

Dunlop Primary School Parent Council/Parent Association

Meeting: 27th January 2021. 7.30pm - 9.00pm

MINUTES

Present:

PC David Caulfield, Claire McAuslan, Jess McCormack, Justine Young, Leeann Johnstone, Daniella Young, Shona Cooley, Emily Bennett, Jennifer Gaskin, Debbie Simmers, Claire Tooze, Kate Murray, Aileen Dunlop, Linda Lamberton, Hazel Salt

Parent forum Keith Barclay

DPS Mrs Wilson

Apologies:

Carolann Maclellan, Lee-Ann Dalziel, Kate MacCallion, Diane Brown.

Parent Council

1. Previous meeting minutes – questions:

- New ECC staff member – has she started? Start date will be 8th February.
- Accounts – PC has set up PA Paypal account
- Accounts - still require a volunteer to take over the bank account from Jen (by August)
- Use of ParentPay for fundraising. Mrs Wilson explained that it is complicated for donations, due to needing an estimated value of donation per child in advance of the event.

2. Headteacher's report (including home learning)

Mrs Wilson noted her thanks for the chocolate boxes that the PC sent.

The focus of tonight's report is remote learning.

- DPS are tracking pupil engagement – 162/181 engaging (19 not doing anything at all). Mrs Wilson is contacting families not currently engaging to see if any support is needed (technical or other). Six government-funded chrome books have been given out to pupils. School has applied for another seven.
- Recent survey – 59 responses from 127 families. Some highlights:
 - i. The numerical results from the survey were explained.
 - ii. What is going well? P1/2/3 happy to have SeeSaw back. This is only during lockdown. On return from lockdown SeeSaw classes will move to EA "learner journals".
 - iii. Assignments outstanding/overdue is a common theme. Miss White is going to meet with the class teachers this week to make arrangements to resolve this.
- There is more emailing between home and school this time round.

- Some feedback is oral (live on Teams for P5-7 and recorded on SeeSaw for P1-3). Daily interaction with class teacher through Teams. Every class has a weekly check-in with Mrs Wilson. Half to one third of each class are engaging. This is less interaction than was anticipated by DPS but it will be continued.
- New version of assemblies – now more interactive. School are trying to give an assembly on a Friday that the children can work through by themselves.
- Last week DPS looked at Education Scotland live meetings. Different theme every week.
- V-scene – there have been problems with the technology. Some class teachers may join into the weekly sessions, to give pupils a chance to see the teachers face-to-face.
- DPS aware that lockdown looks set to last a bit longer, and the message is still to do what you can when you can (e.g. focus on literacy/numeracy Mon-Thu. Assembly on Friday).
- Paper copies of reading material can be made available.

Questions from the PC:

- Jen asked why there was such a low response to the survey? Assuming that those that didn't comment are happy with what is being provided.
- Jen noted that the engagement level is amazing, compared to other schools.
- Leeann Johnstone – noted how important being able to tidy up the assignments is.
- Jess McCormack ECC – could staff record some stories? Mrs Wilson said that this is in hand.

3. Accounts

Current bank balance is £5,600, including a generous £650 donation from Post Office. Spend since last meeting is £680, comprising:

- Rain suits for ECC
- Wooden trucks for ECC
- Staff treats, party treats, flowers

No money received for Xmas cards yet – approx. £145. No invoice for the pens yet – they have been purchased (£550).

4. Staff funding bids

No new bids

5. Respectful Relationships Team

Shona confirmed that all team have attended workshops in November/December so that team members can offer workshops to parents and carers in the school, and the team have come up with a questionnaire for parents/carers. Shona asked within PC if it was appropriate to wait to do

these once pupils are back at school. The general consensus was to wait. Once the questionnaire is completed, the team will then form a plan to hold the workshops.

Mrs Wilson explained that some of the children were given questionnaires last term but due to isolations not all classes were surveyed. This identified that pupils need more guidance on what to do in the event of bullying being experienced/observed.

6. New ECC construction update

Mrs Wilson has been in touch with architects but no response from them yet.

1140 hours –lunchtime furniture has been delivered. Our Senior Early Years worker is starting on 8th February and the 20hour support assistant post has been allocated but still awaiting a PVG check to be returned. After that has been completed then we will wait for approval from EAC to start the delivery of 1140 hours.

7. Outdoor shelter

EAC property manager was at the schools – DPS are still waiting to hear back from them.

8. Playground bench

DPS have found a lovely bench from The Timber Shop at Magbiehill, at a cost of £1,100. Mrs Wilson showed the PC a picture of this. It could be ready for March. Must be assembled on site. The proposed site is beside the mural wall.

PC feel that this is very reasonable and lower than expected. Discussed potential to develop the idea further with more benches – two benches in the same area to accommodate a full class. A third bench for the infant playground could be fundraised for next year. PC agreed to fund two benches. Mrs Wilson will organise.

9. AOB

EAC counselling will be brought into the school, for age 10+. Available now. Mrs Wilson is currently doing Place2Be training. This will cater for younger pupils. Mrs Wilson is taking the lead on this for the education group.

Virtual run. Neckwarmers are still delayed due to covid. They will be distributed once available. Jen proposed to run a similar but smaller event in the spring. Perhaps with lower value “prizes”.

P7 £150 party money has not been spent. PC agreed to give last years' P7s £5 each rather than waiting until an event can be planned. Jen will ask local businesses if they will participate in a local business gift voucher scheme.

The next meeting is on March 10th