

Parents Council report 2023

It seems incredible that we are already almost in March in 2024 as I'm writing my last Parents Council Report as Chair of Parents Council. 2023 has followed in a similar pattern to preceding years with plenty going on. We were very pleased our Head Teacher, Laura Thomson won the Teacher of the year award at the Edinburgh Local Heroes award. In other good news the reformed PTA and Heart of Newhaven were able to revive the Newhaven Community Gala in June, raising several thousand pounds to invest in Victoria Pupils education and experience.



Parents Council formed a curriculum rationale subcommittee this year working with school staff to determine how Victoria tailors its curriculum meet our pupil needs. We were also very pleased to be able to arrange for lines to be painted on the school playground. We would like to thank the Pupil Council representatives who fed into this.



Active schools: We have worked with our Active schools coordinator Marianne O'Brien, our PE teacher and school staff to restart a range of after school activities, if you would like to host an after school activity / club for school pupils or know a club that might we would be interested in hearing from you.

Parking and Safe Routes to school: Our safe routes subcommittee has been very active this year. We have worked with our councillors to ensure there is now adequate signage for the school but have raised concerns about the abandoned building site on Glenarm place. There are still issues with cycling to school and unsafe parking and driving at drop off and pick up. We would ask parents to make use of the car parks at David Lloyd and Asda please.

Survey: This year we carried out a survey, the full results are on the Parents council page of the school website: <https://victoriaprimary.com/ourschool/committees/parent-council/>

We were pleased most of you knew that there was a parents council, but more concerned that 35% of you don't know how to get in touch. You can email us at victoriaprimaryparentcouncil@gmail.com We also have a Facebook page **Victoria Primary School Parents & Families** and you can DM us from there. We noted that most people in the survey preferred online meetings so Parents Council will remain on Zoom for the time being with the exception of the AGM which is in person.

All Change: At the 2024 AGM there was quite a bit of change in the Parents council. Our committee is now:

- Stacey Panda – Chair
- Vic Young – Depute
- Phil Kirk – Treasurer
- Lianne Scarlett – Minute taker
- Lesley Dymond – Website and Digital media



We are always looking for new members, if you would like to take minutes or are interested in being the Secretary please email us. This year Parents Council have the challenging task of helping to recruit a replacement for our wonderful Head Laura Thomson as she finishes her teaching career and starts a very well deserved retirement. Thanks to those who fed into the survey about what makes Victoria Primary unique, we will be using this information when we recruit.

Ann Wheeler – Outgoing Chair – Victoria Primary Parents Council.