

# FRIENDS OF LOANHEAD (PARENT COUNCIL) MINUTES OF MEETING 26/05/16

Parent Council Minutes Thursday 26th May 2016

Apologies - Mrs Milne, L McIntyre, M Kelly

Attendees - Mr Forsyth, Mrs Bomphray, Craig MacDonald, Craig Hume, Ross McGregor, Lynn MacKinnon, Carrie Hope, Clare Laurenson, Karen Stevenson, Wendy Johnstone, Lorraine Richmond, Emma Docherty, Heather Cameron

Craig MacDonald standing in as chair.

## **1 - Treasurer update**

As the funds from PC have now all been passed to the school there is no report to be made. Account will be closed in the forthcoming months.

## **2 - Head Teacher report**

As part of the improvement plan, Health program is now being taught in the school with regards to sexual health, parent will be notified when their child's class will have this taught to them.

Dyslexia friendly schools award, although Loanhead would like to have achieved this award this year Mr Forsyth believes that dyslexia friendly has not been bedded into the school enough yet and as a result would like to do more work around the school regarding awareness and removing stigma.

All classes have a box set up with aids to help in class, looking at policy development of parent/pupil focus group.

Mr Forsyth is confident the award will be achieved next year.

STEM, mainly been focusing on technology within STEM but are now beginning science teaching, Mrs Milne developing a policy and program of studies.

Development of IT suite, moved rooms, to create more space, invested in 15 new laptops, although existing computers still exist these are wired in and can not be moved at the moment. Connection problems are being addressed and a new internet connection will be installed, at present Loanhead run off Kilmarnock Academy.

Refresh program may be due to start within East Ayrshire to upgrade computers, as soon as anything else is known info will be passed on.

Waiting on a 3D printer arriving, this is part of a trial that Loanhead has been chosen for.

GLOW continues to be a success, with Loanhead being recognised as being further forward with the use of it than other schools in the area.

Children are working alongside other schools in the Road to Rio project.

## Focus

1 - Literacy - talking and listening

2 - Numeracy - number talks

3 - Health & Wellbeing - more focus on physical education and sports

CM commented that the daily mile has been a great introduction the school and the children like it.

Mrs Waugh well under way with the induction process for P1's for next term, transition of P7 to secondary has gone well.

Capital spend to happen with Loanhead with the possible introduction of a nursery within the school, at present Loanhead is fed by around 12 nurseries.

## 3 - FOL update

Money raised this year will be spent on new technology equipment to aid the school and allow it to be more eco friendly, new visualisers for each class will allow the cut of amount of paper used, new cameras to allow the children to be able to update GLOW.

We have also bought the P7 leavers gift this year and will continue to do so moving forward. The gift this year will hopefully be a useful tool for all.

Looking at holding an event after the summer holidays within the school, possible family bingo night. Followed by Halloween disco, which will again be held during the day and then Christmas Fair at end of November.

Funds raised 2016/2017 will be used within the playground.

## 4 - Parent Council/FOL merge

The decision has been made that Parent Council and FOL should become one group, this allows for more decisions to be made and for the people attending to have less meetings per year.

The name for the group has been decided as

Friend of Loanhead (parent council)

The FOL name is well recognised and we feel it gives the right impression of what the group should be, for the purpose of the constitution we have left parent council in brackets within the title, but will rarely use this.

Craig MacDonald had drafted a new constitution and this will simplify the aims of the group.

We would like the meetings to be well attended without parents/guardians/carers feeling they may be asked to do tasks. Parent/guardians/carers can come to as many or as little meetings as they like.

We will aim to alternate days and times to ensure everyone has the chance to come along.

We want to promote close co operation and communication between parent/guardians/carers and teachers.

To study and discuss matters of mutual interest relating to the education and welfare of pupils.

To engage in activities which support and advance the education of pupils attending the school.

AGM will be held Thursday 1st September 7pm at Loanhead Primary. Please come along, we will have a school tour followed by the AGM, this will give you the chance to see the school and where it's advancements have been and to see first hand where all donations to the acho and FOL are being spent, as well as this see a meeting.

The FOL Facebook page will continue but will now have the purpose of keeping parents up to date with all activities within the group.

There is an email link for parent feedback, suggestions or points to raise at meetings and the Facebook page now contains the link to the blog to allow all information to be accessed from one site.

P1 induction evening HC and LR to attend to speak about FOL.

## **AOB**

Follow up with Laura Rennie and Liz McIntyre regarding council emails.

Online payment will be rolled out shortly, all payments to school for example lunches will be made online very soon. All schools going to this.

Use of school for voting, as newer schools open less availability of town halls etc, but have found out that the Grand Hall is now longer used for counting, so FOL will be writing to the council to ask for this to be considered when next elections happen.

Craig Hume will bring in new virtual reality equipment.

Sports day timings letters have been sent.

Prize giving Craig Hume and Heather Cameron to attend.

Craig MacDonald to draft final copy of constitution.

Craig Hume to design flyer for Parent induction eve.

Emma Docherty to confirm dates and timescales for Christmas Card design scheme.