



Onthank Parent Council Minutes

Monday 7th March 2022

7 pm Via Microsoft Teams

Attendees		Apologies
Hayley Boyd Lora Barclay Alison Wright Glynis Findlay Miss Adam Miss Cook Miss Muir Mr McNicol Mr McIlwraith Mrs Irving Lindsay Cairns Leoni Graham Stuart Graham	Tina Clugston Elaine Paton Claire Haggerty Kimberley Mills Nicola Johnson Jackie Phillips	Caroline Caldwell
Chair Update		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing to report. 		
Review of actions from previous meeting		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Learning Journals “how to”. Update: The “How To” video is now live on the school blog. Further Action - LC to share on PC FB page and AW to pin the post to the top of the blog. Action: Car Park Update: EP emailed the Council and they have visited the school to measure up the car park to get the lines repainted. Further Action - EP to chase the Council and find out time scales. Action: Face to Face Parent Council Meetings Update: No update. Further Action - Parent Council to discuss. Action: Flooding on path to rear of school Update: After a post on social media, EAC contacted the school to get further details. Work was carried out w/c 28th Feb 22 and draining has been put in. Item closed. 		

- **Action:** Weekly Year Group Updates
Update: Mr McNicol spoke with the other year group heads, who were keen on the idea, still to convince SLT.
- **Further Action – SM to continue to chase SLT.**

Treasurer Update

- Bank needs 3 new signatories to go in together, with relevant ID. Hoping to get this done within the next two weeks.
- Cash and Parent Pay from the Christmas Fun Night will be transferred once we can get access to the bank account.

Subgroup Update

Fundraising

- **A few ideas have been suggested, hoping to get an event in place for Easter.**
Action: Fundraising Group to discuss ideas.

Comms & Parental Engagement

- Looking at writing a piece on RRS from a parental perspective to increase awareness and hopefully engagement.
- **Action:** EP to work with LC.
- **Action:** LC to promote Comic Relief through PC FB page.

Learning & Teaching

- Karen Paterson will head up the group moving forward.
- Karen Cook advised she is looking to form a Parent Focus Group for Literacy, to help further develop a reading culture in the school and encourage parents / carers to carry this on at home. Karen P, Elaine P and Jackie put themselves forward.
- **Action:** any other interested parents / carers to email the Parent Council and a list will be forwarded to Karen C.

HT Update

- Covid numbers are increasing. 2 classes are on Stage 3 Warn and Inform letters ('outbreak' in class), meaning kids have to take LFT every day.
- There has been a tremendous uptake of After School Activities, with 329 children signing up for classes. Covid Mitigations may affect attendance at the After School Clubs, as in certain cases, kids from other classes are not allowed to mix.
- Staffing – school roll will be increasing next academic year, with an estimated 86 new P1's joining and 74 P7's leaving. There are currently 24 classes, EAC have suggested it should be 21, but Alison will be suggesting 25.

- The school and pupils are liking some of the measures implemented due to Covid, such as smaller scale assemblies (not whole school assemblies). The SLT have been liaising with Pupil Voice and garnering opinion.
- The current Improvement Plan will be reviewed and goals set for new Plan.
- P7 Residential – school aware that cost may be a barrier and don't want that to be the case, so will aim to help financially, where possible.
- Any future calls for 'wishlist' items to not include core items, which school will provide. School very thankful for the donations that have been handed in to date.
- Teachers and staff have been aware that some children have been anxious due to the situation surrounding Ukraine. The school have been trying to handle this with age appropriate news material and supporting those who have been worried.
- Reports are currently being written; children are tracked against both national targets and their own individual targets.
- Parents Evening – very likely to be in the form of a phone call. Potential for video calls was discussed, school has looked in to, but there is not one suitable channel to facilitate this.
- In P7, core jotters were sent home for parents / carers to see, review and provide feedback. This was very well received by parents and the plan is to do this with at least P5 and P6.
- Mrs Wright will be looking to engage parents / carers for thoughts in relation to Health & Wellbeing; Numeracy and Literacy.

AOB

- Staggered Start / Finish Times
Question was raised regards the staggered start / finish times and if they will continue long term. For many reasons, the staggered times have been positive, but there may be a more effective way to work them. Moving forward, it has to work well for parents / carers and the school.
Action: DMC and LC to work together on a poll to garner thoughts from the whole school community.
- SLT Response
An incidence had been reported of a parent contacting the school (by phone and in person) a number of times, being told that a member of the SLT would get back to them and not hearing back.
Action: LC to reply to parent and forward details to AW to investigate.



- Breakfast Club Starting Back ?
Action: AW to check if this is still with EAC or if down to each school to decide, based on their situation.
- P7 – Preparation for Secondary School
A few parents had raised concerns over the volume of work (in class and at home), as they felt it was too little, to prepare for the volume of work expected at Secondary. AW advised that if there are any specific concerns to contact the school and they can be addressed.
- P7 Residential
P7 parents wanted to thank the P7 teachers for giving up their weekend to take the kids on their residential and that it's much appreciated.