

Social Group Meeting  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October

In Attendance: Rona MacDonald, Mo Staggs, Donalda McCombe, Douglas Morrison, Helen Steward, Laura, Tracy, Suzy, Sarah MacDonald, Gary McCreath, Siobhan Campbell.

[2 others whose names I can't make out from emails and don't have all surnames – also some late entries that we didn't get a note of – will do better!] Also around 7 apologies all on email distribution list]

- Welcome extended to everyone and great to see new faces as well as some familiar ones. Quite a few parents wanted to attend which was also encouraging and left their apologies.
- A summary about the purpose of the group: The group is looking to revitalise the school's social calendar, providing more opportunities for parents to meet up and develop the 'school gate' connections. It is hopeful that this will also lead to increased fundraising activities.
- The School Fayre will be held on Dec 6<sup>th</sup> and there are various tasks related to this – including organising school let, getting support from local businesses, contacting Gaelic organisations for stalls and co-ordination of the letter to parents and volunteers.

**ACTION: There will be separate meeting to discuss these practicalities and Mo will send out dates.**

- The school now has a policy of supporting two charities – The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice and one other – this means that pupils will be able into focus their fundraising efforts. More info on School website.
- The group then discussed various new social events ideas and there was no shortage of contributions or creativity. Thanks all. All ideas were deemed to have merit and it was agreed to keep a rolling agenda with a view to developing one of the ideas in the spring term and a other in the summer term. Please see below the list of ideas and comments and possible future developments.
- Helen had done some research with parents from other schools around what social events were successful elsewhere which was very useful. The key elements for success were pricing, adults only and building a effective email distribution list amongst other communications methods like facebook, school texts and website.

**ACTION:** Helen and other volunteers to gather emails at the school fayre in December. Please get in touch if you can help

**ACTION:** All to highlight the Comhairle nam Parant Facebook – liking it and sharing it as wide as possible

#### Ideas

- 1 Clothes swapping night. Has been tried out in Edinburgh with great success. Discussed including kids clothes, BYOB, involving S6s for modelling clothes etc.
- 2 School Disco for parents – retro music a bit like the Hip Replacement event that takes place elsewhere in the city
- 3 Quiz night. Discussed bowling club, themes, competition between school houses i.e. the parents represent the houses in teams. BYOB & Fish 'n Chips
- 4 Café for P1 parents in August. In collaboration with Gaelic Café or Clachan incorporating a cheese and wine etc. This could be extended to other classes aswell.
- 5 Bingo/ Music Bingo
- 6 Family events in School
- 7 Revival of the previously popular Health Night. Mum & Daughters and Dads and sons?
- 8 Car boot for Summer Fayre
- 9 Bag packing for Target fundraising – needs long term planning
- 10 Staff involvement = through water ballooning, hair shaving etc!!!
- 11 Support World Book day with fundraising/ social event

It was felt that the three strongest ideas to take forward in the short term were the Quiz/ School Disco/ Fashion Swap. It is hoped that the café/ cheese and wine idea will be introduced for P1 parents in the 2015 August term.

**ACTION:** It was decided to aim for the Quiz night in the spring term and The clothes swapping for the summer term. As such meetings will be arranged to discuss these two elements and volunteers will need to attend these meetings for the events to be a success.

**ACTION:** anyone wanting to volunteer for a particular event please respond by email saying what you're happy to do and what times suit you for meetings

