

DUNNOTTAR PARENT COUNCIL
2nd Meeting of Session 2015/2016
2nd November 2015

Present: Krystal Young (Chair), Caroline Andrew (Treasurer), Mandy Senior (Secretary), Lisa Williams (Head Teacher), Elaine Marshall (Co-opted), Fiona Stark (Mackie Rep), Dawn Ewan (Teacher Rep), Sharon Sanderson (Parent), Richard Cormack Corrigan (Parent)

1. **Welcome and Apologies:** There were apologies from: Cllr Raymond Christie, Elaine Crawford, Lisa Macaulay and Jill Black. KY opened the meeting by asking everyone to introduce themselves and name one thing they most like about Dunnottar School. The overwhelming response was the feeling of 'family'.
2. **Minutes:** There was nothing arising from the last minutes.
3. **School Vision and Aims:** LW felt that the essence of the Vision and Aims were still valid but they were too long winded for the children to remember. She has worked with the P6 and 7's, the staff and 2 parents from each class to find a new way of presenting them. The Parent Council were shown the ideas and suggested that the teachers choose their 5 favourite and let the children vote for the final choice.
4. **Home/School Communication:** There are currently 91 parents following Dunnottar on Twitter. LW intends to send out a questionnaire asking parents if there are other parents who intend to sign up. SS suggested an open night to help anyone who might be new to Twitter and put off by something they don't understand. The Parent Council agreed that was a very good idea. Communication with home will still include monthly newsletters and termly class letters. It was also suggested that Parent Council minutes be posted on the website.
5. **Staggered Break:** KY had been asked by a parent to raise the question of whether a staggered break would be an option at Dunnottar. LW and DE said it had been tried a couple of times before but the school always ended up going back to one break. A staggered break means the PSA's have to cover a double playtime and are then not available to help in class. The negatives outweigh the positives and there was a feeling that the school might lose the happy, inclusive feel if the children were kept apart.
6. **Staff Appreciation Day:** KY noted that Staff Appreciation Day will be May 4th 2016. She said it would be great to get more input from the children this year and LW suggested getting the House and Vice captains involved. MS is going to look out the letter for parents from last year which will be adapted for this year and

there will be a meeting to start getting organised. CA and SS said they would be happy to help.

7. **School Uniform:** MS asked if there was a reason that no shop in Stonehaven supplied the school uniform. It was explained that when David's Fashion Sports closed in Stonehaven they just carried on supplying the uniform from their Inverurie shop but deliver to school and to homes within Stonehaven town. LW said she would look into the possibility of a local shop supplying the uniform or asking DFS to come and do 'pop up' shops more regularly during the year.
8. **Parent Information Boxes:** It was noted that the information boxes are currently at the front of the school but might be better at the back where the parents wait to collect their children at the end of the day. LW said she would look into getting them moved.
9. **SPTC (Scottish Parent Teacher Council):** KY confirmed that the form she had was current and completed correctly.
10. **AOCB:**
 - a. There will be a new school mascot, an otter, which will incorporate all 4 house colours.
 - b. Ray Milne, the lollypop man is leaving. The Council are hopeful they have a replacement.
 - c. Gifts of appreciation were given to Caroline and Elaine to thank them for their work as Chair and Treasurer of the Parent Council.
11. **Date of Next Meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday 18th January 2016 at 7pm in the staffroom.