PC **Members** 2021/22

Chair

Laura McDonald (P2 & P4)

Vice Chair

Emma White (P2 & P5)

Secretary

Peter Tracy (P3 & P5)

Parent Members

Jesper Bach (P2) Susan Bach (P2) Linda Lumsden (P3) Allison Lunan (P6) Susan Lunan (P1 & P3) Ryan McAllister (P3 & P6) Kirsty McEwan (P2 & P3) Darren Nichol (P4) Natalie Simpson (P2)

Staff Members

A McIntosh (HT) M McAllister (Deputy HT) J Law (DHT) M Jones (PT) J Broadley (Class Teacher)

Affiliated Members

Councillor Gordan Low Councillor Alan Moir Councillor Alan Brown

TMPS Parent **Council Newsletter** September 2021

Welcome

Welcome back to all pupils and staff after the summer break. We hope everyone had the chance to relax, enjoy time with their families and are now looking forward to the new term.

We would like to take the opportunity to offer a warm congratulations to Mrs McIntosh on her promotion to Interim Quality Improvement Officer for East Dunbartonshire Council. As many of you know, Mrs McIntosh has been the Head Teacher since day one of TMPS and her promotion reflects the successful school that TMPS has grown to become. We are keen that an excellent Acting Head Teacher will be appointed early in the new term to cover the period of Mrs McIntosh's secondment. The parent council will be involved in the recruitment and selection process for the Acting Head Teacher.

We also wish to take the chance to formally thank former Parent Council members and officer bearers- Kirsteen Griffiths, Kirstie Mendham and Lynn Armour. All three represented the school on the PTA as well as parent council for a number of years. We are thankful for their time and commitment and wish their children good luck with their transition to secondary.

What does the Parent Council do? How can I get involved? How can I share my views?

For all our parents/carers new to the school, the aim of this newsletter is to update all members of the TMPS school community on the work of the Parent Council.

The Parent Council consists of parents/carers and school staff who meet usually once a term. This is usually in the school building but meetings have been held virtually through MS Teams over the last 18 months. Local Councillors are also invited and regularly attend these meetings. Our Headteacher, Mrs McIntosh acts as an Advisor to the Parent Council. We are particularly interested in new members with children at the primary 7 stage as currently that stage is not represented in our membership, but meetings are open to *all* parent/carers and you are very welcome to attend. Please get in touch if you would like further information in relation to our meetings.

Our aim is to support the school in improving the quality and standard of the education and welfare for all our pupils. We do this by promoting



Contact Us

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Upcoming Meetings

2nd September 2021 18th November 2021 17th February 2022 19th May 2022 (AGM)

Meetings run from 6.30-8pm. Additional dates will be added if required.

Minutes of PC meetings are published on the school website (in the parent info tab) for all parents/carers to view.



parental involvement, representing parents' views, and working in partnership with the school. Meetings in the new session may be a blend of in-person and online depending on covid restrictions.

The parent council email address is <u>thomasmuirpc@gmail.com</u> and most members are also happy for informal discussion in the playground. Please note that we can only deal with general issues in relation to the running of the school, not matters relating to an individual pupil, which are best dealt with by contacting the class teacher or management representative for your child's school stage.

Looking back

The last academic year was another very challenging year for school staff, pupils and families following a second lockdown at the start of 2021. A number of classes also had periods of isolation following close contact with someone who had tested positive for covid. Government guidance in relation to managing covid in education settings was regularly reviewed and updated, which resulted in a requirement to implement changes throughout the school year.

The parent council held frequent online meetings last year and we offered consultation on various topics including covid measures, transition back to school after lockdowns, home schooling and reporting to parents. During this time, we have also regularly checked the PC email address and addressed any communication from parents/carers to ensure their views are represented in meetings.

Looking forward

As the new term starts, we are moving 'beyond' level 0 and vaccine uptake continues to be high. However, the latest government covid guidance still requires schools to adhere to a range of measures. Despite this I'm sure we can all agree we are as close to 'normal' as we've been for a long time. We are looking forward to a smooth year and return to our main focus in working with the school to focus on improvement and not managing covid!

Thanks for reading and stay safe.

TMPS Parent Council