**cCarolside Parent Council Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday 28th January 2020, Carolside Primary School

Attendees:

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| Melissa Coll | MC | Nursery PM |
| Jacqui McIntosh | JMc | P1 |
| Emma Williamson | EW | P1 |
| Claire Reid  | CR | P2 |
| Gordon Bell  | GB | P3 |
| Lise Fisher | LF | P3 |
| Christine Carswell | CC | P4 |
| Deborah Wilson | DW | P4 |
| Gillian Cox | GC | P5 |
| Ali Preston | AP | P6 |
| Rebecca Nicholson | RN | Chair |
| Bryan McLachlan | BMcL | Head Teacher |
| Monica Farrell | MF | APT |
| Janette Black | JB | DHT |
| Cllr Annette Ireland | AI | Councillor |
| Iain Mulholland | IM | Beat The Street |

**Apologies:**  Nicola Edgar (Nursery AM), Pamela Graham (P2), Sally Wilkie (P5), Lorraine Jenkins (P6), Helena Almeida (P7), David Clubley (P7), Fiona McKenna (Vice Chair), Cllr Alan Lafferty

1. **General Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

Iain Mulholland from Beat the Street Initiative welcomed. Register taken, and apologies noted.

1. **Beat the Street initiative – Iain Mulholland**

An informative pitch was given by IM from Intelligent Health, the company who facilitate the Beat The Street game.  It is a simple health improvement game devised by a GP in order to get people more active. It was successfully trialled in Newton Mearns and Barrhead last year, and next month will be rolled out to the remaining areas of East Renfrewshire. All school children will be given a fob along with an envelope containing information and a card. Extra cards can be obtained from libraries and sports centres. There will be 37 boxes attached to lampposts around the local area (including 3 at Whitelees Windfarm, 4 in Rouken Glen Park). Closest to Carolside will be situated near Ashfield Rd main school entrance up to Mansfield Rd. RB suggested to move box to Mansfield Road or closer to pupil routes into school however IM has confirmed it not possible as all boxes must be 500m apart. The aim is to accrue points whilst walking/cycling/running between two boxes and tapping card/fob on each to record the journey. There will be two leader boards for school – most points, and average points. There will also be themed weeks to award bonus points, in conjunction with East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure. It runs from 19Feb-01Apr, with IM giving more information to children at a school assembly at a future date. There will also be a community leaderboard which any organisation (such a scouts/brownies/walking groups) can participate in. For more information contact iain.mulholland@intelligenthealth.co.uk, 07425 327 034.

1. **Actions outstanding from previous minutes**

No outstanding actions

1. **Head Teacher’s Report**

I trust you all had an enjoyable and relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. Things have resumed at great pace here in Carolside and I hope that this brief update will be useful to you.

**Staffing**

A few items to report this month:

* You may already be aware that one of our class teachers, Chris Barron, was successful in being appointed to the post of Acting PT at Mearns Primary. Chris started in his new post at the beginning of this term and we wish him our congratulations on this appointment. Nicola Sweeney, another of our class teachers, has returned to work following a period of maternity leave and has taken over teaching duties in P7. The post vacated by Chris is being filled by Mr Sean Donnelly, who we have been delighted to have here at Carolside for the last few months.
* We are beginning to turn our attention to the implications of 1140 hours of ELCC, which is upon us in August this year. We are in the midst of a recruitment exercise to recruit a Playworker at the moment - this is a 15 hours per week post. Over the next few months we’ll be recruiting a further 4.67 CDOs in preparation for August. We’ll keep you up to date as this progresses.

**School Improvement Planning**

As we discussed at the last meeting, things are moving on with regard to the School Improvement Plan. While the month of December was made busier by Christmas preparations, we have two inset days in a couple of weeks and our focus will turn to the content of the plan, once again. The first of the two inset days will be an opportunity for teachers and CDOs to work with colleagues from across ERC schools to discuss episodes of learning and the judgements associated with them.

The afternoon session will be an opportunity for the staff group to evaluate progress thus far with the School Improvement Plan and begin to share very early ideas about the issues that will be taken into next session’s plan. The second February inset day will offer the staff a range of opportunities to choose their own professional learning, with a chance for the staff group to look at some of the more national issues around workload in particular.

**Cluster Improvement Planning**

The main focus this last month has been around opportunities for teaching staff at the top and bottom of the school to be involved in a Lesson Study project with colleagues from Netherlee and Busby, out other cluster primary schools. The staff have worked in groups to develop a lesson that they will teach and then refine across the three schools. The focus of this work is around improving approaches to learning and teaching.

**Other News**

* Thanks to all for your support over the busy festive period.
* Final plans have been shared for the nursery extension. Work starts on the 3rd of February and is due to be complete by late July.
* Congratulations to P6d for their television appearance and their recital at Oran Mor on Sunday. This was in relation to Burns for Bairns.
* Thanks to P7 and all of the parents and carers for supporting our Burns Supper last week.
* Thanks to the NSPCC who delivered their Speak Out Stay Safe input across the school last week. A very important message shared in a very relatable and helpful manner.
* The Improvement Visit report is now in draft form and will be shared with the Senior Leadership Team over the next few weeks.  I will share when it is published.
* February sees us engage in the East Renfrewshire Standardised Assessment process. All pupils in P3, P5 and P7 will be assessed in reading and mathematics - we’ll get the results back on the other side of the spring break.
* Wellbeing Week launched this week. More to come later in the meeting - see the Twitter feed for an insight into the experiences that the children are enjoying this week.
* Today we were asked to share our work around curriculum design at the Regional Improvement Collaborative’s conference entitled An Empowered Leadership and Innovation Conference. Thanks to Miss Farrell, Miss Craig and two of our house captains for helping with this. We’ll be repeating this input at the East Renfrewshire Headteachers’ conference in March.

**Care Inspectorate**

ELCC received a visit from the Care Inspectorate last week. The visiting team look at two of four areas during a Type 2 visit. The four areas are:

Quality of care and support

Quality of environment

Quality of staffing

Quality of management and leadership

This time the team looked at Quality of care and support and Quality of staffing. This was a successful visit and the full report will be with us within the next couple of weeks. Again, this will be shared with you when it arrives. My thanks to all who lead and work in the nursery, particularly to Mrs McGregor and Mrs Gillian, our DHT and PT.

GB asked whether it would be possible to measure the impact of playful pedagogy on attainment. BMcL gave a quick overview of the differences between ER standardised assessments (every child gets the exact same written paper) and Scottish National Standardised Assessments (where the online test adapts to the answers being given by each child, so each child gets a unique experience. The results are banded rather than individual). *BMcL to give a more detailed presentation at a future meeting.*

1. **Mental Health Resources – DW**

An interesting and informative presentation given on a session on Children & Young People Mental Wellbeing in Schools (held Nov19), where the aim was to identify best use of funding from Scottish Government to support young people wrt mental health. The output was collated and submitted to Scottish Government. For more information, please see presentation attached.

AP enquired whether anyone in CPS was trained in Mental Health. Whilst not trained specifically in Mental health, various teachers are trained in several programs offered at CPS, including Seasons For Growth, and Resilience. It was also discussed that within CfE there is a section of the curriculum that covers Health & Wellbeing, and promotes the nurture of young people.

1. **Parking / traffic / wardens**

The general feeling was that since the repainting of the yellow zig zags and the new markings to the bus bay around East 2019, the parking situation had improved. However it appears since the turn of the year that there has been a growing number of incidents where behaviour and attitude of people is becoming concerning. Any issues should be reported to Police Scotland on 101, along with Claire Reid in ERC and Jacqueline Petrie, Community liaison PC.

DW queried whether a disabled bay could be installed on Mansfield Rd to aid those who may need to make use of it to drop off/collect children, as the school car park disabled spaces due not lend themselves to easy access to the main playground. *AI to look into whether this would be possible.*

AI highlighted that Roads and Education are due to come together next month to review the current situation across East Renfrewshire with respect to driving and parking around schools.

RN suggested JRSOs could look to run a new campaign, especially with Beat the Street Initiative commencing shortly.

CB queried the location of lollipop people, specifically Greenwood near Queensberry, and whether they could be moved back to their original location at Queensberry, rather than the top of the hill, as this would aid those coming from the Eaglesham Road end of Greenwood. AI suggested contacting Loraine Lawrie (Facilities Mgr) directly.

1. **Wellbeing Week update**

MF gave a brief outline on Wellbeing Week, which has replaced Fit & Fruity Friday. A great response was received from families to the consultation, and the new programme has been rolled out this week. The aim is to look at both physical and mental health throughout the week, with teachers having been supplied with suggested 10 min activities for each of the days. Asda will continue to supply fruit towards the end of the week, with the potential of Aldi contributing in the future. It has been agreed that no fitness clothing is required to be worn during the week, as the children can change into trainers if needed, same as daily mile.

1. **Parent Guides - FMc**

No update

1. **PTA update**

Chair role now filled- still need to cover other officer bearers roles.

£15k in bank

Summer fayre date set – Sun 14th June

Quiet night date set for 24thApril - on-line booking only with capped numbers and higher teacher and volunteer ratio to facilitate the different setting. Teachers will speak to families they know would benefit to encourage but open to all.

Discos all planned - volunteer lists open soon. Email PTA or message.

£3.5k to be gifted to winter garden project to get it moving- network rail can’t offer funding just now but still keen to talk. Storage container for p1 loose parts, traverse wall for P2/4, P3/5 and shelter ordered, set of 3 up and over bars for P2/4, P3/5 and active trail. Scots play to replace and fix broken items that they had previously supplied in playground free of charge. ETA for items being installed is Easter holidays. Buddy benches being costed as well- possibility of getting cheaper from another source. Just giving page set up for remote donations. PTA members set to re paint playground lines and games as well as p1 stage and shelter murals over weekends and nights. Any help would be welcome. Railing will also be done by us volunteering. Massive job - any help, tea , juice etc would be welcome.

P4 Swimming sessions subsidised.

Parent Council would like to express their thanks for the outstanding Xmas Fayre held in December. The amount of preparation and organising that goes into such a large scale event is very much appreciated.

1. **Nursery PFA update – MC**

£1850 raised at Christmas Fayre, with a further £500 raised from Christmas Cards (via a grandpa’s business). Plan to meet with Mrs Gillian to look at what the money can be best used for in coming months.

1. **PC Communications**

Carry forward to February meeting

1. **AOCB**

GC raised concern over email sent out today to all P5, 6 and 7 parents. It was related to a Death, Dying and Bereavement academic research study being performed by a teacher from Netherlee. The concern was that the email was addressed specifically to parents, mentioning specific children, appearing that they had been ‘selected’. Some parents found this distressing due to personal circumstances, others were concerned as to why it appeared their child had been selected, when not relevant to them. JB explained that the Office team were using a new group call/mail merge process to issue generic emails in order to give them a more personal feel. BMcL apologised for the insensitivity. BMcL and Jo McGregor have been discussing communications in general to look at ways in which to improve the volume or correspondence, prioritisation (including email vs text) and correctness of content.

AI asked for clarification on whether Friday golden time is still occurring, and whether the need to take a toy into school was necessary. BMcL confirmed that golden time was originally linked to Good to Be Green, which has been superceded by the House System. He requested we leave this matter with him.

Connect Parent Council essentials training is Wednesday 5th February 2020 7.00-9.00pm St Paul’s Primary, Foxbar. Anyone still wishing to go, but not registered, please let DW know and she can add you to the attendee list.

Recruitment training – would be good if one more person could attend this course to allow three members of PC to be trained. Monday 3rd February 2020 3.30-5.00pm Barrhead High School. Let RN know asap.

Healthier Minds Launch Event on Wednesday 5th February 2020, 2.00-4.00pm Maidenhill Primary, Newton Mearns. The launch of East Renfrewshire’s Healthier Minds. This is a new resource which brings together information and advice which helps parents and professionals support children and young people’s mental wellbeing. It also provides further information about the types of support offered by different agencies across East Renfrewshire. If anyone is interesting in attending, please let RN know.

**Next meeting : Tuesday 25th February 2020**