**Parent Council Minutes**

23/09/25 - 2.30pm

**In attendance**: Catriona - HT, Tamsin – Secretary and Treasurer, Ellie – Chair

Nicola, Kirsty.

Previous Minutes: No matters arising

**Head Teacher Report**

The class has just been on a trip to Edinburgh Zoo to enhance the pupils learning on animals and zoos which went very well.

There is a trip planned to Beirhope Alpacas in the Spring/summer term.

The class is attending the Schools Border Book Festival in Jedburgh.

The school benefits from going on lots of trips throughout the year and as we are small in numbers we are able to take the class on more trips than bigger schools who would only get one trip a year.

The class has been split into groups for pupil council and eco community to work towards outdoor awards. Mrs Georgeson has signed up for a Digital Skills award for the school and will work towards that.

There will be some collaborative work with Yetholm Primary School as they have a great outdoor woodland area that we can visit and can join them in some activities.

There has been dyscalculia and neurodiversity in the classroom training for teachers recently.

**Other Items**

Kirsty asked what was happening with the **Nursery** letter that they wrote and sent to the council enquiring about what was happening with the Nursery at Sprouston which is currently mothballed. Catriona advised that she would get in touch with Lesley Munro and invite her to join a meeting at school to discuss this.

It was agreed that if we could get the Nursery back it would massively improve the footfall for the school. Several children a year have wanted to enrol in the Nursery and are having to be turned away.

Catriona said that the school is planning an **open day** in November before enrolment week to invite parents in to the school to have a look around. Teas and coffees set up and maybe the pupils could set something up too.

It was suggested that we invite Castlegate to an event before that date to encourage some of their parents to attend the Open day.

Kirsty suggested asking the ‘Swap Shop’ if they would be able to come and set up in school on that day to get some more people through the door. Kirsty is going to make contact with them and also ask Castlegate to promote to their families.

Nicola asked if a trip to **Field to Fork** would be viable as it had been a long time since the school had visited. It was suggested that parents could drive their own children to eliminate the need and cost of a bus. A Friday morning was suggested in November. Tamsin to get in touch with Sally to enquire.

The Parent Council will organise a **Halloween disco** to be held in school on Thursday 30th October, starting at 5.30 with some games and then hiring Noons to come in and supply the disco from 6-7pm. Apple bobbing, donuts on a string, hidden items in jelly were all suggested for games. Tamsin to book Noons.

**Fundraising Ideas**

It was suggested that we do a slot at **Sainsburys for bag packing** close to Christmas, Tamsin will make contact and arrange a date with Sainsburys for a Friday afternoon.

Ellie advised that she had recently bought a **banner** and that it would be good it we had something like that for the school for the different events that we hold. Ellie will look into this and organise. Parent Council will pay for it.

The subject of a **sponsored walk to Sainsburys** was proposed again and it was agreed that this would be arranged for the last week in October. Tamsin and Catriona to arrange a date and send out information. Tamsin to get in touch with Sainsburys to see if they will supply refreshments.

Nicola asked whether the village hall would be having a **Christmas Fair** this year and if so if we could have a table there to sell raffle tickets and maybe more. She will get in touch with them to enquire.

It was agreed that we would hold a raffle again this year anyway as it was so lucrative and successful last year.

It was also suggested that we could have a stall at the Kelso Farmers Market to promote the school and sell tickets for the raffle. Tamsin to look into this.

**Treasurers Report**

* Accounts update: Current balance is £885.45

After paying £127.50 for half the cost of the school website.

**NEXT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING DATE AGREED**:

Monday 3rd November 2025