



**West Coats Primary
Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday 11 November 2025
7pm School Hall**

MINUTES

Present:

Parent Council Exec - Mireia Ferrer (Chair), Sarah O'Donnell (Vice Chair) Tom Lauckner (Treasurer), Kim Campbell (P2 Rep.)
Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team – Kirsty Duff and Shona Cameron

Apologies: Marina Scott (Secretary), Sarah Cowie, Tammy Gilpin

1. PC Exec Team Welcome and Report

- Many thanks to all West Coats staff and parent helpers for a successful Halloween Disco.
- Halloween Disco Volunteer Feedback - move P4's to the first disco with the P1-3's. Time between discos to be extended to 30 minutes to give more time for pick up's / drop off's. PC Exec to focus on entrance / exit arrangements for next year. Lee Thomson will provide better lighting for next year. A best costume prize will be added to the older children's disco. Some additional safety measures to be considered for phones / fake weapons.
- Thanks to Mr Hamilton for updating the website.
- Interfaith Week - this was successful and the parent council were grateful to be part of the coffee event. All visits were successful.
- Parents are thankful to have the diary dates in a list format.

2. Treasurer Report

- Halloween Disco made £978 on ticket sales (£369 from P1-3 and £609 from P4-7). Minus expenses, the profit was £618.00. This was one of the busiest Halloween Discos for some time, especially the upper school.
- Expenditure since last meeting £141.38
- Available balance **£8,349.81**
- 2 new Sum Up machines ordered.
- £1040 to be paid to the school for reading materials
- If anyone would like to see a full overview of the Treasurers Report please contact the Parent Council at westcoatsparentcouncil@gmail.com

3. Head Teacher's Report

- Laura Miller's cover continues by Mr Hamilton. We continue to wish Laura our best wishes. Rachel Simpson is covering Mr Hamilton's teaching. Mrs Sloan will return 13 December following Maternity Leave.
- School Funds - currently low. P6 swimming contributions were planned at £317.70 vs actual £669.70. P4 recorders planned contribution £276.50 vs actual £130.50. Interfaith visits planned contribution £0 vs actual £154.00 (77 of 272 children no contribution). Total of £362 in unplanned contributions out of school fund. Weekly HT/Office meetings to be held to ensure Parent Pay is up to date.
- Scottish Visits for 2026 (expected cost approx £3000 - £1954 transport / 1193 venue costs)
 - P1/2 - Riverside Museum
 - P3 - Kelpies
 - P4 - Edinburgh Castle
 - P5 - Bannockburn
 - P6 - New Lanark
 - P7 - Scottish ParliamentHistoric Scotland gives travel subsidies. Will investigate but these tend to be given to schools with high % of children in 1st of 2nd percentile on the poverty scale.
- School Improvement Planning - Ongoing training in VCPA approaches to teaching maths. Ongoing training in 'Balanced Reader' Training. West Coats is involved in local authority curriculum improvement.
- Communication - Draft P1/new parent website/blog.
- Christmas Art Gallery and Craft Fayre - 1st December / 8th December. Sponsored Reindeer Stroke or Santa Dash fundraiser.
- Polytunnel. Speaking to Grow 73 with a view of bringing seeds etc towards a plant sale in Spring. Consideration to be given to permissions for photos.

4. Learning / Attainment

- Can learning overviews be listed on day 1 of new terms
- Teacher Presentations - can these be made available on website or Google classroom.
- Great to see learning overviews are more specific. Mr Hamilton would like to receive more information to be able to share with staff. Parent Council to spend some time looking at feedback on learning overviews as school as received very mixed feedback.

5. Digital Communications / Presence

- Diary Dates update is great. Parent Portal issues persist but Word doc. Is helping buffer any issues
- Newsletters to be pinned to the top of year group whatsapp chats
- Snack / Lunch - reinforce if these are needed or not for trips
- P1's need more information on all topics. Masterclasses are one example.
- Possibility for an 'ask Wilbur' or 'Ask Wilbur at West Coats'. Look at the possibility of a gmail address.
- Remove reference to 'X' from Website
- Parent Council Facebook page - positive feedback from the School team.

6. Resources

What does the school need?

- 2 x football goals
- 1 x basketball hoop
- Lanyards for PVG volunteers
- Possibility of funding a washing machine / dryer for use in school for football kits, nativity costumes, muddy suits etc. Liaise with council on costs.
- Mics for Hall - review existing kit with a view to upgrading to small clip on mics

7. Movie Night 2026

- Licence would be £90 + Vat - check if annual or single use licence would be better
- 1 screening for 400 kids would be difficult logistically so at the moment we are looking at the possibility of a Bingo night in February (Saturday 7th or 21st) instead.

8. Winter Fayre Update

- Planning is going well.
- Theme - The Grinch with a designated Grinch stall
- Santas Grotto - panto staff helping
- Free the Bear - pick keys, padlocks, win a massive bear
- Need more donations - Booze Sleigh, used and clean soft toys, unwanted / unopened gifts, chocolates for tombola
- Grand Raffle prizes - tickets not yet on sale. Parent Council is looking into more efficient ways of allocating / distributing the tickets.

9. Road Safety Update

- Council considering our proposals
- Meeting with Claire Haughey and Michael Shanks
- Keeping engagement moving
- Reassurance needed that our Lollypop Men will remain in place.
- Intention is to keep the council to the promise something WILL happen - ideally not mini roundabouts.

10.AOB

- P2 parents would like reassurance PE times are not being compromised. P2 are playing on pedals to balance out over the term time. 1.5hrs PE slot plus outdoor daily mile and jogs. This will be included in the Newsletter

Next meeting – Thursday 15 January 2026 at 7pm, School Hall

Minutes prepared by Sarah O'Donnell / Marina Scott

Contact us: westcoatsparentcouncil@gmail.com