Council are the representatives, elected on behalf of Parent Forum. The Parent Council have a page on the school website, and will soon have a dedicated section on the new school App. We also produce a newsletter to communicate directly with the Parent Forum. These are sent home via pupil post.

The Parental Involvement Act of 2006 gives parents the right to receive information about their children's education and to be represented and have their views expressed through the Parent Council.

During this session the Parent Council members were:

Andrena Hughes -	Chair			
Donna Cullinane -	Vice Chair	Maria McGee	Donna Hunt	Aileen McDermod
Eleanor Glen-Kelly -	Treasurer	Alison Tarbet	Donna McCreddie	Helen Cook
Frances Gemmell -	Secretary	Francesca McLaughlin	Teresa Goggans	Vicky Corbe
Canon McManus -	Church Representative	Paul Meechan	Mark Gregory	
		Michael Lafferty	Kathleen Rennie	

A special thank you to Donna McCreddie, as she steps down this year, and also to Eleanor for her many years supporting the Parent Council, especially in her role as Treasurer.

The Parent Forum usually meet every 5/6 weeks, usually on a Monday, within the school. Mr Colligan is always in attendance. The Minutes of the last meeting will be displayed on the Parent Council notice board in the foyer of the school and in our local parishes. All parents/guardians/members of the Parent Forum can attend our meetings, and any member of the Parent Forum can request a subject for discussion at a Parent Council meeting. The request must be regarding a general school issue or development, rather than an individual child. The request should be made in writing to the Chair or the Head Teacher, not less than two weeks prior to the next meeting.

Usual topics for discussion at our meetings include:

- School Improvement Plan
- SCES – Scottish Catholic Education Service
- SQA results and attainment
- Curriculum for Excellence
- Staffing/School Budgets
- School diary/events
- Fundraising

The Head Teacher also uses the meetings of the Parent Council to consult on proposed developments regarding the running of the school and/or the curriculum.

As Chairperson, I have been involved in the interviews for all Depute Head Teacher posts. The Parent Council were also represented, and spoke directly with John Butcher, when the school was visited earlier this year.

This allowed the Parent Council to express clearly the feedback from all members of the Parent Forum.

Chairperson's Report (cont'd)

Parent Council members have had a presence at all Parents' Nights this year, as well as our P7 Induction Night, our Welcome Mass and the S6 Graduation Mass. This gives the Parent Forum the opportunity to ask any questions regarding the role of the Parent Council. Members also attended the Junior and Senior Awards Ceremony, Cabaret Evening, Christmas Concert and this year's production of Guys & Dolls - all fantastic examples of the talents we have within our school.

We were approached on behalf of the children participating in the Duke of Edinburgh awards. They were looking for tents and various other items of equipment, which the ever reducing school budget unfortunately did not cover. We participated in two bag packing exercises in Asda and Morrisons and were able to donate £1075.00 to help this worthy group. We have already asked for staff suggestions for this year's 'targeted' group. We have also covered the costs of School Planners, Refreshments for the P7 Induction evening and Mass, some of the production cost of Guys & Dolls, the catering/buffet for the Pre-prom event within the school. In session 2018/2019, we will continue to support Mr Colligan and our school community, specifically to:

- Promote and communicate the role of the Parent Council
Support the school regarding Curriculum for Excellence and Broader General Education
- School Improvement Plan and recruitment where appropriate
Fundraising events to support activities for our children.

We all work in partnership for the best for our children, and we will continue to work with our parents, our school and the Church to ensure these excellent partnerships continue. The Parent Council is independent of the school and it's members each bring different qualities, with individual skills, knowledge and experience. If you wish to come along and join us, you would be very welcome.

To conclude, I would like to thank everyone for their on going support, to the Parent Council, our children and our School.

Andrena Hughes
Chairperson



Parent Council Meeting Dates

14th Jan 2019
25th Feb 2019
25th Mar 2019
7th May 2019
11th June 2019

PARENT COUNCIL 2018/19

Andrena Hughes
(Chair)

Paul Meechan
(Vice Chair)

Teresa Goggans
(Treasurer)

Frances Gemmill
(Secretary)

Alison Tarbet

Kathleen Rennie

Vicki Corbett

Mark Gregory

Michael Lafferty

Franchesca McLaughlin

Aileen McDermott

Maria McGee

Eileen Murney

Donna Hunt

Donna Cullinane

Clare Brawley

Marsha Maurri

Amy Maxwell

Jan McQuade

Canon McManus

Church Rep

Stephen Colligan

Head Teacher

AGM - TREASURER'S REPORT

Eleanor Glen-Kelly

ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT 2017-18			
INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance B/F from 2016-17	1815.50		
		29/9/17 NAC Catering (AGM)	28.00
		4/12/17 Eleanor Glen-Kelly (Paper PC Leaflet)	11.10
			39.10
Balance B/F from 4/12/17	1776.40	St Matthews (School Planners)	750.00
		St Matthews (Printing costs)	100.00
			850.00
Balance B/F from 26/3/18	926.40	St Matthews (PC Publicity Pre-Prom)	450.00
		St Matthews (PC Publicity Sch Show)	250.00
Balance B/F from 30/4/18	226.40		700.00
Sub Total	226.40		
Expenditure	-0.00		
TOTAL	£226.40		
BALANCE in Bank	£226.40		

PROJECT ACCOUNT 2017-18			
INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance B/F from 2016-17	476.02		
Balance B/F from 4/12/17	476.02		
20/2/18 Hidden Team Cards	300.00		
20/2/18 Asda Bag Packing	675.00		
Balance B/F from 28/2/18	1351.02	12/3/18 Donation to St Matthew's (DoR)	675.00
Balance B/F from 26/3/18	676.02	25/5/18 Donation for Football Strips	500.00
Balance B/F from 30/4/18	176.02		
5/6/18 Bag Pack 2015	134.00	6/7/18 Donation to St Matthews (DoR)	400.00
			261.00
Sub Total	581.02		
Expenditure	-400.00		
Total	£181.02		
BALANCE in Bank	£181.02		

USEFUL WEBSITES

Scottish Qualifications Authority - <http://scqf.org.uk>

Parent Zone - <http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone/>

For info on choosing subjects - <http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/subjectchoices?>

[utm_source=parentorg&utm_medium=Display&utm_campaign=Subject_Choices_2018](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/subjectchoices?utm_source=parentorg&utm_medium=Display&utm_campaign=Subject_Choices_2018)