

Armadale Academy

Parent Council Meeting

Date: 07.05.25	Present:
Minute: A.Matheson	Apologies:

Agenda Item	Discussion
AGM	<p>Chairpersons feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks given for all work help and support given by the teachers and support staff over the last year. • Email group for PP to be reviewed and updated. <p>Treasurers Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This position has not been filled for a number of years. • No fundraising, sponsorships or other money generating opportunities have been or are planned. • Bank account currently has a nominal amount in. • General consensus and approval was given to close the account and add the funds to the S6 leavers BBQ fund. <p>Election of office Bearers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair – Lorena Mombelli • Vice Chair – TBC • Treasured – Lorraine Valley • Secretary – Adele Matheson
Head Teacher's Update	<p>Looking Back:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P7 transitions. 229 new pupil for the next years intake. Pupil visits planed and onboarding work all going well. • Last Day celebrations - 4th April - Football match, wheelchair basketball (with Phoenix BB club in support) well attended and received. • SQA Study leave and Exams – underway as of 25th April. All going well so far. • Inset Day Morning: plans were interrupted by the cyber-attack. Afternoon: self-evaluation included representatives from student, parents and staff. Plans from last year were reviewed and updated.

<p>Head Teacher's Update</p>	<p>Looking Forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S3 work experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any businesses that would be able to offer a placement for work experience would be welcomed for consideration. ○ WE will be ongoing throughout May and almost half of the year group are involved. • Victoria Day holiday – Monday 19th May. • S1 Olympic IDL (Fun) Day – Fri 23rd May. • S1 – S3 Sports Day – Fri 30th June. • Change of Timetables - Monday 2nd June (Potentially subject to delay pending the resolution of the cyber-attack). • S6 Leavers Graduation and BBQ – Fri 6th June. • P7 Visits 18th – 20th June • Activities Day – Thursday 26th June. • Last Day – Fri 27th June. • Malawi Trip – Leaves Thurs 26th June (for 2 weeks).
<p>Head Teacher's Update</p>	<p>Staffing</p> <p>Appointments/New Starts</p> <p>Retaining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jay Easton (Art & Design). Jamie Watt (Art & Design). Nicholle Farrell (RMPS / Inclusion Hub) <p>Leavers/ Retirement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dick Orr (Physics). Yvonne Egan (PTC Creative). Hannah McGoewn (English) <p>Probationers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Economics & French (Details TBC) <p>Returns from Maternity Leave</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lindsay Gardner (Art & Design). Rachel Rafferty (Wellbeing) <p>Maternity Leave</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Shearer (Wellbeing) • Viv McAlpine (Art & Design). <p>Scheduled Interviews/Posts to be advertised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTC Creative, Aesthetic and Technology Faculty, Head of House (Honeyman) and English fixed term.

<p>Head Teacher's Update</p>	<p>Other:</p> <p>Currently reviewing school Improvement Plan 2024 -25 to complete Standards and Quality Report.</p> <p>Draft paper presented to PP to review: (Top 5)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning & Teaching 2. Vision and Values – continue clarification work; focus on ethos and culture, and impact on the community. 3. Curriculum ensuring relevance and tie in with SQA 4. DATA & self-evaluation – with a view to upskilling and adaptation. 5. Universal and targeted approach to SQA results and post school life. <p>Five Min early pass trial – during study leave this has been amended to a 2 min late pass instead. Will review both options when this has had a chance to bed in and will revert back next term with what option will be instated.</p> <p>IT Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority given to SQA exams and ensuring the pupils were not affected. • SQA hand delivered digital papers daily for exams. • Teachers have amended lesson plans to deliver lessons without IT assistance. • No further update as yet on a resolution; meanwhile all plans and attendance recording etc have reverted to paper based systems. <p>Mobile Phones – Restrictions and use in class</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial went well with pouches not requiring to be used. Pupils adhered to the requirement by putting all phones away. • Looking to roll this out to all classes in Aug. (pending the resolution of the IT outage). <p>Tidy up of PP members on the email group is required – many on the list no longer have children at school etc. This should be updated to active participants only.</p> <p>PVG : National Guidelines re Parent Council PVG expectations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement for all PP attendees to have PVG in place from Aug. 25 (if they attend more that 1 meeting) • Discussed how this is being implemented at local primary schools. • (No reference has been provided so far on how this should be implemented).
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a mandatory undertaking that each member must have in place – otherwise they cannot attend a PP meeting. • Details on how this should be completed / attained are required. This must be addressed as a matter of urgency. • To be discussed fully at the first meeting of the next session.
Head Teacher's Update.	<p>Positive Stories to end on</p> <p>UK Junior Maths Challenge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost 100 S1 and S2 students took part. • Awaiting the results of certificates and invites to the next round. <p>UKMT Intermediate Challenge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven students represented the school. • One excelled successfully advancing to Intermediate Kangaroo follow-on round. <p>Debating success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JK (S4) & FW(S3) won the Edinburgh and Lothians round of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service Public Speaking contest last week. • This follows their participation in the prestigious Donald Dewar Debating Competition , where they made it to the semi-final. • They have only been debating since May 24 – and were by far the youngest debaters in the competition! <p>S6 volunteering: involvement was 92%, will keep this going for the new S6 year group.</p>
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Next Meeting	<p>Dates for 2025 – 26 meetings (*6:30 start for Parents – with HT / Teacher attendance from 7pm)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 28th Aug. • Wed 26th Nov. • Tues 24th Feb. • Mon 11th May.