

JAMES GILLESPIE'S SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

June 2011

Chair's report

This time of year is a period of change for many families, with senior school students completing their exams and moving on, and younger students changing classes and timetables. Curriculum for Excellence is being phased in, and all schools in Edinburgh face challenging decisions with regard to budgets and staffing plans. In addition for JGHS, as you will be aware, the Head Teacher Alex Wallace will be retiring at the end of the academic year.

School Council members have been working on a number of different issues in recent weeks. These have included:

participating in the recruitment process for the new Head Teacher; contributing to the City Council working Group on Secondary provision of Gaelic Medium Education in Edinburgh; attending Neighbourhood Partnership meetings and seeking to update the wider community on the new school plans; pre-planning application stage for the design of the new JGHS building; visiting the decant site at Darroch; arranging events in school including the forthcoming car boot sale and Book sale; joining with other Parent Councils in raising our concerns over the education budget cuts, specifically the proposal to move to faculty system in schools with a significant reduction in Principal teacher posts; and attending other City of Edinburgh Council events such as the Learning Festival.

If you wish more information on any of these matters, most documents and reports can be found on the School Council website <http://council.jghs.org.uk/> If you can't find what you are looking for, please email council@jghs.org.uk or leave us a message at School Reception, and we will try to help.

**NOTE THAT SCHOOL FINISHES FOR THE SUMMER
ON FRIDAY 1st JULY at midday.**

Ann Henderson Chair

07786 660258

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**CAR BOOT SALE, FAIR and SECONDHAND BOOK SALE -
JAMES GILLESPIE'S HIGH SCHOOL
SATURDAY 4th JUNE
10 – 2pm**

Tombola – books and toys – jewellery – plants – baking

(Donations for the text book sale can be handed in to school. Money from books sold is shared between seller and the Parent Council)

SCHOOL COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

Tuesday 7th June 7pm - 8pm School Library

All welcome. Business will include an update on the new building project, the Head Teacher's Report, and reports on the work done by School Council representatives recently.

The meeting will finish no later than 8pm

INVITATION TO ALL PARENTS AND CARERS

Join us to mark Alex Wallace's retirement.
From 8pm, Tuesday 7th June, School Library.
Refreshments will be provided.

Do come along if you can. Information will also be available about the project that Alex Wallace will be undertaking in South Africa in the coming year, and we are making arrangements for parents who wish to support the project through financial donations. Details will be posted on our website too.