



## ST MODANS PTP MEETING

18<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Attendees

Sharon Welsh  
 Tracy Quinn  
 Gill Ryan  
 Denise Burns  
 Eileen Fitzpatrick  
 Tricia Morrison  
 Tony Walker  
 Janine Simpson  
 Penny Crawford  
 Cara Pert  
 Anne-Marie McGinlay  
 Ellie Kane  
 Benjamin Kessack-Morrison

Tracy Crossan  
 Lisa Dick  
 Clare Malcolm  
 Leona Cook  
 Jo McGettigan  
 Andrew Soloman  
 Cynthia Holden  
 Mags Taggart  
 Patricia Moys  
 Victoria Robertson  
 Ray O'Neill  
 Claire Friel

### Apologies

Lesley Sexton  
 Lisa Yeaman

Alie-Hilda de Vires  
 Maureen Gunn

Agenda Item	Action	Who
<b>1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</b> The Chair opened the meeting at 6.15pm with the school prayer and round the table introductions. The meeting was held in the new McCann library.	Chair	SW
<b>2. Matters Arising from the Last Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Denny Transport</b> – The Chair reported on the reply from First Bus &amp; Falkirk council. Both stated they will monitor the situation and reinforced the fact that it is still the responsibility of St Modan's pupils to carry their passes as all times.</li> </ul>	Chair	SW
<b>3. Communication Group's Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SPTC checklist was discussed and although the PTP score highly in some areas we could improve in others. The group will circulate the checklist and work on a communication plan. The recent school survey towards the end of the last session indicated a strong score of 90% for PTP communication and understanding of the PTP's role.</li> <li>Various forms of communicating with parents was discussed eg Facebook and a separate email however it was agreed by the majority to email and Tweet information to parents using the schools already established Twitter and email accounts. Mrs Friel will show the Chair how to send out PTP tweets using the schools</li> </ul>	Communication group meeting	GR, CH, DB, LS, SW

<p>twitter page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school survey also showed that only 54% of parents knew how to help educate their child. To help parents with this issue, the school has launched the Show My Homework (SMH) app, and will consider filming You Tube videos to help parents understand the core subjects to enable them to support their children, for example a maths tutorial, using twitter to promote these videos.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>4. Fundraising Group Update and Treasurers Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 100 Club now has now been set up. This has been emailed and tweeted to parents and a bag drop has also taken place. Parents can download forms from the school website. The first payment is due 1<sup>st</sup> November and reminders will be sent again. Charitable status was discussed and both Clare and Lisa will explore this.</li> <li>A new bank account had been opened with the HSBC bank with the opening balance of £513.21, which was raised from the last school show. The treasurer mentioned that HSBC would like to get more involved in the community and is willing to donate money to schools for sustainable ideas.</li> <li>The old PTA Bank of Scotland bank account needs to be closed and bank statements are required from the previous treasurer.</li> <li>It was agreed to have some sort of Christmas Fayre during the Christmas Concert 12<sup>th</sup> December. The fundraising group will get together to arrange this. All volunteers are most welcome.</li> </ul>	<p>Charitable Status</p> <p>To contact previous treasurer</p>	<p>CM LD</p> <p>TW</p>
<p><b>5. Head Teacher Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SMW app roll-out has gone well and the feedback has been positive. This is still only the transition phase. The hard-book planners will be phased out over the next year but alternative arrangements will be made for those who do not have access to the app.</li> <li>The SQA results have been good again this year at all levels and the school continues to see high numbers of pupils moving on to positive destinations.</li> <li>The head teacher asked for the PTP's help in improving safety in the car park and in encouraging parents not to use the front of the school for drop off and pickup of their children as this should only be used for special needs pupils and those arriving in taxis. Due to the increase in placing requests, there are more pupils arriving by car, which is putting a strain on the current car parking conditions. Cones will shortly be placed around the roads at the front of the school and yellow lines have been requested to be painted by the council and also a request for police support. The school have asked the health and safety team to assess the car parking situation and to provide suggestions for improvements as the school recognises that the bus bays also an area of concern in the main car park, as well as parents not parking in the designated car parking bays. The school has requested that parents use the Forthbank car park if the main school park is full. The school is looking for help and ideas from parents and staff to redesign the car park and to use the reverse parking rule. A PTP member suggested that the road safety week could be used to</li> </ul>		

<p>promote car park safety and if speed bumps could be fitted, which would also discourage the racers for using the car park. The school may ask the PTP to write to local councillors for support. Another PTP member mentioned the flooding in the car parks was also an issue and the head teacher explained this was due to SEPA not allowing more drains to be installed, but the flooding problem has now been addressed at the front of the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PTP was welcomed to the new McCann library, which is not yet fully open to all pupils. The S1/2 pupils have been allowed in and given positive feedback. Mr McCann is planning to visit the library for an informal opening as the family donated £50,000 towards its creation.</li> <li>• The new training centre is open and being used to teach three Forth Valley courses and the S1/2 pupils are learning plumbing. The school is in talks with local construction companies for new ideas and development plans. A new farm has been opened in the Autism provision, where they are growing crops and donating the food grown to local food banks. The next stage is to buy some animals, with chickens planned next week.</li> </ul> <p><b>Head Boy &amp; Head Girl Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PTP welcomed the new Head Boy and Head Girl. They started their update by explaining the interview process they both went through to become the new head boy and girl. Both pupils and staff cast their votes and appointed 6 deputies. Their first duty was to attend the funeral of ex-staff member Mr Paterson, which the family conveyed meant a lot to them. They are focusing their efforts on the new first year pupils with almost all S1 pupils signing up for S6 buddies. The S6 buddies went through buddy training and attended a buddy lunch with the S1's. The lunchtime clubs have started and there is a new yearbook club, with the yearbook statements needed to be in before Christmas. The new events committee has been set-up and can be approached to help out with any school events. The new chaplaincy team have 15 pupils already signed up and the S1 welcome mass has been organised. The S6 pupils have organised a rota to watch over the lunchtime queues, patrolling of the corridors and control of litter, with other duties to follow.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>6. Anne O'Donnell, Head Teacher at St Pat's Primary School – "Boys Night"</b></p> <p>Anne O'Donnell, head teacher from St Patrick's Primary in Denny explained the rationale for the Boys Night. Having discussed the need to engage more male role models, their Parent Council came up with the idea of just having a Boys only event and making it fun and showing them that school is very different. (A similar event was run for the Girls Only following the same format) Having male role models is important and has been a focus for the Scottish Executive. The Boys Night is now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year and St Patrick's have won the Parents as Partners Education Award because of this initiative. A BBC Radio 4 journalist reported on this event following a presentation at Families Need Fathers</p>	<p>Volunteers required to set-up a working group.</p>	<p>Clare Malcolm, Trisha Morrison, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Tracy Crossan, Janine Simpson, Mags Taggart and Benjamin Kessack-Morrison</p>

AGM and Education Scotland workshop. They have discussed ways in which St Modan's could run a similar event for the lower end of the school, or as part of a transition event in the cluster Primary schools. Mr O'Neill is keen to try this at St Modan's and so a working group will be set up and delivered by the PTP for the benefit of our boys in St Modan's.

## 7. AOCB

- Hunter's coaches were awarded the new contract for school transport in the Clackmannanshire area. Unfortunately, there were issues at the start of term as Hunter's did not have enough vehicles to cover all the school routes, causing some pupils to arrive late at school. These issues have now been sorted out with Hunters purchasing more vehicles. Hunters did offer an apology and are working with the schools to make sure all transport issues are dealt with swiftly.
- A group of St Modans parents, who again this year received notification after the school had started back in August that their children would not be receiving concessionary passes from the local council, have got together and approached the local councillor, Darren Lee, to help them try to sort out once and for all the issue of concession passes. Councillor Lee has approached the council chief executive Elaine McPherson to ask for a policy review to make it fairer for all parents regarding bus passes.
- The next SPTC session is scheduled for 26th September, The Chair has asked for volunteers to attend.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 6.15pm.