

## **Kyle Academy Parent Council**

### **Parent Council Meeting – Monday 30 January 2024**

**Present:** M Byrne, S Cooper, A D’Amico, M Ford, J Little, C McClung, K McHarg, E McHarg, L Morrison, S Robertson, M Thomas-C, P White, A Wilson,

**Chair: M Ford**

#### **1. Minutes of last Parent Council meeting**

Minutes proposed and seconded.

#### **2. Head Teacher’s Report – M Byrne**

MB provided a report on recent events. See attached.

#### **3. School Captain’s Report**

EM gave an update on behalf of the School Captains. This included:

- Christmas dances went well and were well attended. Junior year groups particularly enjoyed them.
- S6 are currently planning their last day which will be either a barbecue and games at Rozelle or a trip to Flip Out.
- S6 Burns Supper – may go ahead but mixed response from year group.

#### **4. Attendance**

MB and JL led a discussion on the school’s strategy for improving attendance particularly in the group whose absence sits between 80% and 95%. Proposed plans include:

1. Infographics – key facts and statistics repeatedly shared
2. Short videos featuring pupils and parents talking about their experiences
3. Promoting expectations and rewarding improvement

Parents asked for suggestions about which messages will have the most impact and how best to share these.

- One day off equals one week to catch up – particularly thought-provoking message.
- Instead of percentage absent focus on how the days equate to weeks off a year for more impact.
- Change Target 97% = 6 days off a year to ‘no more than 6 days off’.
- Celebrate achievement in attendance and any improvements – attendance certificates issued this term were seen as positive.
- Highlight the social benefits of being at school as well as the improved achievements.
- Discussion about attendance policy like HR policy in business with targets, triggers and rewards.
- Emphasise from S1 how much we value/know pupils and want them at school but use warm strict approach with escalation points (HR policy idea).
- Introduce ‘back to school’ interviews for check in on return to see how they are, welcome back, discuss what they have missed and how they will catch up.

- Not one message for all – infographic might be off-putting for some groups of learners. We could have a different one highlighting benefits, supports and safe spaces.

MB and JL will continue to consult Parent Council about key themes/messages that will have the most impact on parents; the wording and language used; and agree how to launch and promote the campaign. The aim would be to launch after Easter.

### **5. Christmas Fair Debrief**

The fair on 30 November raised around £600. The turn out was quieter than previous year but a number of pupils, particularly junior school, came and enjoyed the event. The following points were noted for next year to increase footfall and money raised.

- More activities involving pupils to get parents to come along eg music performance, dance, gymnastic display, clubs taking a table and running a game
- Involve depts – stall each showcasing work or themed activities
- Enterprise groups or selling things pupils have made
- Tombola/lucky dip that pupils can win (as well as the bottle stall)
- More pocket money stalls
- More games

### **ACTION**

AD to send MB list of activities used at Forehill

### **5. AOCB**

**S3 Reports** - MT-C noted the S3 report was much clearer and easier to understand since moving to the working grades.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 27 February 2024**