**Northmuir Parent Council**

**Minutes**

**Meeting Monday 23rd April 2012**

**Present;** Laura Law, Jackie Low, Aaron Nelson, Shona Curson, Derek Thompson, Claire Brown and Janice Wetherspoon.

**Apologies;** Arlene Walker, Leaca Crawford.

**In Attendance;** Paula Wharton, Eddie Valentine, Barbara Donaldson and Norma Craigon.

**Welcome;** Laura welcomed everyone for their attendance apologised for late agenda being delivered to everyone.

**Head Teacher Report;** Paula explained that the school had recently been reassessed for being a health promoting school in which they received an excellent; everyone present congratulated the school for achieving this award yet again. The Nursery has recently had a sponsored walk which has raised over £1000 which will go towards redevelopment of their outside area. There is currently a company who are undertaking a plan for the area and once the quote has been given for this it will be decided if the school can afford to go ahead with this. They are also hoping to apply for a grant to help with this. Out of the school funds the Nursery, Infant and upper Block have each received a sum of £350 to help with any needs they have. There has also been a Hot Shot fundraiser which all children took part in, which was also a sponsored event raising around £1000. It is hoped that this money will help towards the cost of building an outdoor classroom. Dundee Football club came to the school to help with this activity and the children were given a display of how the radar works to record the speed of the ball. Each child received a certificate to show their personal best speed. P2/3 and P3 held a very successful open afternoon with a 1960’s theme. The children all really enjoyed researching all about the 60’s and they were very proud to show off all their hard work to visiting guests. Barbara wished to thank Laura for providing the mandarin cheesecake. P6/7 have taken part in an open morning run by TAG from Abertay University, looking at computer games production. The children have also been invited to visit Abertay and Mr Brown aims to continue with links with the University. There have been several new families joining the school and Paula expressed how nice it is to see so many new arrivals to the area. Paula and Eddie are running focus groups with the children in P7 to find out what jobs they wish to know more about and hope that by inviting people from different professions, manly parents, in to hold a jobs fair over 2 days in June, that this will give the children some aspirations as to where they see their future going. In the recent Rotary quiz Northmuir won this and they came 4th in the Euro quiz. Well done to all involved. The football team have defended their triumph, winning the Glamis Shield. There is to be a golf competition held at the Kirriemuir golf club with Northmuir and Southmuir Primary schools taking part. Thanks to the golf club for holding this event. 2 places are available from each school in Angus to take part in the Olympic torch relay when it passes through the area. Names will be drawn out of a hat with 1 child from infant and 1 child from upper block being selected. There may also be spaces available for children to spectate at this event.

**Parent Forum;** Laura felt that perhaps an outline for the upcoming forum should be made. To open the forum Laura shall explain to the parents what the Parent Council have done over the past year and also explain the changes we wish to make to the Constitution. These changes are to make members commit to three meetings out of five in the year, alternating nights for meetings to be held to ensure everyone can attend. Laura and Paula will meet to discuss these changes fully and Laura will e-mail the changes out to members for their comments before the Forum. Post-it notes will be available for any parents/carers wishing to put their name forward to be Council members. A crèche will be available on the night which will be run by Norma and Barbara. Tea/coffee will be served, Shona and Jackie will be able to help with this on the night, Laura will get the provisions for this. An invite will be sent out to all parents/carers with a return slip for crèche names. The rest of the evening will be taking up with Paula and Eddie leading a discussion on Skills for learning Life and Work, with the help from pupils.

**Matters brought to council by parents;** The Nursery have recently sent out a projection plan which has received very good feedback from parents. They have also visited the Museum recently which again went very well. Jelly sweets – some parents had commended that the children receive jelly sweets as prizes or rewards at the end of the week; the main issue with this was to check if the sweets are suitable for vegetarians. Paula is to speak with staff regarding this and will also look into an alternative for sports day if these are not suitable. A parent had commented on the area outside school gates where the manhole covers are protruding with sharp edges and children have hurt themselves on. Paula explained that this was not a school issue as it is outside school grounds, Laura is to contact the local council about this and forward on the complaint. Some parents have asked if it possible for a fruit only day, this was agreed that maybe the school could start having Fruity Friday’s, it would not be possible to make every day a fruit only day and the infants still get free fruit three times a week. Laura asked permission from the Parent Council to put the minutes of meetings on the Angus Council Parent Blog, this was agreed and any other information including the upcoming forum should also be put on this. <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/AngusParentCouncilGroup/>

The next meeting for the Parent Council will be the Parent Forum on Tuesday 15th May at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8pm.