

Parent Council Meeting 25/05/15

Present: Mrs Black, Mr Taylor, Mrs Ellis, Alan Livie (Chair) Craig Hunter, Cllr. Lawrence Fitzpatrick, Christine Burns, Diyana Swingler, Karlyn Brydon, Morag Nicholson,

Apologies: Regina Murphy, Susan Cooke, Tiffany Wood, Wendy Hay, Gillian De Felice

1. Presentation by Pupils.

As this was the last meeting of the school year, a number of the pupil groups presented. These were

- Pupil Leadership team (Deputy Head Boy & Girl)
- Rights Respect in School
- Library Group
- Williamston Waves
- ECO Group
- International Group

All pupils presented enthusiastically and clearly about their responsibilities and the activities undertaken throughout the year. Some of the highlights included attending a Fairtrade conference at Glasgow City Chambers, learning to work and achieve more through cooperation and the continued success of the Friday radio broadcasts within the school.

All pupils were thanked for their contribution.

2. Head Teacher's Report.

- Mrs Black advised that there will be an ongoing focus on the Curriculum Rationale. This was discussed at some length and will be shared with pupils. The ongoing objective being to ensure a clear, concise articulation of what Williamston means (objectives, values etc.). It was agreed this is not a simple task and will be discussed at future Parent Council meetings as it evolves.
- A school newsletter will be issued w/c 25/5. This will highlight the recent international visit, sporting success, staff changes as well as other ongoing relevant school business. One particular ask that will be included is to encourage completion of the parents/carers questionnaire that was recently issued online.
- Mr Taylor provided a summary of the CEMS testing that has and will continue to take place for pupils within the school. A short demonstration was provided. Further information is available online about CEMS testing in general (search on Durham University CEMS testing). Within the school the results are used more as a diagnostic tool and not fed back to pupils.
- Feedback is requested from parents on the blog (useful? what else could be included? Etc.).

- Next year the school will have 2 composite classes – one 2/1 and one 3/2. Information relating to classes and assigned teachers is not yet finalised but will be provided as soon as available.

3. Cllr Fitzpatrick update.

- Electrifying of train line through Livingston South will cause some disruption to traffic and walkways for a significant period from summer. Traffic will be diverted at Murieston road. (Local residents will have received information through their door, although details may change slightly due to ongoing meetings).
 - Work will be carried out through night-time periods, but it is highlighted that children will need to take extra care as a result as a lot of disruption expected.
 - Network rail should be providing an update to schools (Cllr Fitzpatrick will look into this as it has not yet happened for Williamston). Also, CALA homes should be putting in place a safe crossing place as part of their new development.
- Site for new West Calder High school is due to be discussed and agreed imminently.

4. AOB.

- DS raised a concern around the health content of lunch boxes provided on Fridays. This is not a direct responsibility for Mrs Black. Cllr Fitzpatrick offered that if an e-mail is sent to him with details of the concern he will look into it (DS will progress e-mail as needed).
- Next meeting will be the AGM and first meeting of the new school year. It will be held on Monday 7th Sept 2015 @ 7pm.
- Everyone was wished an enjoyable summer when it comes.
- Meeting closed @ 9pm

Date of next meeting: 7th September 2015 @ 7pm