

Sgoil nan Loch Parent Council

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Dear Parents/Guardians

14 Nov 2007

I write to introduce to you the newly formed Sgoil nan Loch Parent Council. As parents and guardians of pupils at Sgoil nan Loch we were informed at the start of the school year of a change in legislation which resulted in the demise of School Boards and PTAs and the introduction of Parent Councils.

You may recall that all parents with children in the school are automatically members of the Parent Forum. A Parent Council however also needed to be formed to be the representative voice of the wider Parent Forum.

An initial meeting of parents who had expressed an interest in supporting the work of the Parent Council took place on Monday 1st October and I am pleased to say we have managed to form a Parent Council with 9 parent members. We will be looking shortly to co-opt a further two members from the wider community. The constitution of the Parent Council will be amended to reflect this balance between parents and co-opted members.

I have detailed below for your information the names and contact numbers/e-mail addresses of the Parent Council members and also that of our clerk Alice Macleod. We invite and encourage any parent to contact us on any issues relating to the school – positive or negative. The Parent Council intend to work in partnership with the management and staff of the school and support them to address any issues which arise. As we find our feet, it is our intention to produce regular newsletters and create a website to keep parents and the community fully up to date on all that Sgoil nan Loch are up to.

What is a Parent Council?

The Sgoil nan Loch Parent Council will be very parent-friendly – we are ordinary people from a variety of backgrounds with no specific knowledge or expertise in educational matters. We simply want the Parent Council to provide opportunities for parents to become more involved in the life of the school. The role of the Parent Council will be to:

- support the school in its work with pupils
- represent the views of all parents
- encourage links between the school, parents, pupils, pre-school groups and the wider community
- report back to the Parent Forum.

The Parent Council is recognised in law from August 2007, so it will have a loud voice. The school and the local authority must listen to what the Parent Council says and give it a proper response. Further information on the role and remit of the Parent Council can be found at www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk

What Next?

We will shortly be hosting a meeting of all parents to discuss the current review of schools being undertaken by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar – look out for a note in school bags soon! I and my colleagues on the parent council look forward to meeting you then.

Yours Sincerely

Lorna Macaulay
Chairperson

Sgoil nan Loch Parent Council - Parent Members

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