

Minutes of Isobel Mair Parent Council Meeting
11th November 2021

Present at Meeting:-

Tracey Campbell
Katie McDonnell
Mairi-Jean Watkins
Phemia McCarthy
Lindsay Gall
Jolanta Hudson
Gael Gordon
Evelyn Oliphant
Pauline Claire
Jenny MacKay

Sarah Clark
Nick Crossan
Ursula Scrimgeour
Kirsteen MacKay
Christine Sim

Chairpersons' Report

Minutes of the AGM were approved

Mari-Jean reported that things were on target for the Christmas Fair in December. Selection Boxes have been delivered to the school. Mari-Jean will drop off the St. Andrew's hampers to the school in the coming days.

Tracey asked about Parent Pay. The school will endeavour to get this up and running for the upcoming Christmas Fair.

Danielle has reported that good progress has been made with the buses.

Sarah spoke about the various platforms being used by the classes. Class Teachers are using different platforms at the moment, although should online learning return then it would be beneficial to be use the one platform.

Parental Engagement – Tracey will put an action tracker on this.

Kirsteen MacKay spoke about the communication boards the school are planning on purchasing for each playground. A sample board has been put together. Gael commented that some thought should be given to the height of the boards, so that children in wheelchairs can reach them. Has to be accessible to all children. Kirsteen can forward any ideas to the company making them.

Tracey commented that sadly it is coming up to a year since Joanne McAlpine passed away. The Parent Council are currently working on a lovely garden memorial for the school grounds in Joanne's memory. They hope to have this in place sometime soon.

Tracey spoke about the communication survey that was sent out to Parents. 39 responses received. 31 pupils can't meet communication through speech. Tracey ran through the rest of the results with the Parent Council. As a Parent Council, it would be good to offer some support to Parents. Mari-Jean commented that setting up a group would be a good idea to support parents. Perhaps this could be set up late January time, during the day or evening. Sarah thought it would be good to involve Speech and Language Therapy. Mari-Jean said that Parents were confused about what SLT do and what they offer. Perhaps they could put out something to Parents explaining what they offer. Jolanta commented on the survey and said that she would like to be trained in Makaton. Sarah told the Parents that Siobhan Gaughan, who is fully qualified in Makaton would be happy to run Parent Workshops. Tracey didn't feel that Makaton was used widely amongst the Parents. Sarah said that Makaton is used a lot and the survey responses were not reflective of this.

Lyndsay spoke about Sharon Craighead who she consulted about sensory issues recently. She highly recommended her to the Parents.

Head Teacher Report

HMI Inspector (Monica Reilly) visited the school on 10th November. Observations carried out on 5 lessons. Monica also spoke to a small group of parents, senior pupils and some staff. Paperwork was scrutinised also. Monica was very keen to know about our Arts Project which has a big focus on Health and Wellbeing. Maureen Rocks Moore worked with individuals and pupils in class groups using art as a medium to express their experience of lockdown and Covid. There will be an exhibition in the "Clutha" and in Isobel Mair School which will involve the Ruby Anniversary celebrations. The visit went very well and the Senior Leadership Team were very happy with the feedback.

Pupil, Matthew Ritchie won an award which everyone is delighted about.

Parents will be invited fortnightly to attend the online assembly.

Sarah spoke about Literacy and explained SIG 2. An optional CLPL opportunity will be provided for all staff in the near future.

Head Boy and Girls – Kieran, Anne and Demi

Depute Heads – Fraser and Joe

Sports Ambassadors - Noah and Cameron

Prefects – Awais and ?

AOB

Jolanta offered free 1:1 Microsoft Training Courses for any parent or member of staff who was interested.

Ursula spoke about the instances of Covid in school at the moment. She is in touch with the Council regarding changing protocol.

Lyndsey asked if children were perhaps being tested for Covid too quickly after being notified about a close contact in school. Ursula is looking into this at the moment.