**Port Ellen Primary School Parent Council Meeting**

**4pm 17th June 2020 via Zoom**

**In attendance;** Tina Cunningham, Linda Kirkpatrick, Maria Heads, Maureen MacDonald, Kate Brown, Katie Bonar, Grace Gibson

**Apologies;** Moira Shakespeare, Bonnie Wood was not able to attend all of the meeting but recorded via Zoom for minute writing afterwards.

Tina confirmed she had 14 bottles and 20 balloons for the P7’s leavers ceremony. Bags are available at the school to be gifted to the children.

Maureen has sent out the transition email today to P7 parents today regarding the leavers event on the 24th June. It asks that parents do not attend as the school is unable to allow parents congregating at the school. There will be social distance markings on the ground for children to use to adhere to.

Everything for inside the school is organised for the 24th for P7’s at 1pm.

In the morning, staff will put up bunting and balloons outside – Linda and Katie volunteered to help with this from 10am on the 24th.

Maureen met with the head of service today, a proposal was sent out to parents about the 3.5/1.5 day. This is a proposed model for Islay & Jura schools. Since then other schools have changed but Port Ellen and Bowmore will keep with this model. The proposal is going forward to the elected members to be voted upon so is not yet fully confirmed. Maureen will know by Friday 19th if this is to be accepted. There is currently rigorous and lengthy organisation going on in school, risk assessments are being undertaken and vulnerable children have a particular focus in this.

School will operate on a full P1-P7 in a 2 metre social distancing environment – this does not include the ELCC, they will operate in a bubble format. When government changes the 2 metre distancing, it is likely that the floor space will still remain in the same configuration. The school has signage on order to be displayed throughout the school from August.

Inside the ELCC children have to be in a 1 adult to 6 children max bubble. ELCC will not be leaving the nursery and outdoor space setting. They will not be permitted to visit the beach, or walk up the path.

Maureen noted that staff will be measured in their response to 2 metres social distancing and children will be encouraged to respect the 2 metre guidelines.

Each pupil will have their own pencil case for use which will be appropriate for their age. Within each small class they will have dedicated resources to be used within that small group for the school week. Resources have been removed from classrooms to enable more space to be created for pupils and all year groups will remain within their year groups. Staff will move between the year group groups.

Meals will be delivered to classrooms in some cases and it has been suggested that Port Ellen will house children on a staggered basis in the hall for lunch, to avoid carpeted areas.

The Hub School will continue over the summer and volunteer teachers are in place to cover the children of key workers and vulnerable children across Islay.

Grace proposed an enormous vote of thanks. What the staff have been able to achieve is nothing short of outstanding. Maureen said this would not have been possible without the support of staff and parents. Everyone has been so helpful and staff have supported each other to keep spirits up.

A leaflet has been made up for 4-year olds starting school which has been distributed. There will also be a return to school leaflet for all children. Where each class will be, what pupils can bring and can’t bring to school, the responsibilities of parents e.g. cleaning a bottle, no bags, no reading books going home, etc. Seesaw will continue to be used. A new reading resource is being looked into by Mrs Harrison, it is very expensive but is being reviewed for potential purchase of this for reading particularly for P1 and P2’s. There will be a lot more outdoor learning for pupils in the new term.

The school will be in touch with individual families about what individual start time/collection times will be in place.

Mrs Clark has asked if the parent council could feed into the funding application to the Covid Fund for i-pads for pupils. Equity, ensuring children have access to their own i-pad, to ensure every child has an i-pad to do home learning. The application does have to come from the Parent Council. Katie, Tina, Bonnie and Grace said they would be able to help Mrs Clark with this.

The meeting finished with finalising discussions for the P7’s leavers on 24th June and Maureen suggested the idea of a piper to pipe them out of school so would follow this up.

The Parent Council will need to meet quite soon in August and a meeting will be arranged accordingly.