

## Dunlop Primary School Parent Council/Parent Association

Meeting: 20th November 2019

### MINUTES

**Present:** Mrs Wilson; Jen Gaskin; Anna Wilson; David Caulfield; Aileen Dunlop; Shona Cooley.

**Apologies:** Miss White, Mrs Nouillan, Debbie Simmers; Lee-Anne Johnstone; Kate Murray; Heather Allen; Pamela Young, Carol McLelland.

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#### Items Discussed – Parent Council

1. Headteacher's update
  - a. Toilet refurbishment is programmed to start between January and March.
  - b. The new house tokens system, along with the new school values, is going very well. The house points are going to be counted up at the end of this week and then at the end of the next terms.
  - c. SNSAs have started for P4 and P7. P1's will start in the new year and be undertaken over several weeks in small groups. The assessments are used to support next steps in learning and teaching . The school has chosen to perform the assessments mid-way through the school year so that the results can inform planning between now and summer.
  - d. P1 enrolment will take place w/c 13<sup>th</sup> January. ECC enrolment will take place w/c 17 February. ECC provision has not been confirmed yet. More information will be available in the new year.
  - e. The school have recently been supported in various ways by Les Kirk, of the Lugton Burns Association. The school would like to continue this link with the community. The Lugton Burns Association has offered to help with judging the Burns recitals, and they want to offer a P6 prize. They have also suggested that they could invite P6/P7 winners and their parents to their Burns Supper, giving the winners an opportunity to perform there. Les Kirk will also be invited to the Burns Breakfast.

- f. Homework – following on from the previous meeting and as a result of further discussions with some parents/carers, Mrs Wilson has developed a substantial set of documents about numeracy and literacy for each of the curriculum levels. These documents can be used at home, if wished, to go over any particular areas with pupils. They describe the methods and terminology used in class. The documents will be available in the “After School” section of the school blog in the new year. Mrs Wilson noted that based on parent night surveys and the HMiE surveys, a large proportion (around 80%) of parents/carers have confirmed that they feel well informed about their child’s learning. These new documents will supplement the open hours, parent nights and reports that also serve to keep parents/carers informed. Mrs Wilson noted that 181 of the 188 children at the school participate in at least one out-of-school activity/club. The new homework policy means pupils/families have more time available for such things.
2. Respect Me
- a. Shona Cooley and Mrs Wilson met with Kilmaurs Primary staff. Shona explained that key points from the meeting were that:
- i. Kilmaurs have been working on “Respect Me” for the past four years, mostly through small simple measures such as brief homework tasks, drama activities, and changes in the playground
  - ii. It is generally more a positive focus on developing respectful relationships, rather than “anti-bullying”.
  - iii. The Kilmaurs staff felt that they had improved things for their children.
- b. The Respect Me group will meet tomorrow to start planning for measures at Dunlop.
- c. Shona Cooley will provide an update at every PC meeting.
3. School House pupil numbers

- a. A parent had observed their child being disillusioned with the house point system, and queried whether the Blue team were a lot smaller than the other two teams.
  - b. Pupil numbers are: Lugton (red) = 67; Glazert (yellow) = 65; Clerkland (blue) = 57. Mrs Wilson explained that as the houses are set based on siblings being in the same house, there is an annual task to place P1s in houses and ensure even numbers. An imbalance can sometimes occur when multiple children leave at once (i.e. siblings in one family). There is currently a difference of 8 pupils between Yellows and Blues. PC members present agreed that this was not a significant difference. Mrs Wilson noted that the token system is such that a child can be awarded with a token for all sorts of reasons, including singing well, sitting nicely at assembly, being helpful, and out of school achievement. Tokens are given out by teaching staff, Mr. Stewart, lunchtime staff and school visitors. Tokens translate directly into house points.
4. Handwashing before entering dinner hall
    - a. Pupils can use the hand sanitizer pumps when they enter the building before going for lunch, or they can wash their hands in the school toilets after hanging up their coats. Mrs Wilson will remind children of this.
  5. Update to PC poster in school entrance
    - a. This will be updated with new pupil council members, and it will be placed on the school blog.
  6. Treasurer's update
    - a. Full update not available (due to illness).
    - b. Some headline figures are: £90 expenditure for P1/2 Santa gift (books); £120 expenditure for the Christmas party; £320 raised from the Christmas card orders, £1,426 profit from the Christmas coffee morning. Bank balance is currently £3,472. PC also note their thanks to Carol Blackmore for organizing the Christmas Card orders.
  7. AOB

The addition of parent council minutes should generate a notification on the school app but this has not worked recently. Miss White is looking into this. Anna Wilson noted that the app sometimes links to the old school blog which can be confusing for readers.

### Items Discussed – Parent Association

1. Christmas Coffee Morning
  - a. £1,426 raised (profit). Taking on the day included £202 for the wooden crafts that pupils had made; £80 for the Jellybean competition; £135 for the Teddy competition; £90 book sale; £70 bottle tombola; £185 toy sale; £70 chocolate tombola.
  - b. 40+ selection boxes and 16 tubes of sweets were left over and were donated to a food bank.
2. Community Council Participatory Budget Funding
  - a. David Caulfield explained the arrangements. Applications can be made for three projects, max budget £500 each. The projects must be “Clean Green, Vibrant” and not core school activities. Forms will be available at the start of January and the deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> February. Funding will be for projects running from March 2020 for 1 year. It was agreed that the PA and the Pupil Council will make a joint application. The PA and Pupil Council will meet in January to consider the application. The eco garden would suit this funding.
3. Winterfest – not discussed (will cover at the next meeting)
4. Race donation – not discussed (will cover at the next meeting)
5. National Lottery Funding Application
  - a. Emily Bennett has made an application for £1000 towards the race.

### Next meeting:

**Date:** 29th January, 19.30 – 21.00, School Pod.

**Items for the agenda include:** Headteacher’s update, Respect Me, Treasurer’s update, Winterfest, Race donation.

Minutes submitted by:	Anna Wilson (Secretary)
Approved by:	Jen Gaskin (Chair)