

LASSWADE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL



NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2012

INTRODUCTION

2011/2012 has been a very busy year for the Parent Council with many events already having taken place and a few still to go. A big thank you must go to all parents and teachers who support the events that are organised by the Parent Council and to the families who come along – keep up the good work everyone – we couldn't do it without you!!

FUNDRAISING

This year, with new members joining, new ideas for fundraising were raised, and along with the usual events, we have also had a very successful Blingo night. A first for Lasswade Primary but we are sure it won't be the last as it was a great success!! If you have any good ideas – please let us know!!

The fundraising thermometer (also on the school website) is shown below:



As you can see, the money raised has been put to good use within our school. We are constantly fundraising for cash to help improve the learning experiences of our children – if you'd like a say on how this money is spent, speak to a Parent Council member or come along to our regular meetings.

Information about the Parent Council, their events, funds raised and how they are spent can be obtained on the school website:

<http://lasswade.mgfl.net/> - Why not add this to your favourites!

WHAT ELSE DO THE PARENT COUNCIL DO?

In the last year, the parent council has been involved in many activities in and around the school - not just fundraising.

Did you know, there is a parent council rep for each year group in school? During each term the allocated parent council rep will join their given year group for lessons/activities and feedback any points to the parent council meetings as appropriate. This allows the Parent Council to see what happens in our class rooms.

Parent Council reps also attend teacher interviews, organise school uniform orders and have taken part in Scotland-wide consultations as well as organising all the various fund-raising and social events within the school.

Members of the Parent Council also attend regular discussion groups/workshops with other Parent Councils in Midlothian to share ideas and discuss current issues.

Finally, the clearing of the wildlife garden was organised and carried out by a member of the Parent Council and a team from RBS as part of their community work. Work will hopefully shortly begin on rebuilding the garden.

PARENT COUNCIL: SELF-EVALUATION

In January, Liz Fitzpatrick from Playback introduced a new Self-Evaluation tool for Parent Councils. In a bid to constantly improve what we are doing, Lasswade Primary Parent Council is about to undertake the first part of this evaluation.

A sub-group is being formed to look at how we take forward the evaluation process and get parents involved. If you would be interested in joining this group - to shape the future of the parent council and to progress the self-evaluation - please contact us at: lasswadeprimaryparentscouncil@yahoo.co.uk or speak to one of the Parent Council members.

The first meeting of the sub-group is being held **on Wednesday 18th April 2012 at 7pm** - venue TBD (once numbers attending known). [Please get in touch to register interest.](#)

If you cannot join the sub-group there will still be opportunities as part of the evaluation process to give your opinion and we will be very interested in hearing thoughts from any parents/carers on the current responsibilities and parent council involvement with the school. Please look out for further details on how you can be involved. This will be a big learning curve for us all and we welcome your support.

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL STEERING GROUP

Pupil Forum members who are part of the Rights Respecting Schools Award steering group recently presented some of their work and achievements to the Parent Council. It was very interesting and informative and showed just how hard everyone at school is working towards this award.

They are currently 'recruiting' adult members from both within our school and the local community. If anyone would like to join the Steering Group and is available on the first Friday of the month at 10:00am they would be delighted to see you.

For more information, see: http://lasswade.mgfl.net/?page_id=1400

BONNYRIGG & LASSWADE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Community Council meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Sports Pavilion at George V Park in Bonnyrigg at 7.30 pm. A member of the Parent Council will usually attend the meetings; however, anyone interested may also attend. The meetings provide updates and discussion on all aspects of local issues.

PARKING AT AND AROUND THE SCHOOL

This issue is constantly being raised with the school – “we” (parents/carers of children at our school) **are causing a danger to all our children. Let’s put a stop to it now!!**

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON YELLOW ZIG ZAG LINES and PLEASE ALWAYS PARK WITH CONSIDERATION TO OUR NEIGHBOURS and with THE SAFETY OF ALL OUR CHILDREN IN MIND.

Unfortunately, we continue to see bad driving and bad parking around our school. THINK next time you drop off your children!!!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Our last fund-raising event of this school year will be the Summer Fayre and Car Boot Sale, on:

- Saturday 16th June

Further information will follow nearer the time but get the date in your diary!!

HOW CAN I CONTACT THE PARENT COUNCIL?

The Parent Council can be contacted directly on:

lasswadeprimaryparentscouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Or via Facebook, the address is:

Lasswade Parent Council

The Facebook page is for the parents/carers and teachers of Lasswade Primary School only - you will be asked to confirm the name and class of your child before you will be accepted as a friend. This is to ensure that only parents of the school befriend our page.

The parent council use the Facebook page to keep parents informed of events, monies raised, monies spent and about any issues we think the parents might want to know about. If you want to be in the know – then please befriend our page.

NEXT MEETING(S)

The next meeting of the Parent Council is on:

- Monday 23rd April 2012, 7pm at Lasswade Primary School

Or come along to the Self-Evaluation Sub Group initial meeting on:

- Wednesday 18th April 2012, 7pm at TBD

THANK YOU

Finally: just a great big thank you to all parents, grandparents, sisters, brothers and friends who support the school by attending the Parent Council events. Everything that we do is to benefit the school and the children.

We are very fortunate as we are always well supported in all the events that we hold, and this is very much appreciated!

With kind regards

Lasswade Primary School Parent Council