

Meeting of REPHAD PARENT COUNCIL held online via Zoom, Thursday 12th November 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present: Ruth-Anne Henderson (Chairperson); Karen Logue (Head Teacher); Moira Baird (Depute Head Teacher); Angela Milligan (Treasurer); Jen Leek (Parent Member); Gavin Lee (Parent Member); Natalie Sisi (Clerk); Fiona Shannon

Apologies received: Councillor Willie Scobie and Paula Erskine (Parent Member).

1. Minutes from Meeting of 10.9.20 were proposed as correct by Angela and seconded by Gavin, no matter were arising from the minutes.
2. Survey was sent out at the end of September via Microsoft Forms. Ruth-Anne wrote it and Penny kindly set it up, in order to ascertain what parents knew about our role as Parent Council and what was the best way to share information with them. Out of a possible 185 families, 62 responses were returned, 34%. The survey results show that email and the school app are the most preferred ways parents wish to be contacted, followed by the Facebook group. The Parent Council will continue to use these FREE methods to share information.

The majority of responses did show that parents understand the role of the Parent Council but not all. It was decided that Ruth-Anne send out another information leaflet to further explain how the Parent Council represents ALL parents and what we can do to benefit them, the school and most importantly Rephad's children. A copy of the full survey results can be viewed upon request.

3. HT Q&A Session was held over Zoom on 3 November 2020. We had 15 questions from parents altogether ranging from questions to get to know Mrs. Logue better, to asking about current covid restrictions, uniform, the playground etc. 8 parents joined on the night and a copy of the transcript will be shared.

It was felt it was very worthwhile because it helped parents to feel valued and included. It was agreed that it would be a worthwhile venture to repeat, perhaps in the Summer term (to include Nursery parents), depending on covid restrictions etc.

4. Easyfundraising – RA (Ruth-Anne) reported that we have 23 supporters, 18 have never shopped. £19.45 raised so far. 1% or 2% donations but every little helps and it will all add up. It was decided that another letter to inform parents of Easyfundraising would be beneficial. RA will write and share one as soon as possible to benefit from parents' online Christmas shopping.
5. Fundraising Sub-Committee
Christmas Fayre – RA reported that everything was ready for the Online Facebook Christmas Fayre to go ahead on 14/15th Nov. The What'sApp fundraising group having kindly donated items for a hamper.

Angela has volunteered to head up the Fundraising Sub-Committee in future, so as to keep budgets and fundraising closely linked. Any fundraising will have to be approved by the whole council first but if we have someone in charge of organising, it shares the workload.

What'sApp is an easy way to keep in touch with everyone and it has worked successfully for the Christmas Fayre.

A **gambling licence** had to be obtained to run raffles. This was applied for from D&G Council. Initial cost was £40, then £20 a year thereafter.

3 separate raffles planned for Christmas Fayre, a letter went out informing parents how to enter. Local businesses and parents were very generous in donating prizes. Over 20 vendors selling their Christmas produce. Vendors have been asked to take a note of how much they make over the weekend from the Fayre, to allow measurement of success.

The Treasurer (Angela) set up a business **PayPal account** for the parent council to allow us to be paid easily online.

Class Christmas Parties – It was decided to serve juice, crisps and a biscuit. RA will ask Sandra to make shortbread. Remember alternative for those with allergies. School will source Juice and crisps, Parent Council will reimburse.

Parent Council will pay for an online showing of a **Pantomime** this year for all children, instead of the usual visiting production company.

Angela proposed the Parent Council produce a calendar using pupil pictures/photographs. It was decided this would be best left until the summer term and produce an academic calendar as parents have just been asked to purchase Christmas cards.

It was suggested that an Easter Trail be organised, similar to the Pumpkin one in October.

6. **Update from Treasurer** – Profits raised from **Christmas Cards**, £428.68. Which was 88 packs of cards sold, 77 printed mugs sold, 18 self-adhesive tags sold, 37 value packs sold and 6 packs of thank you cards sold.

Signatories of Bank Accounts – Angela, Jen and Ruth-Anne all had to resubmit their IDs. RA visited the branch for further verification. Still signatories have not been changed and we cannot access one of the bank accounts, where money from D&G Council is paid into.

Bank Account No 1 Balance as of 12 November £2349.66, which includes some raffle money.

7. **Update from Head Teacher – Learning Journals:** Positive feedback has been received on the use of Learning Journals, not just within the platform. School will continue weekly update to give staff opportunities to develop confidence with the system and keep in mind our limited wifi access in school and speed of uploads. Only 36 parents are not using the system.

Christmas: A variety of in-school events will take place: Christmas Dinner; a Christmas jumper day; a virtual panto and a party for each class with a treat provided by Parent Council.

School organising a movie night and details will be out as soon as possible but the date is 10th December and we anticipate 6-7:30pm

Tickled Pink

Staff are recognising great writing attempts with displays at the front of the school. Children get congratulated by HT and receive a sticker as well as congratulations from their class.

Pupil Committees

School now have members for all committees and they will meet for the first time in the next week. We have 2 reps from P4-P7 and 1 rep for P1-3. There is an Eco committee, a Pupil Council and a Reading Committee. HT will share what is happening with the future meetings.

Standards and Qualities

A report went out on Monday discussing successes and improvements from last session and next steps for this current session. This will be an annual process and shared with parents in a clear format.

Anti-bullying

The survey results were shared and a flyer with the results will be emailed to all families. Results will be shared with classes by Pupil Council members. Mrs Logue will keep parents up to date with next steps as the current policy is reviewed.

Anti-Bullying Survey results are available upon request.

Targets will be sent home next week in an envelope. Staff are asking parents only request a discussion with the teacher if they have specific questions or concerns. School is trying everything with current resources to keep parents as involved and informed as possible.

Nursery There is no specific news from the nursery but parents are kept up-to-date with with focus ideas and newsletters posted on their facebook page and emailed to families.

Christmas Fayre Mrs Logue expressed her thanks to everyone who has donated, or acquired donations for the raffle. School will keep encouraging sales of the raffle tickets. The other raffles will open over the weekend. Mrs Logue also expressed it was a great idea by the parent Council and about as much organisation as a physical fayre.

8. **Correspondence** – Councillor Willie Scobie asked if we would be willing to join in with a fundraising event for the Make a Wish Foundation, to buy wooden stars to decorate the Community Council's tree in the middle of the town. It was felt that it was too short notice and parents were already being asked to give to other charities, so we would not take part at this time.

Dates for this session's meetings are as follows: 11th Feb 7:30pm; 18th Mar 7:30pm; 13th May 7.30pm AGM, followed by short ordinary meeting and FRIDAY 18th June, short meeting followed by Social.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Minutes written by Ruth-Anne Henderson