**Dalmellington Primary school and Early Childhood Centre**

**Parent Council Meeting**

**Monday 13th November 2023**

**7-8.30 virtual on teams**

**Present**: Fiona Greig, Claire Stevenson, Jennifer Dunsford, Wendy Whiteford, Lorna Dempsey, Sheree McCabe, Aimee Mcknight, Kim Mulholland, Jane McTaggart, Tazymn Hearton, Amy Mair, Bianca Crossan

**Apologies**: Tracy Grierson

**Welcome** – Jennifer opened the meeting by welcoming everyone including new ECC parents.

**Minutes of last meeting** - Tracy sent via email. Minutes proposed by Lorna and seconded by Jennifer.

**Treasurer’s report** – Lorna shared on the screen statements and report. Balance of £4188.42 however payments for last session swimming lessons still to be paid and the sponsored walk money still to be added.

Actions – invoices coming through periodically, Mrs Greig will chase up invoices and get Tricia to email them to Lorna. Lorna will create cheque to pay outstanding so far.

**Head teachers report** – Mrs Greig shared her report on the screen. Please see attachment.

Questions asked in regards to HT Report:

Lorna – the family learning math sessions if it was possible for working parents to be able to access these. Mrs Stevenson confirmed it was on the school blog, but will pop the link onto the app, this will also prompt other parents to look at it.

Jennifer – thanked Mrs Greig for the parent council representation invitation to the ECC opening day, but Jennifer could not attend due to work. Hopefully another member can attend to represent.

**Parent Council business**

**Halloween walk feedback** – worked well with it being a nice day weather wise. A lot of parent helpers, this brought a great connection and involvement within the school. Primary children walked 45 minutes out and back with a Halloween treat in between. ECC walked 30 minutes out and back and got Halloween treat when back at ECC. Money had been collected from school to be banked and the total will be updated.

Question – Sheree asked what was needed for the school if any money raised can help with anything. Mrs Greig would like a portable speaker with a microphone which would help with assemblies etc.

Actions - Mrs Greig has seen one for couple hundred pounds. Agreed for Mrs Greig to order and PC will reimburse with cheque.

**Grant application** – Jennifer waiting to hear back for the grant that was applied to EAC for school children to attend the pantomime, as well as transport and the ECC Christmas Santa Bounce. If unsuccessful PC will give donation towards the panto trip and fully support the ECC Xmas Santa Bounce at a cost of £120.

**Residential** – Mrs Stevenson updated the Pc with costs of the residential trip. It will cost £159 per child, 14 in the class which takes amount to £2226. Transport is booked bus will be shared with Patna, so will cost £300 for Dalmellington pupils. P7 money has already been fundraised by P7 parent group. Mrs Stevenson suggested if that would cover half the residential trip. Wendy confirmed £1900 was fundraised already by the p7 group. P7 would like similar experience as last year and would like the water sports day as well. Suggested £80 for parents to pay for their own child, which would pay the other half.

Actions – need costs agreed so Tricia can get all information of payments onto parent pay.

**Grants available** – Wendy and Jane recently shared grants that are available just now, closing date being 14/15th Dec. Residential trip has an educational element to the grant criteria. Mrs Stevenson happy to work with member of PC to apply for grant of £3000 to pay the residential. Leaver’s hoodies – Jennifer going to pay £24 from rainbow ink and school will get sample of hoodies that they get to keep to try on for sizing. BE uniforms have been a bit difficult to deal with this year.

**Christmas fayre -** Mrs Greig has spoken to staff to see who can help with our own Fayre this year, held on 1st Dec 6 – 8.30pm. Will update Jennifer once confirmed what game/activity they will also be creating.

Scouts also organised by Lorna and will be supporting the toasting mallows stall. Mrs Greig confirmed children already doing singing rehearsals for the event, Christmas music will be played as well, will consult children in classes for preferences of songs.

Question – Mrs Greig asked if PC will pay for the children’s prizes for the class games they decide on. This was agreed. Mrs Greig will report back what will possibly be needed.

**Community centre Christmas Fayre -** PC have a table but nothing confirmed as what to sell at it. Discussions of something simple, nothing confirmed but will agree on what’s app later. Jennifer asked who can help at this stall.

**School concert show** – school will be charging entry this year for school fundraising. Mrs Greig asked if PC would like a refreshments stall to help with fundraising. Need to confirm who can help at which show.

**Nursery subgroup –** Mrs Greig still to plan a subgroup meetingwhere it will be held in ECC setting. Amy confirmed that ECC subgroup wants to work as part of the PC team. There had been miscommunication previously as ECC parents were told that there were no funding for ECC children. This has been cleared up at the last fundraising meeting held by Mrs Greig, where it was confirmed that the Parent Council includes ECC and that funds were shared.

Actions – parent council notice board to be created within the school and ECC setting which will allow PC to promote what they do and what they support etc. Lorna will pull together all data and pass to Mrs Greig.

**Advent calendars** – PC will be purchasing all Primary and ECC children an advent calendar which will be handed into school by Thursday 30th November for staff to give out to children. Mrs Greig confirmed 100 would be needed.

**Sumdog** – members of the PC felt sumdog was missed by the children and families. School having to monitor and look closely at all online learning subscriptions due to budgets. Lorna had a recent figure of how much it would cost: for maths £462 then £660 for spelling, grammar and maths. Suggested to apply for a grant to help pay for this but most grants can’t be used for online subscriptions. After Christmas, Robert McCallum is visiting the school to do some work around numeracy, Mrs Greig feels it’s best to wait until this support is by and then will come back to PC with regards to Sumdog.

**Date of next meeting –** Thursday 18th January. 7.30pm on Teams.