

**Senior School Pupil Council Minutes**  
**27<sup>th</sup> March 2018**



Chair: Dermot Hainey (Ogilvie House Captain)

Agenda Item:	Discussion:
1. Use of ICT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main issues discussed were GLOW and the netbooks. Pupils said that increasingly homework tasks are been given out on GLOW – there are mixed views on this as some people prefer this but many would rather it was given and completed on paper. Pupils expressed concerns that the netbooks are often not working and the logon servers are slow. This is causing disruption to learning and teaching as often whole lessons are built around the use of the netbooks.</li> <li>Mr Phee said that the school had recently had a wifi update and put in new hardware to address problems with the netbooks. The school will be getting new machines and the netbooks will also be looked at over the summer to see if updates are required.</li> </ul>
2. Litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was agreed that litter has become a bigger problem in recent months, especially the social space and stairwells. Pupils generally feel that there are enough bins, but a number of ideas were discussed to make pupils more likely to put litter in bins. These included a competition to design bins and/or a competition where pupils could put litter in their own house bin – although it questioned how many pupils would bother to walk across the social space to put their litter in their own house bin. Mr Phee suggested a pilot for a ‘bin on a table’ – small food caddies – in the middle of tables, initially with a small number of tables then if deemed effective then rolled out across the social space.</li> <li>It was also raised that many prefects have stopped doing duties since UCAS applications were completed which means less prefects are able to supervise areas of the school where litter is a problem. A suggestion was made that pupils who had unsuccessfully applied to be a prefect should be given the chance for the second half of the year to replace anyone who longer wishes to be a prefect.</li> </ul>
3. Raising Pupil Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The senior pupil council welcomes the creation of a school scarf, and particularly the creating of a mental health awareness group. Mr Phee said that SLT are taking on board issues relating to mental health and will work with the group to make changes to the Health &amp; Wellbeing curriculum, and get more staff and pupils to be trained in counselling.</li> <li>Mr Phee said that we are considering introducing an elected Pupil Parliament to replace the existing Pupil Council. Pupils at the meeting welcomed this idea and are keen for this to be discussed in more detail at a future meeting. A further idea that was proposed by pupils was the introduction of a Junior Captain who would sit of a house’s senior leadership team – Falkirk HS’s Junior Captains are responsible for organising a Burns Supper.</li> </ul>
4. Any Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns were raised about the increasing number of junior pupils using the senior stairs. It was explained that this stairwell was initially staff only, but became the senior stairs to ease congestion. Mr Phee said that some junior pupils using these stairs may actually help to ease congestion elsewhere.</li> <li>Some pupils have expressed concerns that cans of juice and energy drinks are being sold in the canteen which goes against the promotion of healthy eating. Mr Phee assured pupils that the canteen’s standard on healthy eating is checked by Falkirk Council.</li> <li>S6 pupils last day of school was discussed as in the past it has been used a “prank day” by some pupils, although this hasn’t happed for the last couple of years. Mr Phee explained the in the past it has been upsetting for some junior pupils and also some staff have ended up in tears. Mr Phee praised the current S6 for being a great year group who have built a very good relationship with Miss Marshall and pastoral heads, and it would be a shame if pupils were irresponsible on the last day. If this happened many staff would not want to attend the prom and the graduation ceremony may have to be cancelled. If pupils do hear of anything planned then they are asked to come forward for a quiet word. Pupils attending the meeting agreed that they have a good relationship with staff and seemed to take this advice on board.</li> </ul>