**Crossmichael Parent Council Meeting Agenda**

**Monday 1st November 2021 at 7pm on Zoom**

1. Attendees

Mary Cruickshanks ( Head Teacher), Ben Wild (Chair), Sarah Cooper (Secretary), Shani McMiken (Treasurer), Debs Nelson, Jackie Kernahan, Amber Dunlop-Pajo.

2. Apologies

Emma McCraken, Alex Bryson, Hannah Green, Natalie Richards

3. Minutes of Last Meeting: approval and matters arising

Approved by Shani and seconded by Sarah

4. Chairperson’s report

a. Checking the emails – end of year financial report for council based on money given by Council but we did not receive this – Shani still checking this. After this we shall be given £250 for this year.

5. Treasurer’s report

Opening balance: £1749.21

Income: £500 Crossmichael Community Council Small Grants

Expenditure: £498 Iain Hall Joinery

Closing balance £1751.21

6. Head Teacher’s report

a. No change to Covid 19 regulations at present. This means we are unable to have teacher/parent consultations. Plan to send out Interim Pupil reports by end of Nov and any parents wishing to discuss their child’s progress with the teacher are invited to contact school via email or school office to arrange phonecall with teacher.

b. Volunteers are being welcomed back to school.

c. School roll is very healthy sitting at 96 children with 3 more set to enrol on 7/1/22.

d. Staffing stable at Crossmichael. Advert out externally for 22 hours learning assistant for Crossmichael using Covid 19 recovery money. Mrs Clifton has returned to work and is working 1-1 with children again. Gelston Principle Teacher is off due to family illness and this means that 4 days a week is needing covered and is to be offered to staff across the partnership in the first instance, Mary will know more about this by the end of the week. Learning assistant at Gelston is also off and this has meant Mary has been spending a lot of time over there covering but has now found cover for 3.5 days a week.

e. Primary 2 had their health and wellbeing checks by NHS last week.

f. Flu immunisations were received by pupils and staff on 27/10/21.

g. The children enjoyed Halloween activities last Friday afternoon.

h. Barnados did an assembly for children last week and Crossmichael Primary will be part of a Pilot scheme in which Marie White from Barnados will visit once a week to be available for children to talk to in project to help with mental health. See leaflet sent home for more details.

i. Training being undertaken by schools in Castle Douglas and Dalry cluster for maths and numeracy. This is following D&G introducing a new framework for numeracy and training is for teachers to use this to improve children’s concept of numbers and improve continuity across schools and on moving up to secondary.

7. Fundraising

a. Unable to go ahead with Christmas BBQ due to Covid regulations and not wanting to cause any increase in cases.

b. Christmas cards in progress

c. Halloween word scramble raised £71, Winners 1st Casey Patterson, 2nd Jackie Kernahan, 3rd Sheila Nelson.

d. Discussed Christmas raffle but now too late to apply for licence and print tickets.

e. Discussed similar to last year donations to foodbank and Mary shared that Mr Tyson had contacted school via Rotary about shoebox appeal. Agreed this sounded good and Mary will read details for this and see if we can take forward.

8. Parent Council Contribution to Lockerbie Manor Trip

 a. Mary asked if parent council would contribute to cost of Lockerbie Manor trip. Asking for £6.61 per pupil £178.47 total. This would reduce cost to £150 per child for parents. Agreed to this.

9. AOB

a. Shani raised possibility of school photos and Mary happy to arrange for this to take place now.

b. Possibility of parent council facebook page raised and discussed. Would need admin to manage people who joined if closed group. School admin may be able to do this, Mary will ask. People felt closed group would possibly be better.

c. Debs asked about art with Mrs Bellinski, Mary advised that she is no longer the art specialist moving between schools but teaching staff withing school partnership and needed to cover hours in Gelston. However there may be scope for a volunteer Artist from Auchencairn to visit.

d. Debs asked whether school utilise RHET resources as there is a lot out there at moment. Mary advised they do link with RHET to enhance the curriculum when appropriate – school has a 3 year rolling curricular plan.

e. Debs asked about letter detailing Covid regulations mentioned in newsletter but parents have not received this as yet. Mary under impression it was to be sent out by D&G education.

f. Discussion about Christmas plans and gifts and whether there needs to be another meeting prior to end of term to discuss this. Mary having staff meeting and will feeback plans after. Last year had virtual pantomime and sweets for all children. If can be done via email with do this otherwise will call for meeting in Dec.

10. Date of next meeting

To be arranged following feedback re Christmas plans – may need to be Dec or if not then Jan.