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THE PARENT COUNCIL FUND

## Executive Summary

At the January 2024 meeting of Kinross High School Parent Council (KHSPC) launched a £7,500 fund to pay for initiatives that would enhance our young people's experience at Kinross high School (KHS).

The launch of the fund was publicised widely through the use of the KHSPC Facebook page, dissemination of meeting minutes to all parents, direct approaches to relevant parties (including Heads of Faculties; Active School Co-ordinator; Volunteer sports/extra-curricular group leaders including school staff, parents and pupil leaders; School show organisers/committee; Senior Prom committee organisers; School House Captains; and Duke of Edinburgh school co-ordinator) and through attendance at year group school assemblies to encourage participation.

Applications were invited which would ideally deliver sustainable benefit to a wide range of young people at the school but, importantly, not for matters that should be funded by the education authority.

The closing date for applications was Friday, 8 March at which point 14 applications had been received requesting financial support of some £22,656 – considerably in excess of the available funds of £7,500.

Meanwhile, following an approach made to them by KHSPC, PKC officers confirmed that £2,500 of the, now, £3,250 of funds that have accumulated in the KHSPC 'admin' account, could be used to support the school in consultation with the Headteacher in identifying any particular activities which would welcome financial support from the Parent Council'. Subsequent to this, we consulted with the HT and verified that two of the applications (from the Music Dept application for a replacement double bass and the Science Dept's application for a Van de Graaf generator totalling £2,545) were activities that would welcome our financial support. Accordingly, the gross fund available increased to £10,000.

Following discussion, the sub-committee that was established to review all applications for funding provided a recommendation for the Ordinary Members to consider. This recommendation included the following proposals:

a) that two applications were, regrettably, declined:

- the Home Economics Department's application for a contribution to their project to acquire a mobile Barista Bar costing £9,999. At this stage, notwithstanding the merits of the application, it is unclear when and how this initiative will come to fruition and it is unlikely that Parent Council spend on this project would deliver benefit in the near term. (Had Parent Council been requested to provide a sum to help complete the project funding, it may have attracted a higher priority). This may be an initiative that the Parent Council can support in future years.
- the request from KYTHE for up to £1,600 to fund a weekly fitness class. While supporting many of the pupils attending the school, this initiative is not directly associated with the activities of the school and was considered, when there was a significant body of other meritorious applications directly from school related activities, to be a lower priority.

b) recommends modest and judicious haircuts to a small number of 'round sum' applications, reducing the funding requirement to £10,111 - while maintaining the integrity of the applications and their ability to, very largely, achieve their original purpose.

c) recommends that the School Captains re-assess the nature of the application for funding to support the S6 School Prom. Notwithstanding the sub-committee's support to provide a contribution for the S6 School Prom (as it will be the only way in which the S6 year group will benefit from the Fund), it was uncomfortable in supporting the application from the School Captains to pay for travel to the S6 Prom.

d) recommends that a further £111 is allocated to the fund to increase the PC contribution to £7,611 and increase the total fund to £10,111.

This proposal meant that all of the school initiatives (except for the two declines) can be funded. The Sub Committee was pleased with the mix and nature of applications which largely deliver sustainable and lasting benefit, will enhance the experience of young people at Kinross High School and, pleasingly, come from a variety of sources: pupil led (school prom, debating club, science club); PE / Sports dept; English Dept; Music Dept; Science Dept and Duke of Edinburgh Scheme - all meritorious in their own right and deserve support. It was also noted that they were consistent with KHSPC's aims (in particular promoting pupil welfare and activities which support and advance the education and wider educational experience of pupils attending KHS) and the key priorities of the National Improvement Framework, which should feature within Kinross High School's school improvement plan.

The Ordinary Members of KHSPC have considered the recommendations of the Sub Committee. All Ordinary Members and Office Bearers support the recommendations.

Eight of the Ordinary members and all Office Bearers have supported the revised application from the School Captains to enhance the experience for those attending the S6 School Prom by paying for a photographer (and an individual photograph for all).

Accordingly, the applications as outlined in Appendix 1 are approved (copies of all applications are provided in Appendix 2).

KHSPC is proud of this significant investment to provide sustainable enhancements in the experience of young people at KHS. Thanks are extended to Office Bearers and Ordinary Members of previous iterations of KHSPC who all played a role in creating this fund.

## Appendix 1

Request	Theme	Applicant	Purpose	Application Amount	Approved
1	LANGUAGE SKILLS	English Faculty	Enhancements for S1 Scots Poetry Competition	£270	£270
2		English Department	To fund author visits to encourage reading for pleasure.	£225	£225
3		Debating Club	Contribution to club funds to improve the Debating Club offering	£700	£550
4	SPORTS / FITNESS RELATED	PE Dept	Equipment for Volleyball Club	£275	£275
5		PE Department	Various: Athletic vests (£1,000), table tennis equipment (£400), fitness equipment (£600), secure storage cabinets (£695) – original request for £3,000 (reduced to £2,695)	£2,695	£2,300
6		PE Department	Netball kit and equipment	£1,340	£1,240
7		Active Schools Co-ordinator	Funding for climbing equipment to support the establishment of an after school Climbing Club	£980	£980
8		KYTHE	Requesting a contribution towards funding for the cost of a fitness trainer to provide a weekly Fitness Group	£1,600	-
9	SCIENCE	Science Faculty	Vaan de Graaf generator	£545	£545
10		Science Club	Two science kits to enhance the science club offering, introducing more challenging activities for older pupils	£586	£586
11		School House Captains & S6 Prom Committee	Original request for funding for bus transport for S6 Prom is declined, however a reduced amount is provided to pay for a photographer and an individual photograph for each attendee.	£800	£500
12		Faculty of Health & Wellbeing (Home Economics)	Requesting a contribution towards the acquisition of a mobile Barista Bar to provide facilities for related qualification courses (cost quoted at £9,999)	£9,999	-
13		School Duke of Edinburgh Group	Funding for a replacement light weight tent for volunteer expedition leaders	£640	£640
14		Expressive Arts Faculty	Purchase of a replacement double bass	£2,000	£2,000
				<b>£22,656</b>	<b>£10,111</b>

### Funded by:

Parent Council Funds	7,611
Allocation of Admin Fund as supported by school	£2,500
	<b>£10,111</b>

**Appendix 2 – Copies of all Applications**

## **Request 1**

**Name(s) of applicant(s):** English Department  
**Sum requested:** £270

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

The S1 Scots Verse competition is an annual event the English department hosts to celebrate Scots' language and develop pupils' skills and confidence in talking and listening. It is also an event that builds links between curricular areas, with music from the Expressive Arts faculty and Drama staff support pupils to develop their performances for the competition.

Following Christmas, all S1 classes participate, with pupils learning a Scots poem. 3 winners are then selected from each class and these pupils go forward to the S1 Scots Verse competition. This year, parents/carers of class winners were invited to attend the event for the first time, and this was very successful. We would like to develop this event to make it a bigger celebration of Scots' language and pupils' successes and to build links between home and school.

We have previously funded prizes from the English department budget, staff have bought the refreshments and also provided the decorations for the room. We would like to apply for funding for the following:

Book Token Prizes:	£40
Refreshments:	£20
Tartan tablecloths:	£55
Tartan bunting:	£45
S1 Scots Verse KHS branded display:	£110

The pop up display and room dressing would be used every year for the competition and therefore the resources provided by this funding would continue to be used for years to come.

Thank you for your time in considering this application.

## **Request 2**

**Name(s) of applicant(s):** English Department  
**Sum requested:** £225

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

The English Department are aiming to raise the profile of our young people reading for pleasure. We have, over the last few years, been actively developing ways to engage pupils with reading, to support literacy levels and to support emotional wellbeing.

The BGE classes are encouraged to read for 10 minutes a day, recorded on their Reading Logs, and this is rewarded through the Merit system. S1 classes compete against each other through the Reading Awards Challenge and S2 classes compete through the Reading Journey. Young people are rewarded with Merits S1 and end of year prizes. S3 pupils have, this year, engaged with a Book Group initiative, alongside the Library, and they are responsible for their reading, supported with the Book Group discussions and present their findings on the books to their peers at the end of the block.

These activities, along with others, have helped us to achieve our Bronze Reading Schools award and we are now gathering evidence for the Silver award. We know, from studies, that there is a drop-off in reading motivation that occurs during the teenage years. One way to further engage our BGE classes with reading, is through author visits. Author events are an important tool that we would utilise to help inspire and sustain book reading - for pleasure, to support emotional wellbeing and academic success.

The Scottish Book Trust programme, Live Literature, brings reading and writing to schools by supporting the funding of such author events (the SBT pay £75 and the school pay £75). In the past we have paid for these visits for the Department A Allocation, in the main one each year. But, this is becoming more difficult to finance and we would also love to run one author visit for each of our BGE year groups.

Thank you for your time in considering this application.

### Request 3

Name(s) of applicant(s): \_\_\_\_\_ KHS Debating Club \_\_\_\_\_

Sum requested: £800 \_\_\_\_\_

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

If awarded the sum, the Debate Club would be able to enter more competitions, arrange transport, have professionals in to coach, would be able to possibly run school trips, in the long run this money could help over 70 young people through the ability to build their confidence, learn new skills and have great experiences.



#### Request 4

Name(s) of applicant(s): PE department -Extar-curricular Volleyball Club

Department or group: \_\_\_\_\_

Sum requested: £275,- (5 Volleyballs(£30, each), 2 antenna's (set is 95,) and flip over scoreboard (£20,)

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

This is club that provides volleyball at lunch time and after school every Wednesday.

Every Wednesday there are lot pupils visiting the club during lunch time, on average about 50 people.

The club would be grateful for some more volleyballs,2 antennas for the net and a scoreboard.

## Request 5

Name(s) of applicant(s): PE Department

Sum requested: ~~£3000~~ £2,695

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

1. We are very keen to enhance the experience of pupils within Kinross High School who represent the school in athletics. We have a proud history in athletics at Kinross High and are current County Sports Champions. We have pupils who represent Kinross High School at a variety of athletic competitions, including Scottish Schools Athletic Events, Perth and Kinross athletic events. It has probably been 15 years since we have invested in new athletic vests and this has meant that pupils have had to take part in high profile events wearing club vests. It would be fantastic to order 50 athletic vests. This would enable all pupils to wear a Kinross High athletic vest when we compete at County Sports. This would cost approximately £1000.
2. Table Tennis has become a very popular sport this year at Kinross High. The success of the lunchtime club has had an impact of the volume of table tennis that we are now including within the curriculum. Our table tennis bats are in a very poor condition with all the black and red covers pulled off the bats. Would like the opportunity to invest in 30 new table tennis bats and buy 8 table tennis scoreboards that would be used to teach pupils about scoring and to provide roles for pupils who are not playing. This would cost approximately £400.
3. We would love the opportunity to provide the pupils with more modern functional fitness equipment. This would include for example, Suspension Training Equipment, Slam balls, additional kettle bells, weight bags, battle rope, tyres for dragging and a squat rack. This would help to deliver our Exercise and Fitness Course as well as providing more equipment to motivate pupils in Core PE. We currently have a very limited supply of this such equipment and it would be fantastic to have enough equipment so that all 30 pupils within a class can be using the equipment at the same time. This would cost approximately £600.

Another issue we face in PE is ensuring equipment is safely stored within the cupboards in school. This is pertinent as facilities are used by the Live Active Leisure and the wider community and we often find our equipment used/misplaced that is not locked away in a specialist storage cabinet.

4. The Storage Cabinets that we have in our large games cupboard cost £695. We currently have three of these cabinets and they are bursting at seams. It would be amazing to have more of these cabinets so that pupil equipment can be stored securely at all times. I have recently invested in new basketballs but have been hesitant to use them as cannot store them securely.

**Thanks for your consideration, would be delighted to discuss any of these bids in more detail if required.**

## Request 6

Name(s) of applicant(s): PE Department

Sum requested: £1,340

### School Netball Club/Teams

With 2 teams entered in the Scottish Cup this year and both progressing into the second round, we would very much like to purchase some new team clothing and also equipment. We hope to enter two or perhaps three teams into the cup again next year.

Who..... S2 girls & Senior Girls

How many - Each team has 12 players – 7 on court and 5 subs.

Age - S2, S3, S3, S5 & S6

#### Wish list

##### *Netball dresses for two teams*

12 x junior team £35-40 each dress

12 x senior team £35-£45 each dress

##### *Training Bibs*

2 sets of netball bibs £100

##### *Netballs*

8 training balls £20 each

2 match balls £40-£50 each

*Flip score board x1* £20

Speaker – motivational warm up £100

**Total** **£1340.00**

## Request 7

**Name(s) of applicant(s):** Active Schools/Kinross High – Climbing Club

**Sum requested:** £979.80

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

### **Afterschool Climbing Club**

The climbing wall has been out of action since COVID, with new investment from Live Active the climbing wall is now maintained and will offer recreational sessions to primary pupils and adults. This is perfect timing as the pupil's parliament has asked for climbing to be part of the extracurricular programme so this opens up an opportunity to provide an afterschool club to Kinross High School pupils free of charge. Volunteers are needed to run this new club, fortunately two parents, who are experienced climbers have expressed an interest to volunteer. Once recruited as school volunteers they will receive free in-house training from Live Active to become competent climbing wall leaders. Live Active will provide climbing shoes and ropes therefore the only items needing to be purchased are ten harnesses and ten locking carabiners totalling £979.80.

Climbing is a wonderful sport that offers physical, mental and social benefits. It can increase strength endurance and flexibility and develop hand to feet and eye coordination. It builds self-esteem and confidence as young people must go outside their comfort zone and overcome any fear, step by step on the climbing wall. It improves problem-solving, planning and decision-making abilities by having to plan a route to the top. Finally, it provides stress relief and mindfulness as climbing depends on focusing on the task at hand and holding the rope for each other develops responsibility.

Each session will take a maximum of six, S1-S6 pupils at a time. Depending on the interest we will offer blocks of sessions to allow as many pupils as possible to access the club. Climbing will hopefully attract pupils who may not choose to take part in mainstream sports therefore helping more young people to be active and an opportunity to try a new sport. For each of the sessions, some spaces will be prioritised for those that face inequalities such as pupils living in poverty, looked after children, young carers, young people with a disability or additional support needs and those from an ethnic minority background. We will encourage young people who are interested in coaching to apply for the LEAD Sport | Aspiring Coaches programme in June.

Pupils that enjoy the climbing club will be encouraged to progress by booking lessons at Perth UHI or the International Climbing Arena in Edinburgh.

## Request 8

**Name(s) of applicant(s):** Kinross-shire Youth Enterprise (KYTHE)\_\_\_\_\_

**Department or group:** Weekly Fitness Group\_\_\_\_\_

**Sum requested:** £1,600 \_\_\_\_\_

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

KYTHE would like to put in an application for a Weekly Fitness Group. This will run for 40 weeks of the year during term time. The Fitness Group will support the health and wellbeing of young people at the school and be run by a KYTHE Youth Worker and trained volunteer. KYTHE stands for Kinross-shire Youth Enterprise, and we are a registered charity that supports young people aged 11-19.

We are asking that the Parent Council would consider granting us £1,600 to run the Fitness Group for a year which would pay for a Youth Worker and volunteer (£40 per session) and support 20-30 young people per Fitness Group session. The sessions are available to all year groups (from our experience we would anticipate mainly ages 11-14 that attend) and take place after school for one hour on a Tuesday.

We do not require any sports equipment for the Fitness Group as we already have this in place and have no need for a kit so would very much appreciate a grant towards the staff time.

Should you have other groups to support, we would be very grateful for any sum the Parent Council feels able to contribute to the KYTHE Fitness Group once all applications have been taken into account.

The future benefit is giving young people the chance to take part in a group activity that will support their health and wellbeing, the chance to socialise after school and knowing that the sessions are organised by a dedicated local youth charity with trained and qualified youth workers. Also, if any young people would like to attend KYTHE, all our services are free (after school drop-in on a Friday 1-4pm, Art Workshops, Music Workshops and Study Group – for a full timetable visit [www.kythe.org.uk](http://www.kythe.org.uk)).

Furthermore, if the Parent Council would like to meet the youth work team, we would be delighted to arrange a visit to KYTHE (based in the Youth Hub next to the Health Centre in Kinross).

## Request 9

Name(s) of applicant(s): Science Faculty

Sum requested: £545

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

One of the key exciting demonstrations that is shown in S2 science and in S4 physics and chemistry is using the Van De Graaff machine to show static electricity. We currently have a machine that is breaking and is no longer reliable and will give up the ghost fully very soon. We cannot afford to replace the machine as they are expensive and such demonstrations are not directly part of the curriculum.

We also use the Van de Graaff when primaries, nurseries and other groups visit. In all, probably 500 young people each year will use the machine and it would be a real disappointment if we were no longer able to provide this.

We would like to bid for a very robust Friedrichson Vand de graaf ,machine from WF education which should do many years.

## Request 10

Name(s) of applicant(s): Science Club

Sum requested: £586.48

**Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future:**

The Science Club meets every week on a Tuesday lunchtime and has done for a number of years. Many of the activities that we do can be seen on the science faculty twitter site. There are around 20 members that come most weeks and many have attended for several years. We would like to expand our activities that could challenge our older members. We would like to apply for two mechatronics kits for our club (each gives several complete kits) and would allow our young people to develop skills in engineering, design and creativity. These kits would be used each year as they are reusable.

We would like to apply for: ARDUINO Engineering Kit - Rev2 from Hope Education and ARDUINO Education Starter Set to allow us to do this

## **Request 11**

We are applying for £800 funding on behalf of the School Captains and S6 Prom Committee.

The £800 of your funding would help to cover the cost of buses to and from our S6 Prom on the 13th of June.

With the cost of living rising, financial pressure for the families of S6 parents is inevitable. Prom dresses and suits, transport, and the cost of the venue and food have all skyrocketed over the past years.

We feel the financial support this funding would give the families of S6 would be invaluable in ensuring that everyone can enjoy Prom with less financial strain, allowing a positive lasting impact on every S6's memory of high school.

Thank you very much for this opportunity and your consideration,

Kindest regards,  
The School Captains and S6 Prom Committee.

### **Parent Council Recommendation**

The Sub Committee of the Parent Council (established to review applications and make recommendations) has an appetite to support the S6 Prom but not in the form of a general application for funds to pay for travel to the event in this way. Following a request for the School Captains to reconsider the nature of the application, a revised application was received for funds to pay for a photographer (and an individual photograph for each attendee) to enhance the School Prom experience and provide a lasting momento.



## Request 12

Name(s) of applicant(s): Home Economics

Department or group: Faculty of Health & Wellbeing

Sum requested: £9,999\* We recognise that this is a very large purchase and are anticipating, that I will require to look for funding from other sources to achieve the total cost

Rational for the Application. Explain how money enhances the wider experience of pupils at KHS, the number of pupils and year groups benefited and the extent to which the benefit endures into the future

We would like to raise funds towards purchasing a mobile Barista/Cold Drinks Hub. It is a fully mobile unit, with independent electrics and water which is why it is expensive, but this allows us the flexibility to offer the experience round the school and not just in a fixed location in the school, which will restrict the opportunities. There is an indicated lifespan of 10 years on the unit.

It will offer a range of positive experiences across the school community:

- It allows for a hands-on experience, and creates opportunities for pupils to gain confidence and create a new enjoyment for education for pupils for whom academic route is not suited.
- Will allow a new social hub for pupils/staff/parents/carers where they might otherwise not interact forming new social bonds and friendships within the school. We envisage being able to open it out to the community via the Library eg working alongside our Early Education and Childcare course, allowing isolated parents to come into a hub for play experiences with the EEC pupils/inviting in other community social groups.
- Cross curricular activities – Art/CDT for branding; Business to create business plan/marketing; HE provision of baked items.
- Creating life and work skill opportunities – in particular for pupils based in Pupil Support Department and those pupils who are at risk of exclusion – enhancing the successful Café being run by Pupil Support currently
- It is hard to quantify how many pupils over the years, but running it as a column choice for S4/5/6 there could be potentially up to 60 pupils across the year groups, plus smaller “nurture” groups, gaining a qualification and at a whole school level many more pupils have the opportunity to take part via other subjects/experience the social aspect.
- Formal qualifications are available for us to become approved to deliver - SQA Barista Level 5, Customer Service Level 5 and NPA Bakery Qualification

\*. I have also put in a request to SLT to support this as an enhancement to the curriculum.

Experience from other schools where this is running shows that it can become self funding after a few years and starts contributing positively back to school budget. There are a number of schools in PKC who have introduced this to great success, and many more in the West of Scotland.

### **Request 13**

On behalf of Kinross HS DofE group.

We would like to request funds to acquire a tent for our leaders on expeditions. Our existing lightweight tents are getting old and less waterproof. We have leaders keen to help on expeditions, but some of them are young and have not managed to build up extensive hill kit. We would like to acquire a lightweight tent for the use of expedition leaders; to be kept in our equipment store at the school.

Terra Nova Voyager tent £640 (priced at Go Outdoors)

Thank you for your consideration.

**Request 14**

Name(s) of applicant(s): Expressive Arts Faculty

Sum requested: £2000

Rational for the Application:

Double Bass - this would be used by the String Orchestra, Orchestra and Jazz Band.

We currently have a double bass that is in poor condition. This would be used by current pupils and would have a long term benefit for future generations of pupils. It would be used by a small number of pupils and would bring a wider benefit to all of the ensembles listed above.