

1. Member Support: Our team continues to deliver information sessions to parents and teachers around Scotland.  
Two new sessions have been developed: *Involving All Parents* which has been adapted from a course developed with the Gathered Together project and *Helping to Improve your School* which looks at practical ways for a Parent Council to take forward school improvement goals.  
The member survey closed at the end of January and we have around 10% response. A report will be produced.
2. Parents Voice: The survey on the implementation of PVG has just been published.
3. AGM and Lecture: SPTC is moving to an annual lecture format instead of a conference. This year's is on 3 March at the Glasgow Science Centre and the speaker is Dr Joyce Epstein, who leads the National Partnership Schools Network. Financial support for the lecture has come from SDS. AGM notifications have gone to members and there is still time to support nominations!
4. Backchat: We have moved to a policy of mailing paper copies only to those for whom we have no email address or who specifically request paper. Otherwise distribution is by email.
5. Teacher Shortages: This continues to be an issue along with the topic of local authority commitment to teacher numbers/budgets for 2015-16.
6. Parliament & Education and Culture Committee: There are a number of consultations currently underway which will be of interest to parents.
7. Education Scotland: There is currently a review of inspections underway which we are feeding into. We have been asked to lead a parent discussion group at an event on 9 March to launch an ES report on technology education: there are still places at the all-day event!
8. STEC: Eileen will deliver a half-day workshop for STEC members on 26 February at University of Dundee.
9. No2NP Campaign: The consultation on the Guidance for the Children and Young People's Act was launched during 1<sup>st</sup> week in February.
10. Disclosure Scotland: We are working with Disclosure Scotland and Volunteer Scotland to help clarify the situation regarding implementation of the PVG legislation where it applies to parent groups. We have just launched a Parents Voice survey on use of PVG and disclosures.

Eileen Prior  
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