

Tynecastle Parent Council Meeting

11 January 2016

Attendance: Sue McKendrick-Chair, Hazel Kinnear-Head Teacher, Iain Mckendrick, Beatrice Bryant and Karen Robertson (Minutes).

Apologies: Morag Thomas, Gail Fairgrieve, Caroline Astor, Jane-Anne Dodds

Item	Discussion key points	Action by
1. Introduction, apologies and approval of minutes	<p>Sue made introductions and noted apologies.</p> <p>Minutes of 11.11.15 meeting approved.</p>	
2. Feedback on Pantomime and PC Tuck Shop	<p>Noted that panto was excellent and received positive feedback.</p> <p>Tuck shop earned £93.70 profit.</p>	
3. Update on South West Edinburgh: Grant a Grand for young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 grants of £1000 to be awarded from the Neighbourhood Partnership fund. • PC have made 2 bids: bikes & music festival, and have collaborated with Active schools on girls sports. • The Student Council has made a joint bid with Gorgie Farm. • Karen asked if Tynecastle would be willing to host a voting box for the scheme and Hazel agreed. Karen to pass Hazels details onto the SW Edinburgh Team. • Voting takes place during February and the results are due 26th February 2016. 	Karen Hazel
4. HeadTeacher's Report	<p>Head Teacher's Report to Parent Council - January 2016</p> <p>Staffing</p> <p>We are delighted to welcome the following staff who have started with us since our last meeting in November:</p> <p>Andrew Bryce - Lead Teacher for Numeracy across CEC and permanent Curriculum Leader Mathematics and Numeracy</p> <p>Josephine Frater - permanent teacher of Physics</p> <p>Peter O'Connor - acting Curriculum Leader for Modern Languages</p> <p>Louise Pirie - permanent teacher of Mathematics</p> <p>We also have the following staff continue with us:</p> <p>Sue Bellis - teacher of Biology and Science</p> <p>Fiona Borth - teacher of Mathematics</p> <p>Pauline Ritchie - teacher of Physics and Science</p> <p>Our only remaining posts to fill are one full time Mathematics post and one part-time PE post. These adverts closed today and we are extremely pleased with the responses and will be interviewing as soon as possible.</p> <p>We also said farewell to the following staff:</p> <p>Martyn Call - acting Curriculum Leader of Mathematics who left for Australia</p> <p>Alan Murphy - teacher of Mathematics</p> <p><u>Attainment and Achievement</u></p> <p>Our S3 Exam Experience was very positive with our invigilators commending our students for their approach to this first experience in a formal examination environment.</p>	

Our Senior Students today started their prelims. An extensive Study Support programme, Mentoring and Raising Attainment for All project supports our students to ensure that they have the very best opportunities to succeed at this time.

We were delighted with the high turnout of parents/carers at our Senior Phase Parents' Nights because we know that only by working together can our young people achieve their potential. We really appreciate all feedback and can only improve if we receive this. We would like to thank all parents/carers who completed questionnaires at our Parents' Evenings and who attended our Focus Group. This information is being used to further improve our communication with you.

There have been a number of achievements since November and a fuller picture of the whole term can be found in our Winter Newsletter on school website. Further updates since then include:

James Plays - Advanced Higher History, Advanced Higher and Higher English students were given the opportunity to work with two drama specialists from the National Theatre in December. They were introduced to the themes of Rona Munro's three historic James plays - leadership, political intrigue and power struggles. They then took part in an informal debate. On the 26th of this month students will hold a debate in school based on the themes of the play which will be blogged live by the students and witnessed by the National Theatre specialists.

Three students will be chosen to take part in a special weekend on the 7th and 8th of Feb. On the Saturday they will attend a special performance of all three plays at The Festival Theatre. On the Sunday they will attend a series of workshops at Edinburgh Castle and will be given a tour of the very places the action took place.

Ms Howie also had the opportunity to meet and hear Rona Munro speak about the plays at a special CPD teacher session in Edinburgh Castle as part of the project. She reported that it was, "very exciting and I was a little star struck as I studied her play 'Bold girls' for Higher English back in the day!"

Book Week - To celebrate Book Week Scotland in November, S1 and S2 students took part in a "Haggis Hunt" during their regular visits to the School Library with their English teachers. Students answered a variety of questions about Scottish authors, stories and poems, having hunted round the library to find questions and clues. At the end, a comic haggis was to be found lurking under the library counter!

EES - S6 students had the opportunity for two days hard work at Strathclyde University on their audio visual showpiece for Dialog semiconductors.

Assemblies

Festive achievements also included our students performing at the annual Christmas Concert at Carrikkvale, the Fanfare Concert

at Central Halls, Tollcross and our very own pantomime, Cinderella. A huge thank you goes to all students, staff, parents and carers who ensured that these events were so successful. We are also now through to the final of the national Poetry by Heart competition with one of our S6 Students reciting their chosen poem on Saturday 6 February at The Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, National Gallery of Scotland, the Mound.

Fundraising

We are extremely proud of our school community ethos and our reputation as a school which not only promotes the highest possible levels of attainment and achievement but also cares. During the winter term there is always a particularly strong emphasis on thinking of others at a time when the weather, health, finances and the emotional impact of the holidays can make it a difficult. As always our fundraising and time meant that the Elderly in the Community and the Homeless received parcels of food and clothing for which I have received many grateful letters.

Our Polar Academy fundraising was also fantastically successful and led by Sam Clarke, teacher of Biology, the target of £2,500 was raised. Again I would like to thank everyone who contributed time, baking or funds to ensure that we met this target to allow for the once in a lifetime experience for two of our students.

The following feedback from Andy Enwood, acting Curriculum Leader of Performance was noted:

Dance T-Shirts: Have been ordered (from Image Scotland) and we are awaiting delivery. Once they arrive we will put them up on our twitter page @tynecastlepe and also have a picture on our new Department Plasma Screen which is due to be installed in the next week!

Music System: This has been ordered from our end through the Oracle system and we are awaiting its arrival.

Girls Football Strips: The girls are going through the process of selecting another set as the initial set they chose turned out to be no longer in production (this we found out at the end of a lengthy selection period!)

HWB Notice Boards: Claire has priced up the Notice Boards for the HWB information in the boys and girls changing rooms. The notice boards can each take 4 A4 posters. Each board costs £69.99. **Agreed should bid for 2 for boys and 2 for girls changing rooms 4x£69.99 + labour = approx. £350). To be considered at Feb PC meeting.**

Ukulele's: These have been ordered from our end through the Oracle system and we are awaiting their arrival.

The Performance Faculty is extremely grateful for the support given. I would like to ensure that this support is improving the experience and opportunities we are currently delivering and also looking to develop.

Andy Enwood
All -PC

<p>5. Burns Supper</p>	<p>Burns Supper - Friday 29 January 2016 6.45pm to 11pm Ticket Price: £12.50 adults and £8 children. Free for performers/helpers. Sue to update prices on booking form.</p> <p><u>The following was discussed/noted/agreed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We discussed the Programme. Hazel has secured most of the speakers, waiting staff, singers and dancers. Gavin Corbett will address the haggis. Piper to be sourced. • School Caterers will be used as they matched 4 option menu of outside caterer at £7/head which includes haggis (meat or veg), neeps & tatties & tea/coffee & shortbread. Sausage, beans and mash and veggie casserole options too. (No pizza arranged). • Roundhouse Ceilidh Band (contact is Calum Marwick) booked - £310. • Bar license arrived (needs to be on display). Hazel will run the bar with members of staff and Louise Stables (parent) will help on bar. • Sue will shop for drinks. • Agreed a table layout - Sue will ask janitors to position. • Volunteers needed 2-4 pm on Friday 29.1.16. Karen and Sue so far. • Folding napkins - Sue will ask Dave to do this. • Beatrice will price and get banqueting roll and battery operated tea lights. • Flowers in small jars labelled with table numbers - Sue/Karen and other volunteers to set up on the Friday afternoon. • Karen to make up a 10 question Burns Quiz. • Table allocation - Sue and Hazel. • Promotion: posters, twitter, website, facebook etc. All in hand. Beatrice to supply Karen with a poster for Marjiotta notice board. • Donations of Tablet and homebaking - please label with ingredients and highlight if contains nuts. (Sue will bag up tablet if ready by Tuesday before). • Donations welcome for raffle prizes (any unwanted Christmas presents - chocolates preferred to wine). Already have a signed football. • Will do sweets/coin game. • Student ideas: Award for best dressed - Hazel to ask Matthew McDiarmid who won last year if he will present this year. • Agreed to use gym benches to protect Band from dancing. 	<p>Sue</p> <p>Hazel Gavin</p> <p>Hazel and support Sue Sue</p> <p>Sue/Karen Sue/Dave Beatrice</p> <p>Sue/Karen</p> <p>Karen Sue/Hazel Beatrice/ Karen</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>Hazel</p>
<p>6. Raffle license update</p>	<p>Sue to ask Caroline to follow up.</p>	<p>Sue Caroline</p>
<p>7. Follow up on Last minutes:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iain and Sue have put forward some proposals for revising the constitution and Beatrice and Karen have commented on 	

Constitution/ Charitable Status/ Grants	<p>this draft version.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed Sue to send the revised draft constitution to Ros Sutherland at Edinburgh Council to ask if it meets the requirements to apply for PC charitable status. • Sue will circulate the revised draft constitution to PC list to give the required 4 weeks notice for comments. • Revised constitution to be discussed and agreed at next PC meeting on 23February 2016. 	<p>Sue All</p>
<p>Future PC Meeting Dates for Diary [7-8:30 pm]: Tuesday 23 February Monday 25 April, Tuesday 31 May 2016 -AGM (with refreshments)</p> <p>Other Key Dates: Thursday 14th January: S2 Parent Information Evening 14th - 20th January: S4-S6 Prelims Tuesday 19th January S2 Parents' Consultation Evening Friday 29th January: Burns Supper Monday 8th February: S3 Parents' Consultation 15th-19th February Half term</p>		