



# YOUR PAC UPDATES

Hello and happy 2016!

Hopefully the year has started well for you and your families. The springlike weather, the lightening evenings and snowdrops dotted around are very encouraging signs.

The PAC Executive has hit the ground running with a busy kick off meeting in lieu of a general one in January. We needed to get aligned about budget and messaging before we all get together next month.

Our discussion points can be read in more detail once the minutes are posted on our website. However to recap here are a few of the highlights:

- **\$\$\$** Yes, cold hard cash. What's left in our coffers and what's coming in. Thank you for all of your generous donations last term. You are rock stars. We'll be presenting the figures to you at the February meeting. If you'd like a copy of the current budget please email me a request for one.
- **Communication/PR for the PAC** We are brainstorming ideas on how to make the PAC more accessible, communicable, friendly, fun and transparent. It's a big job and it's a two way street with each of you. Bear with us. We have a great team of people all working to make this happen.
- **Playground Equipment** One way we can enhance our children's enjoyment at school is by creating interactive play spaces, like the gagaball pit. We're on the hunt for the next playground success story.



[willowspac@gmail.com](mailto:willowspac@gmail.com)



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In the interests of being better communicators we are in need of feedback. Sometimes working on the PAC feels like you're in a vacuum. Until something goes wrong, then you hear about it! One really does have to rely on the old adage "No news is good news." But, we'd like to hear the good and the bad. What's going well? What isn't? Your voice is important and can create change for the better.

We have low attendance at PAC General meetings. We want to know why and how we can rectify that. The best way we could think of was to send out a Survey Monkey via the class reps to figure it out. We'd really appreciate you taking the time to give us some guidance. Watch your inboxes for the survey!

Whilst we await answers on the survey, we thought we'd trial a morning meeting. **You are officially invited to attend the first 'PAC Coffee Chat'**. It won't be a full on business meeting as some core exec members scoot off to jobs after drop off but what we chat about will be of the same level of importance. If you can't make an evening meeting, come and join Michele Montgomery (Pizza Coordinator) and myself for some coffee at 9am, 17th of February. Venue TBD.

Another initiative we're working on is a 'Welcome to Willows' info pack. We're going to make newcomers to the Willows family feel well informed and supported as they enter our doors for the first time be they Kindergarten or Grade 1/2/3/4/5 parents. We have a big, bustling school and a survival guide is essential. Things we're going to include are explanations of events at the



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school, which grade you start choir or sports in, maps of the school building and playgrounds, what do you do and where do you go if you sign up for pizza day or lice check day, what the PAC is etc etc. It's going to make coming to Willows less of an initiation by fire and more of a welcoming hug. So, still warm, but not THAT warm.

We'd like to welcome Krissy Johns to the PAC team. Krissy will be fulfilling the role of Kindergarten Liaison Representative. Thank you for being a point of contact for our Kindergarten parents and caregivers, Krissy!

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - email [willowspac@gmail.com](mailto:willowspac@gmail.com)**

- **Wordpress Whiz:** our PAC website needs some love. Can anyone help please? Pretty please?
- **Blossom Tree Festival:** Angela Jackson is getting a committee together to start on the exciting new spring festival event. We're talking cotton candy, bands, food trucks, sack races, games... this is a fun one to get involved in!
- **'Welcome to Willows':** it would be nice to have a few brains to help us draft up this document to ensure that we're not missing some vital information.

Our next **PAC meeting is Wednesday, 17th of February at 7pm** in the library. We're discussing and creating a Parents' Wish List for how to spend the donation money in 2016/17. We'd love to have you and your ideas there!

As always, thank you for reading.

**BRONWEN SHARPE - PAC CHAIR**

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[willowspac@gmail.com](mailto:willowspac@gmail.com)



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