

**Meeting of REPHAD PARENT COUNCIL held online via Zoom, Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7:30pm**

**Present:** Ruth-Anne Henderson (Chairperson); Karen Logue (Head Teacher); Moira Baird (Depute Head Teacher); Natalie Lisi (Clerk); Lois Bodle (Nursery Staff Representative); Jenny Gregg; Fiona Gaffney; Gavin Lee (Parent Member); Jen Leek

Apologies: Silvana Watson (Parent Member); Ros Surtees

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. **Minutes of meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021** – Jen approved minutes and Gavin seconded
3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes** – BBQ
4. **Update from Chair** – Correspondence from authority just after October was that covid restrictions to remain in place so Xmas Fayre to be outside of school. We are going ahead following guidelines and with risk assessments. We held a vote via facebook and the majority was for a physical Fayre. Holy Ground Community Church is the venue, thanks to Gavin Lee. It has it's own public liability insurance. This was checked and finalised with KL. In October hols, RA, AM and GL met at the church and discussed what would happen and the practicalities of it. Risk assessment was completed by RA and shared with KL, Parent Forum and Local Authority. Advertising posters now shared with explicit advice to not attend if showing any symptoms; masks to be worn unless exempt...all as per risk assessment.

RA sent out a letter today about Xmas paper plates for the church – children to bring in 50p to get a plate and hand it back in decorated. RA also has a teddy for Guess the Birthday and will organise sweets for a prize. NL will man this stall on the day. RH have asked a couple to be Santa and his elf – costumes being borrowed from Whithorn Trust. Thank you gift to be organised for them. Reminder from LB about nursery so posters to be shared with the nursery group. AM is organising the raffle, GL is organising the grotto, JG is organising hot choc, SW is organising crafts/spot the difference/Christmas Anagrams – completed entries in a hat with prize to be won, JL is organising tombola. Need volunteers to be stewards in congested areas.

5. **Update from Treasurer** – Main account balance as statement: as of next week, w/c 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 - £1324.27 minus recent withdrawals = £514.39  
School class and Nursery allocation - £500  
Zoom - £14.39  
Account Balance after withdrawal of the above amounts: £809.88  
However Christmas Card profit is to be added on which has not been received as yet.  
School Fundraising – Christmas card profit  
There was a total profit of £382.79  
2<sup>nd</sup> Account balance - £164.48

To officially inform that once accounts are submitted to Accountant in April 2022 I will therefore be stepping down as Treasurer, with an aim of this being completed by June 2022. These are for personal reasons which has been discussed with the Chair of the Rephad Parent Council.

AM will get raffle books this week and start them online from next weekend (20/21 November)

6. **Christmas Fayre** – GL should be finished grotto a week from today (18/11/21). GL will not be at the fayre but will definitely have the grotto ready. Presents for boys/girls. Jenny needs to firm up touchpoints etc for hot choc, otherwise getting it sorted. Are we serving it? Slow cooker may be a problem as too many people touching and queues will be a congestion point? Shortbread or biscuits made up on plates to give out. JL – tombola – has bought the stickers to make it, not sure about asking for more money as well as the raffle. RA & KL have added that parents and staff will help out. Bottle stall preferred option.

7. **Update from HT** – Lewis raised £95 for Cancer Unit – great achievement!

Spooky Walk – over £2300!! Fantastic for the school and nursery. We will be discussing various aspects such as playground equipment replenishment and resources within the school to allow for pupil play pedagogy and engagement. Over £600 was raised in the Nursery and that will go towards the outdoor learning area specifically to enhance the garden for planting and growing various items.

Flu jabs on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November, photographs on 19<sup>th</sup> November and CiN on 18<sup>th</sup> November (due to photos being on the 19<sup>th</sup>). We are hoping to have photographs for nursery children later in the session but cannot offer to all parents currently due to so many attendance days and times and the inability to have parents in the building.

School progress report was sent out to share with everyone how we are moving forward and our achievements last session.

Meeting next week with staff for Xmas celebrations and what will be planned, everything adjusted because of Covid – no concerts as advised by the authority. We continue to support all Covid rules, if there is a case children will take lateral flow tests before coming back in to school. We look forward to various restrictions being lifted to allow us to have parental engagement events within the school – we do miss you.

A survey of P7 parents has shown overall they would support a residential trip and understand the impact of a possible loss of funds if Covid impacts the events. We will continue to discuss this and come to a good decision for everyone involved.

Teaching staff have been involved in training regarding Pupil Empowerment and Play Pedagogy and we continue to have discussions about how the ideas and principles will be reflected at Rephad as a connection also to nursery practice.

Book Week Scotland is next week – P1-3 will get a bookbag with books and activities inside. Nursery has literacy session over 2 nights focusing on Nursery Rhyme Week – families to be notified of their child's allocation tomorrow.

Teachers have also started a session developing how we introduce and take forward writing with the children to give a consistent approach as well as embed key skills such as descriptive writing. We have been encouraging lots of verbal discussions with children to develop their vocabulary skills in describing items and events using a wide criteria of categories such as size, shape, colour, number position, texture and actions. We have already noticed some terrific writing on our Ticked Pink boards.

Eco Committee are meeting in the next week or two with John Hancox from the Scottish Fruit Trees Association to follow up with our Spring planting.

The Reading Committee have met and suggested book lists and this will continue each month to change the display and give pupils something to read while waiting in the lunch line.

The Pupil Council have discussed how we can earn house points and certificate winners yesterday received points for their house to begin the process. There are a variety of ways within class and on the playground that children can earn points. If you have any milk bottle sized caps in any colour, we would appreciate them to supplement our stocks within classes.

Class Newsletters were sent out for each class on Tuesday and hopefully they give you an insight to experiences over the term.

8. **AOCB** – AM – suggested thank you cards for admin staff for all their help.

Next Meeting: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November

Meeting closed at 8.14pm