

## **1. Membership and Office Bearers**

The Parent Council has continued to be well supported by parents and members of the school's Senior Management Team. We have had approximately 20 people attending each meeting and we would like to thank everyone for their commitment over this school year. We continue to be fortunate in King's Park to have such a significant level of interest and participation in school matters.

The Parent Council (PC) agreed to re-elect us as Joint Chairs for the 2014/2015 school year. After a challenging, but rewarding, two years in post we have decided to step down as joint chair of the parent council.

We would like to thank Nicola Durkie for her hard work as secretary. After 1 year in the post, Nicola has decided to step down from the role of Secretary of the Parent Council.

## **2. Review of Year**

### **2.1 Communication**

#### Pupils

At our meeting in November, representatives of the Pupil Council attended our November meeting to present their manifesto.

#### Parents

We have continued to look for ways to improve communication with the parent forum. Communication is performed via email, the new Facebook page, newsletters, suggestion box and the new improved school website.

We have attended the P1 and the P2 – P7s curriculum evenings to provide information about the role of the PC and continue to look for ways to ensure we represent the views of all parents and carers at Kings Park.

During the year we once again undertook a survey of Nursery and Primary 1 parents and carers on the Settling in Policy. A big thank you goes to Julie Sutherland for undertaking this task.

#### Parent Teacher Association

Our parent bodies work closely together but retain their independence. An update from the PTA has been provided at the PC meetings.

We have had initial discussions with the PTA and the SPTC about merging the PTA and the PC.

King's Park Parent Council Annual General Meeting  
Chairperson's Report 2015

Midlothian Council

We have continued to interact with Midlothian Council on a variety of matters considered important to the school community.

Sandra Banks, Resource Manager in Education at Midlothian Council, attended our meeting in May to discuss the impact additional housing will have on the school.

At the same meeting, Sarah Philp, the principal educational psychologist for Midlothian, attended to give an informative presentation entitled "Unlocking Your Child's Potential".

Before Christmas, we met with Jake Herriot from Midlothian Council to discuss issues encountered with the Musical Tuition provided by the council.

We have and continue to liaise with the school and Midlothian Council around the issue of parking around the school.

We attended the Midlothian Parent Engagement Forum meeting held in November. The meetings are a useful source of information in relation to regional education issues and potential budgetary challenges. They also represent a great opportunity to meet members of other PCs. It is hoped that these links can be developed further to share knowledge and best practice in areas such as grant applications.

SPTC

We have continued to consult with the SPTC on a number of topics throughout the year, and have built up a good relationship with them.

Senior Management Team

We are appreciative of the commitment the SMT have shown in attending PC meetings. We have met regularly with the Head Teacher to discuss schools matters, points of interest for the PC and the agenda for PC meetings.

**2.2 Reach and represent the wider community**

We have looked at a number of areas where we could make changes to engage the wider community with the PC. Last year we introduced a suggestion box where those without electronic communications can get in touch.

The PC meetings are being held in the school to make it easier for members without transport to attend. We have attempted to make the meetings less formal to encourage greater participation.

### **2.3 Work more closely with PTA**

At each meeting this year, we have included an update from the PTA, and have had Fiona Harris (PTA chair) attend the last 2 meetings of the year to present these. We have had a meeting with the PTA to discuss the possibility of merging both organisations, and have discussed with the SPTC.

### **2.4 Sports Subgroup**

This year we set-up a sports subgroup to work closely with the school and active schools to help with the provision and participation in sports festivals and inter school sports events.

### **2.5 Recruitment**

Members of the PC were involved in the recruitment of Mrs Murdoch as Deputy Head teacher.

## **3 Finances**

Expenses re-claimed from Midlothian Council this year on behalf of the PC and PTA totalled £175, the maximum amount that could be claimed under Council policy. This represented administration costs and cost of lets incurred by the school office on our behalf. This sum will be reimbursed directly to the school by the Council. The PC does not run a separate bank account.

## **4. Summary**

Overall, we have continued to make steady progress this year and would like to thank all those involved in the PC for their contribution and support. We are confident that with the structured approach agreed at the last meeting the PC will continue be able to make significant progress in supporting the school and that the healthy discussion on school matters at our meetings will continue.

Moira Nelson & Stuart McDonald  
Joint Chairs  
1<sup>st</sup> June 2015