



Georgetown School Parent Council



Location: Georgetown P.S



Date: 30/05/2023



Time: 6.15pm

Attendees: Carly Anderson, Tracey Boyd, Rachael Thomson, Chris Latimer, Laura Proudlock, Laura MacKenzie, Kerry Sommerville, Julie Stephen, Lorelei Lynn, Tracey Mills, Dayle McGaw

Apologies: Vanessa Tweedie, Charlotte Dickson, Lynne Wilson, Shiree McCrone, Susan Coates, Fiona Sommerville, Colin Gordon, Jenna McCrone, Susan Knox

AGM Meeting Minutes

I. Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Carly welcomed everyone to the AGM - usually held in September however it was agreed to change to end of summer term to recap what Parent Council had done in the year and start a fresh in September.

New office bearers had been in role this year and it had been successful having a co-chair arrangement in place.

She discussed some of the events the Parent Council had been involved with or organized - Disco's – Halloween and Spring, Christmas Fayre, P1 engagement event, Community litter pick, Supported the DBCC with a tablet/IPAD for their Nepal project, Purchased a memorial bench to mark the Kings Coronation, Funded P7 yearbooks.

Parental engagement event – discussion took place that this had been a very successful night with a great turn out and feedback was very positive from parents and 'stallholders'

Tackled road safety issues with Calside Parent Council – the outcome of this was unfortunately unsuccessful as the Council had no record of accidents in the area which would prompt them to look at road safety.

II. Treasurer's Report

Balance of accounts at end of session: *Still to pay for school Fun Day from this.*

Bank of Scotland: £2755.04

TSB: £501.89



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III. Head Teacher Report

Information for this session

The current roll is 301 in 12 mainstream classes, including 12 pupils in QLC plus 51 in Nursery.

A quick summary of developments can be seen on the wall outside the HT office and in the many examples of work posted on the school story, your child's portfolio and class dojo posts. Further development work will be sent in links to parents at the start of next session. This was focussed in the following areas.

- Almost all staff have developed their understanding of what good quality learning and teaching looks like through INSET day activities. We carried out some self-evaluation by looking outwards at examples of good practice from other schools nationally to aid the self-evaluation process. We then focused on a refreshed approach to using AiFL strategies including the use of digital technologies. This led us to creating a WAGOLL for 'What good learning and teaching looks like at Georgetown'. We engaged with pupils to share their views on what good learning means to them. This has led to a refreshed learning and teaching policy which will support staff in their pedagogy.
- Majority of staff are more confident in using outdoor learning and Play in their daily teaching practice. To help support outdoor learning opportunities, SLT led a walk within the local community. This allowed staff to focus on how the local community can be used to promote outdoor learning within our local area.
- We started our UNCRC journey to become a Rights Respecting School. We have achieved our Bronze award. Teaching staff who are leading this area have held 'Play Your Cards Right' Assemblies, with P6 pupils helping to lead these. We have made links to UNCRC during whole school assemblies and the majority of staff are beginning to make links to these within learning and teaching.
- Children are given many opportunities to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors through a variety of learning experiences. These are celebrated in school and shared with parents and families through our Being Well/Doing Well and Citizenship Assemblies.
- P7&P6 are all part of Pupil leadership groups; Health and Wellbeing Heroes, Sign Along Stars, Global Gang, Digital Dynamo's, Junior Librarians, Community Champions and House Captains have had some impact across the school and in our community and have developed the leadership skills of pupils.
- The wellbeing of our pupil continues to be our main driver. Our Being Well/Doing Well approach is embedded across the school. We use nurturing approaches, Emotion Works, daily emotions check in's to ensure our pupils are in the right place to learn. We prioritize Learning Assistant time to facilitate Wellbeing and Life Skills groups to ensure our most vulnerable learners are given the support they need to be in the best place to learn. P4-7 pupils complete termly Wellbeing Check In forms which link to the wellbeing



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indicators. These Forms are shared with staff and SLT who follow up any concerns when appropriate. Staff also complete wellbeing Check In forms, with support provided from SLT if needed. We took part in anti-bullying week and World Mental Health Day

- Through the monitoring of lessons (numeracy and IDL) lessons provided children with opportunities to be actively engaged in their learning. Term one observations on numeracy highlighted a need for a refresh on AiFL which was a focus for the Feb Inset day. During the second lesson observations on IDL almost all lessons showed increased pupil engagement through better use of AiFL techniques including a better use of digital technology and a better focus on meta skills.
 - Through working with Skills Development Scotland, we have focused on Meta Skills as a way to develop the transferable skills our pupils will need for our ever-changing world. Through lesson observations, it was clear that almost all teachers are incorporating a Meta Skills focus within their learning and teaching, with most of our pupils being able to talk about the skills they are developing.
 - Children and staff have become familiar with UNCRC through the creation of class charters, specific RRS assemblies and links being made across the curriculum. This has allowed us to achieve our Bronze Rights Respecting Schools Award.
 - The Global Goals are permeating throughout our curriculum with links being made through IDL work and we continue to share these with the wider community. We are working towards achieving our Green flag which is helping us promote the Global Goals, Global Citizenship and Learning for Sustainability and these are more apparent within our Vision, Values and Aims. We have done this through a variety of events this year:
 - Georgetown's Community Christmas – Each class had to do something with a community focus eg. Collecting for the local food bank, Grand Parents Christmas games morning, community singing.
 - Santa Dash – whole school community walk to promote active travel
 - Global Gang and Community Champions carried out a community litter pick during school time which led to a Family Litter Pick event on a Saturday morning.
 - We organised 'The Global Goals Carbon Neutral Football Tournament' which was open to any school who could walk to Georgetown. We got new goalposts with Awards for All funding.
 - Wellbeing Groups have worked on developing our school garden and are a finalist in the Keep Scotland Beautiful Pocket Garden Competition
 - Most classes are utilising our local area more which promotes active travel and outdoor learning, helping us to be a more sustainable school.
 - To enhance the learning experiences we are providing our pupils, we have worked in partnership with; Feis Ros, Active Schools, DHS, Make it HAppEn, STEM team, Sustrans, Baptist Church, STEM Ambassadors We have reintroduced residential trips for both P6 and P7 pupils.
 - All staff have been trained in Sing-Along. Most staff and pupils are beginning to communicate using appropriate signs. This is part of the schools inclusion approach to learning for all.

This session was proactive and productive year for the Parent Council after a shaky start and an E.G.M and with revising their constitution. A new committee was refreshed and the co-chair situation works well, sharing talents. They brought back the Christmas fayre and this was a huge success. They have supported numerous events including the recent Parent Information event and Fun Day.



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Georgetown staff value the contributions parents/ carers and families make to children's learning and regularly ask for contributions, suggestions and feedback. We are certain this will continue. Having a supportive Parent Council is vital to wellbeing of the school and all its pupils and staff.

IV. Election of Office Bearers

As per constitution, Office Bearers can serve for a maximum of 2 years. Tracey and Carly both agree to stay on for a further year as co-chairs if the committee are in agreement. This was agreed.

Rachael Thomson also willing to stay on for a further year as vice chair. This was agreed.

Unfortunate as discussed at last meeting, losing Kerry as treasurer as her son is in P7 and moving to high school after summer. This was put out to the Parent Council messenger chat group to appoint role but had no uptake. It was agreed to absorb this role until the next meeting in August/September and try and recruit someone in the process.

v. AOB

Bike ability for Adults

Rachael Thomson discussed that Sustrans had approached her at the Parental Engagement event regarding Bikeability training for adults – to be able to volunteer to run training sessions or help Bryony (our Bikeability coordinator) on class led bike rides. There was also payment schemes available for bikes. It was agreed to advertise this information through our communication channels.

Pathways

It had been asked by a parent to bring up the blocked pathways surrounding the playground – certain groups of adults (parents) blocking the gates as the children leave the playground at 3pm. Children are having to step onto the grass to get around them as they block the pavement congregating outside school. Discussion took place regarding signage around the gates to keep areas clear – however the main consensus was this was not a school issue as it was outside the grounds.

Fun day



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In past years, Parent Council have funded the school annual Fun Day. It was agreed this was a great day for all and to fund again this term.

QLC

Chris thanked Dayle for attending as a representative from the Queensberry Learning Centre. This helped with the inclusion of the Learning Centre. He discussed the lack of space for the QLC in the playground and that a fence was being costed out to give them a larger safe area outside. The hydrotherapy pool was still not fixed – it was a mystery to all the work men who had been into inspect it. Preparation work to get this back up and running was still on the go.

The Year Ahead

Discussion took place regarding dates for next session and whether we wanted an event in September.

Christmas Fayre – start preparations early for December date – this was a successful community event and raised a lot of money although does take a lot of preparation and hours to accomplish.

It was agreed to repeat this year, with same stall holder contacts as last year. Feedback on stall holders and the need for a 'food stall' was discussed – this was difficult to book a food stall last year due to late preparations.

Discussion re a 'sub-group' for preparations took place – It was agreed the group chat became overwhelming with so much information and ideas – perhaps face to face/virtual meetings would be better for organizing/planning.

The date agreed for Christmas Fayre was Friday 24th November.

Back to School Bingo – Discussion took place regarding an event in September to welcome new families to the school – this would be split over 2 nights and into house groups to accommodate whole school attendance. Provisional dates were agreed – 7th & 14th September – further details to be discussed on return to school in August.

Halloween Disco – Thursday 2nd November

Dates for next meeting – Tuesday 29th August – 6.15pm



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Action Items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
Add to Parent Council Group Chat re Treasurer post	Carly/Tracey	ASAP	
Treasurer handover	Kerry	Before end of term	
Bike ability Passover	Rachael T	Before end of term	
Xmas Fayre 'save the date' poster	Laura Mac	Before end of term	
Fun Day receipts to PC	Laura Mac	When available	

Date of Next Meeting: **Tuesday 29th**
August – 6.15pm