NETHER ROBERTLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

MINUTES OF MEETING (via Teams), Wednesday 18th May 2022 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Natalie McMaster, Cathy Burslem Hill, Mhairi Speirs, Mary Menzies, Loree Thomson, Joanna Deeks-Nisbet, Lauren Hussain, Helen Ward, Alexandra Goldie, Kyla Richardson, Nicola Shaw.

APOLOGIES: Ann Orr, Lynn Bicket, Carole Swan

IN ATTENDANCE: Jackie Shaw

WELCOME: Mrs Goldie welcomed everyone to the meeting and checked that everyone had received the previous minutes. Mrs Hussain approved the minutes of the previous meeting and Mrs Thomson seconded them.

UPDATE FROM CHAIR: Alexandra recapped on the Everfit cladding that had been proposed by the Council when Simon Bell came to the meeting almost a year ago. EAC are going to be looking at six sites, but NRPS is not going to be one of them. Simon said in his e-mail that some of the buildings are similar to NRPS, but did not tell us which one. There will be continued upgrades in the school which will hopefully continue to make the environment positive for pupils and staff. A summary was received from the Chair of the Parent Steering Group confirming that she will continue to keep this role and attend cabinet meetings representing Parent Councils across EAC. There was nothing specific linked to primary schools that will affect NRPS.

It was reported that NEC cards has one of the highest uptakes across EAC. It was then raised that P7 NRPS pupils were having issues getting their cards. Mrs Shaw is to look into this. Parental surveys will be coming out towards the end of May around Parents’ Evenings across EAC. There has been a significant uptake since it has gone viral, Early Years has been extended to all 2 year olds from August and some 1 year olds.

HT REPORT: Staffing has not been fully confirmed, however, Mrs Shaw could share that current structure will probably remain. There will be a 13 class structure. The current P1 pupils will move on as one P2 class, there will be 2 Primary 1 classes. Mrs Cherry is taking a career break for 1 year. Mrs Gavin, currently 0.6 will move to 0.8 (four days). Miss Gray who is currently 0.6 (3 days) since returning from maternity leave, will return full time in August. There are currently 2 probationers who will be leaving in June. The current roll is 308 but this will drop to below 300 in August so Mrs Shaw could not confirm if we will get a probationer. She is hopeful, however, as this will allow a 13 class structure. PEF funding is going to drop to £37,975 from £49,460.

Gail Henderson is funded through PEF and this will continue for now. Mrs Shaw is also looking to save some PEF money to help resource play based pedagogy. We are now allowed to have parents in school – 2m distancing, masks and minimising numbers is what is required though to allow this to happen. The P7 show will be split to minimise numbers, the P1 Information Evening might also be split to minimise numbers. P6 pupils are taking part in the Columba Programme and P6G are upgrading the Peaceful Garden. They are working with R and R Garden Services and Stewarton allotments. Mrs J Shaw and Mrs N Shaw are to look at another primary school (Hillhead) to see some playground/astroturf ideas as there is a possibility we can astroturf the playground using some of the £4000 via the PA. The P7 transition is going well and programmes have included: Young STEM leadership programme, visits by DHT’s, PE department visits to play volleyball, support visits for those needing ASN, and Sarah Gifford SDS has indicated that she would like to come over too. As part of the P1 transition, the ECC have been visiting the school along with other children not from the ECC. Buddies have been allocated and some transitioning has already taken place. There is to be a P1 Information Evening for parents of incoming pupils. There has also been enhanced transitioning where required. Bikeability sessions have been taking place. Due to the location of the school and roads, NRPS are starting to educate from P4 so that when children reach P6 the aim will be that no child will be a non rider. 22 P6 pupils are now receiving free instrument tuition. It is hoped that a full parent survey will be issued to parents by the end of the session. A pilot of this was discussed with Alexandra and Natalie. The aim is to get as many parents as possible to complete this. With regard to celebrating success – views are being gathered from pupils, parents and staff. NRPS came first in the recent Rotary Quiz. The residential weekend for P7 pupils went well. During session 2022/23 plenty of notice will be given to allow parents to plan financially. Key dates are all on the app, but feedback will be gathered as to how this needs to be communicated – is the app enough? All of the wee end classes and open area are to be upgraded over the summer. A cooker is being provided for the wee end and sinks will be lowered. All the ECC has now been emptied thanks to community payback.

PA UPDATE: Approximately £400 has been raised by tea towels and bags. Sally Buxton has raised between £1500 - £1600. PA now moving on to selling recipe books. An outlay of £500 has been paid for printing costs, so this needs to be recouped as soon as possible.

Meeting closed at approximately 8.30pn when Teams cut off.

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