

Pupil Parliament 2024-25

Minute

Monday 17 February (10:50 – 12:25)



1. Welcome (10:50 – 10:55)

Chair: Heather Cox (Presiding Officer [PO])

- PO welcomed all members to today's session

2. How Good is Our Successes and Achievements? Debate (10:55 – 11:20)

Chair: Heather Cox (Presiding Officer [PO])

The following comments were shared:

- Merit awards qualifications were unclear
- Assemblies were seen as a good way in which to promote success and celebrate achievement

3. Statements (11:20-11:40)

Chair: Finn Gilfillan (Depute Presiding Officer [DPO])

The following updates were provided:

Food Waste Motion

Research has been completed into the food waste disposal on campus. The result is that most of the food waste happens in the kitchen. It was decided that this motion will be abandoned as there is little point in moving this forward.

Recycling Motion

The group have seen Mrs Prentice and received feedback that this will be introduced in August 2025 by the Council. The motion can support in the interim by encouraging all young people to place their rubbish in the bin. Vice captains will carry out a series of assemblies to promote responsibility in placing rubbish in the bin.

Merit Reworking Motion

We are unable to abolish the current system.

House Points Motion

There is an acknowledgement that the trial in PE has gone well, and this will be reworked with the PE team.

Reward Motion

Pupils would rather gain an reward than a merit. Some suggestions included extra breaks or lunch time.

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Extra-Curricular bidding

No information was received relating to this matter.

Year Group Bidding system

Finn has produced a form seeking bids. The form considers the impact and will be debated at the next meeting.

Year Group Updates

S1 – working on being better at more things and receiving fewer demerits

S2 – Recycling cannot be done on our own and the Local Authority are already working on this.

S3 – The group have been asking about health and wellbeing around TSG classes

S4 – Held various focus groups to gather views with the main one being the use of merits.

S5 – Planning and leading an S5 Movie Night to celebrate the end of prelims. In addition, the group have been gathering views through TSG.

S6 – Organised two large scale events which were well attended. This included the burns support and jazz night which raised over £875 for our school charity.

4. Debate: How good is our health and wellbeing? (11:40 – 12:00)

Chair: Ben Jones (Depute Presiding Officer [DPO])

The following themes were shared throughout the debate:

- Positive feedback around Mrs MacPherson taking up post as Head of House to ensure continuity whilst Ms Sim is on maternity leave
- PSE Curriculum changes around finance and sexual health have been informative
- Food nutrition discussions during inspection has been helpful
- Pupils are keen to ensure that there is a booking system to access Pupil Support. This is already in place through the QR codes.
- Pupils shared how to contact and seek the support from Skills Development Scotland and the careers adviser.