

holyfamilyparentcouncil@outlook.com

Minute of Meeting of Holy Family Primary School Parent Council

Venue: St. Ninian's High School

Date: 25 November 2024

Item 1 – Prayer

Meeting was opened with school prayer

Item 2 – In Attendance:

Mark Farrell – Chair
Andrew Gallagher – Head Teacher
Carolina Pogginna
Frances Breslin Davda
Hilda Quail (Church Rep)
Lorraine Wylie
Reece Davis (Teacher Rep)

Item 3 – Apologies

Marie McGovern
Julie O'Brien
Joanna Abrahan
Laura Ryan
Pauline Devine
Laura Pursey

Item 4 – Minute of Last Meeting – Corrections

There were no corrections or amendments.

Item 5 – Update from Head Teacher

Mr. Gallagher updated the council on staffing that Mrs. Wood is currently acting head teacher at Holy Trinity until at least after Christmas with her remit being picked up by other staff.

The school role is currently unchanged.

The school supported Catholic Education Sunday with pupils representing the school at mass on Sunday 24/11/2024.

Reconciliation will take place on Thursday 28/11/2024

The school will be having their UNCRC accreditation on 28/11/2024, they are aiming for a silver award.

Communication with parents over the future for residential visits was discussed.

School branding was also discussed with prototypes and concepts shown.

Item 6 – Feedback from Parent Forum

Mark informed the council that the parent forum had looked at 3 areas:
CIRCLES an inclusive approach to supporting learners across all sectors of the authority.

The increase in the use of parent portal.

Improving parental involvement and engagement

Item 7 – Boghead Road Stairs

Mark informed the council that a pupil has a nasty slip and fall on the stairs from Boghead Road to the school. The parent council decided that they would contact East Dunbartonshire Council over this and the situation involving the temporary fix that has been in place for approximately 4 years. The decision was made to contact parents to get a total of how many accidents involving the stairs have occurred since August 24. These figures would be collated prior to contacting East Dunbartonshire Council.

Item 8 – “Science is lies”

Mark informed the council that a parent had contacted the council regarding comments made by Fr. Toner.

‘my P4 daughter said something along the lines of “science is lies, Father Toner told us today”’

Mr. Gallagher had contacted Fr. Toner prior to the meeting to get his input and invite him to the meeting unfortunately due to other commitments Fr. Toner was unable to attend. However he did inform Mr. Gallagher that he had neither said nor intended that to be the message. He also expressed that he was upset that this was the message that was taken away.

The incident happened when there was a discussion around the big bang and the existence of God.

There was a parent there who was also on the parent council and they categorically claimed that Fr. Toner did not say that “science is lies”.

It is their opinion that Fr. Toner’s explanation was excellent and they even thanked them for the explanation.

This clearly has been a case of the message being “lost in translation”

Item 9 – Communication (P7 Trip)

This was addressed during the update from Head Teacher and a letter would be issued shortly.

Item 10 – A.O.C.B.

Uniform

Lorraine updated the council that no supermarkets had replied to her queries over the provision of brown uniform.

Carolina highlighted that Black, Blue and Grey were the only colour for pure cotton tops.

School Buses

Lorraine had highlighted that there had been issues with pupils not wearing seat belts on the school buses. There was a discussion over how to communicate the importance of wearing seat belts to parents.

Sacrament Club 30 November

Due to the Christmas Fayre taking place that day there will only be a rehearsal 1200-12.30

Date of Next Meeting – 10th February 2025

MF 26/11/2024