**Parent council meeting Monday 29.04.2013**

**Present:**

Elspeth McIntyre, Liz Mahindru, Anne Fishwick, Amparo Ruiz-Prado, Fiona Hunter, Jackie Clark, Melanie Unkles, Claire Horse, Humera Ashraf, Russell Bridges, Selwyn McCausland

**School extension progress**

The extension work will start mid-November and will follow the natural curve of the school to the edge of the Urban Jungle.

We should have a large scale plan available to view for Parents Night. The extension consists of 4 classrooms, 2 toilet blocks, 2 disabled toilets, storage space and a large hall teaching space. Mrs Haddock’s office will move to the photocopy room. The nursery will also gain an extra room and hopefully the grassy area at the back of the OLA car park.

The outdoor classroom has been taken down and will be rebuilt in the orchard area.

A meeting is being scheduled by the PC of OLA to discuss all the above plans and subsequent disruption.

There is a possibility that we may lose 1/3 of the pitch during the build for access, however this will be a last resort.

A temporary gate from the pitch into the Urban Jungle will be created so that the children can still have access to this facility.

The work should take 40 weeks and be completed in time for the start of the new school session in August next year.

**Travel, parking and safety**

It was noted that the lollipop man at Langside Drive was on holiday and had not been replaced – please inform Liz if you note that they are absent as she can often pull in help from the police.

A big thank you must go to Bill Baird who took the time to discuss the traffic issue with us. He sits on the Local Residents Association and has pushed for barriers to go up on the pavement outside the pods; he is also pushing for a one way system on the roads around the school.

We support all the good work he is doing and thus every member of the PC is to write to Councillor Curran, Councillor Gillan and Councillor Docherty to urge them to push for a one way system and to ask for the barriers to be put in place. The Councillors email addresses are:

[**stephen.curran@councillors.glasgow.gov.uk**](mailto:stephen.curran@councillors.glasgow.gov.uk)

[**josephine.docherty@councillors.glasgow.gov.uk**](mailto:josephine.docherty@councillors.glasgow.gov.uk)

[**emma.gillan@councillors.glasgow.gov.uk**](mailto:emma.gillan@councillors.glasgow.gov.uk)

**ACTION – ALL**

Elspeth is to draw up a letter detailing the above; this will then be discussed with parents at the parent’s night in November. We hope that many will be happy to sign this and show their support.

**ACTION – ELSPETH MCINTYRE**

In order to do this we will require support from members of the PC, I have created a small rota below if you are unable to make it please can you try to swap with someone or let Elspeth or myself know.

**Tuesday 12th November:**

**4 – 5.30pm Elspeth McIntyre, Claire Horse**

**5.30 – 7pm Amparo Ruiz-Prado, Russell Bridges**

**Thursday 14th November:**

**4 – 5.30pm Melanie Unkles, Fiona Hunter**

**5.30 – 7pm Humera Ashraf, Jackie Clarke**

To help highlight this problem with the children, we as a Parent Council are to hold a competition for all the pupils asking them to create a safety poster, a flyer for this will be put in all the children bags. The winner will have their poster displayed in the entrance hall on Parents Night.

**ACTION - JACKIE CLARKE (FLYER), MELANIE UNKLES TO COPY AND DISTRIBUTE**

The overhanging tress along the side of the tennis courts and the private flats are also becoming hazardous for children walking on the pavement. Fiona Hunter is to contact Audrey Whitelaw from Land and Environmental Services regarding this, her email address is: **Audrey**.**Whitelaw**@glasgow.gov.uk

**ACTION – FIONA HUNTER**

**Prepayment of school lunches**

This has previously been discussed and had been dismissed as too costly; however Julia McCredie is looking into this.

**Any Other Business**

1. There is no money in the PC account; Amparo is to talk to Fiona in the office to discuss getting this transferred over from the school account.

**ACTION – AMPARO RUIZ-PRADO**

1. Non uniform days were discussed, it was concluded that information regarding these days was communicated as best as possible to the parents.
2. Anne Fishwick suggested that bibs with the schools name on it may be useful when the children are away from school on outings. This was thought to be more relevant for the PA as they would be able to fund this purchase, Jackie Clarke will take this suggestion to the PA’s next meeting. **ACTION – JACKIE CLARKE**
3. School registration. This will now start in November for one week (commencing the 11th) but will also happen again in January as normal. It was agreed that not only was this unnecessary but creates twice as much disruption and work. Liz has asked if we could also write to our councillors regarding this.

**ACTION - ALL**

1. Glasgow City Schools are now gaining increased attainments, reduced exclusions and are gaining more positive destinations on leaving school. However there seems to be negative feeling towards Hillpark Secondary with many Merrylee parents. The Head Teacher Joan Donnelly has offered to come to the school to talk to all parents about Hillpark and answer any questions they may have. Liz will confirm a date for this.

**ACTION - LIZ**

**Date of Next Meeting:**

Monday 20th January 2014, 7pm.