



**James Aiton Primary Parent Council
Annual Report 2019-20**



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What is the Parent Council?

The Parent Council is the Committee appointed by the Parent Forum (all parents with a child attending the school) to run matters on its behalf.

What are the Objectives of the Parent Council?

- To work in **partnership with the school** to create a welcoming school which is inclusive for all parents
- To **promote partnership** between the school, its pupils and all its parents
- To develop and engage in activities that support the education and welfare of the pupils, **including organising social and fundraising events.**
- **To identify and represent the views of parents** on the education provided by the school and other matters affecting the education and welfare of the pupils.

Office Bearers for 2019-2020

Jack Weightman – Chair

Elsa Morton – Vice-Chair & Treasurer

Jolene MacPhee - Vice Treasurer

Sarah O'Rourke - Secretary

Parent Council Members for 2019-2020

Nic McCallum

Jolene MacPhee

Amanda Meikle

Parent Council Report on 2019-2020

Summary

The Parent Council continued with the monthly meetings on a Tuesday after a vote was held within the parent group. The vote showed Tuesday to be the preferred night for people to come along, however the vote and night change from a Wednesday presented with less new member turnout than expected.

An unprecedented global pandemic intervened part way through the year and heavily impacted the school and our community. This left us unable to achieve many of the things we set out to achieve at the beginning of the year and has left us several months behind when the AGM and other events should have already happened. Due to the sudden nature and closure of the school many events are pre-



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planned with resources purchased and ready to be deployed but currently sitting in limbo in various members homes and garages until we can return to a level of normalcy allowing us to continue with our usual event planning and school support.

Due to the nature of the still ongoing world crisis we have shifted our focus from primarily fundraising to all around school support in an effort to be able to support the headteacher and her staff to the best of our parental abilities within the current government guidelines.

Usually an enormous part of the role of the Parent Council, is of course, to fundraise. All the monies raised to back to the school, allowing our pupils to have learning experiences that budgets don't allow for. It also means that any educational trips cost less for the parents where we cannot fund in full. The commitment from the Parent Council to ensure that there are funds for such things, is essential, and as a group, we hugely appreciate each and every member.

Parent Council Activities in School:

In summary, The Parent Council has achieved the following in 2019-2020

- September 2019 saw the first Back to School BBQ which was a great success and left us with many plans for improvement in the future
- Penny Wars made a successful return with a new coin collection system made
- James Aiton 50/50 lottery made its debut, after a slow start in month 1, it picked up quickly through the year and is a popular and ongoing fundraiser
- October saw a marginally successful backpacking, the money earned was fantastic but volunteers were a little thin on the ground
- Halloween Disco was great fun and a success, plans were made to repeat the successful event later in the year
- Residential for P7 took place with the volunteer help of a PC member. The trip was well enjoyed and as always we will support the staff with anything they need to make this happen again in the future
- VSE was supported well by parent council members and other family volunteers. The school received a very good report
- RAG BAG was ran in December which saw many school members donate old clothes to charitable cause with the school receiving £6-0 as a reward
- The Parent Council donated £700 of the money raised by its efforts to the school to support them with buses and other event expenses
- Mrs McGhee ran Xmas fair, we supported with a small PC stall



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- Quiz night in January was a fun night had by all. Parent Council had popcorn and other stalls which were a success
- Movie Night was another good night in February, with popcorn drinks and snacks being sold by the PC
- Plans were made for several more events through March - June but due to corona virus many of these events were cancelled after we had gathered the materials needed
- Last official face to face meeting was February as all others had to be rescheduled and done via zoom

Financial Information

Please see separate sheet.

Summary

In conclusion, the Parent Council has had another very successful year, even with the adverse circumstances. We have delayed the AGM and plan to continue with our current positions until a new vote can be taken when global events allow this to take place.

In order to facilitate & keep the Parent Council running, we very much need new members to join. Please contact the school if you would be interested in joining.

A huge thank you to all those who take the time to attend meetings, support school activities and contribute in any way.

As this was a particularly unusual and exceptional year there are several things which need to be addressed and concluded and finalised once we can return to a more regular set up. There are many tasks outstanding which we would like to conclude.

Re-elections

In accordance with the Parent Council guidelines of the 2006 Act, all current office bearers should formally resign from their positions.

Positions for election for 2020-21 are:

Chair

Vice-Chair

Treasurer

Vice-Treasurer

Secretary



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Whilst the above list highlights the positions required to be filled, in accordance with the 2006 Act, there are many opportunities for enthusiastic parental involvement at all levels of commitment, and we welcome and appreciate all involvement.