



## NETHERLEE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

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### Minutes of the Netherlee Parent Council Meeting - 25th November 2020

<b>Present</b>	Adam Capek	AC		Hariet Boyle	HB
	Carole Chalmers	CC		Jenny Bryant	JB
	Brian Cook	BC		Handri Cronje	HC
	Chris Fawbert	CF		Emma Gibson	EG
	Kaneez Fizza	KF		Trisha Hamilton	TH
	Fiona Khan	FK		Joanna Haw	JH
	Felicity Rose	FR		Lorna Hurst	LH
	Tenant Stevenson	TS		Mike Law	ML
	Jane Thomson	JT		Fiona McMillan	FM
	Yvonne Donaldson (NPS)	YD		Richard Owen	RO
	Julie Robertson (NPS)	JR		Justin Haccius	JH
	Lynn Sweeny (NPS)	LS			
	Angela Kerr (NPS)	AK			

**Observers:** Alistair Haw

**Apologies:** Lorna Hurst, Victoria Pearson, Councillor Stewart Miller, Dorothy Buchanan PTA

#### 1. Welcome by Chair

The new chair TS welcomed everyone to the meeting. TS explained how he would like the meeting to run asking attendees to mute, unless wishing to speak and not to use the chat function

TS gave thanks to FK for hosting the meeting.

#### 2. Apologies for absence

JB confirmed apologies from: Lorna Hurst, Victoria Pearson, Councillor Stewart Miller, Dorothy Buchanan PTA.

### **3. Confirmation of minutes of Parent Council AGM (12th November 2020)**

12th November 2020 AGM Minutes Proposed by: CF

12th November Minutes Seconded by: FR

TS approved.

### **4. Short Notice of the meeting**

TS explained the need for an urgent meeting as there had not been a parent council meeting in the last 6 months. BC suggested a vote for parent council members to confirm which day is best for meeting, Tuesday or Wednesday.

**Action:** TS requested all PC members to email him their preferred day for a PC meeting (Tuesday or Wednesday).

TS proposed another internal meeting in December to deal with the internal PC matters. JH raised concern on having a closed meeting as the PC constitution states meeting should be open. AC agreed but should make advertisement clear that it would be a structural meeting on the internal workings of the PC. JT challenged that comms between school and parents should not be part of the closed meeting. TS agreed.

TS proposed an open meeting solely on the MUGA in January. Meeting to be confirmed.

**Action** All PC members -JB requested help for organising/minuting the extra PC meetings. TS suggested dealing with this at the meeting on internal affairs in December

### **5. Head Teacher's Report**

YD opened her report with some lovely things that have happened or are coming up in the school and nursery, explaining how staff are trying hard at a very difficult time to provide fantastic experiences for our children.

- Remembrance celebrations hosted by google classroom in p7
- p7 have appointed house captains and are having St Andrews Day soon
- p6 and p2 have a joint author and illustrator project
- p5 are having a virtual visit to care home in Clarkston and writing letters/video messages and giving gifts to residents
- p4 taking Christmas round the world e.g. Zambia, Burma, Thailand
- p3 are having a quiz across the year
- p1 and nursery are having a Christmas celebration with elements of nativity which will be shared with parents

YD recommend that all should follow the twitter feed and Friday bundle to keep up with activities in the school.

FR raised a question regarding the emphasis in the school in December is on Christmas and asks what the school is doing to ensure all children are included.

YD stated emphasis on school improvement plan is diversity and that many other religious celebrations are already recognised throughout the school/ nursery calendar. YD also gave example on school assemblies including celebrations of various festivals such as Diwali and Eid. YD stated she would send JB a list of festivals recognised in the school calendar. This year St

Andrews Day Stage Assemblies will include what Scotland looks like today and highlight diversity in Scotland. BC stated that school should celebrate all faiths including Christmas.

YD will ask PC for help with diversity going forward.

## **6. Educational Matters: Covid**

### **Plans for Blended or Home Learning**

TS asked YD on preparations for blended/home learning, and will latest plans have improvements from previous lockdown e.g. be more interactive?

YD set out the current plans:

- A detailed blended learning model based on advice from the Scottish Government which was sent out in June would be adopted however this would always be determined by Scottish Government and/ or ERC guidance around numbers in schools and patterns of attendance etc, YD will share this information on the school website.
- Accepted that in March only a limited number of things could be put in place in order to provide home learning however the school and nursery did their very best at a very difficult time getting everyone on digital technology.
- Key principles of the current approach include:
  - Live interaction between children and their teacher and other staff. This would be at class, group and 1:1 level as required and be used primarily for checking in, tracking progress and dealing with issues. Google meet would be used for this.
  - ER bank of recorded video lessons for literacy and numeracy across all stages. These would be used as well where appropriate to allow parents to fit into their timetable.
  - Learning content would include teaching new concepts as well as consolidation.
  - Work would be assessed and children would receive feedback.
  - Increased digital capacity provided through Scottish Government.
- This model is already being used for classes that have to self-isolate and have seen a real difference in effectiveness and positive feedback.

JH asked YD if this information is written down somewhere for parents information. JT also recommended this information on remote home learning is shared with the wider school. YD suggested it could be added to the Friday bundle, JT offered to help.

RO asked YD if they have taken the views from parents and children on what has worked and what hasn't in terms of remote home learning since August. YD stated staff have been asking how the children are getting on when isolating at home and this can now be done in a live way too. YD stated she will ask for feedback from children who have self-isolated and always states in the Friday bundle she welcomes feedback from parents at any time.

FR asked to clarify "live" is there a teacher teaching a lesson? FR asked has there been any impact on long term learning for children. YD clarified live interaction with the children, would take the form of checking in with pupils, giving feedback to a group or whole class.

### **Plans for Return to Full Curriculum**

TS asked if there are plans for return to a full curriculum e.g. Music, French.

- YD confirmed that they are starting to bring in in other aspects of the curriculum, as she explained in a previous Friday bundle. She confirmed that although the focus is still very much on the core subjects of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, other curricular areas are being used as contexts to teach within e.g. science, social studies or history topics are used as frameworks to teach literacy or numeracy skills.
- YD also confirmed that conversational French can now also be introduced from this week.

- LS stated that there are also some virtual music lessons taking place.

### **Impact of Lost Curriculum on Performance at Secondary School**

TS asked if the lost curriculum will have an impact on children moving up to secondary school.

YD states

- YD is confident most children will be back on track (if they continue without any more disruptions) by summer.
- YD explained literacy, numeracy and health and well-being were always a huge focus in ERC primary schools and also prior to COVID
- Every school is addressing learning loss and this is the same in Williamwood cluster where there is a very close working relationship and communication. Williamwood High School will have its own recovery plan.
- There will be transitional meetings for primary 7's where these issues will be discussed.

YD stated she had already reassured parents in a Friday bundle that most children she hoped, again providing there are no more disruptions to learning, would be back on track probably between January/ April but by June and will continue to update on this.

AC asked YD if there has been additional resource put in place for the children who may need extra support after homeschooling/ lockdown. YD stated:

- Scottish government gave additional support e.g. staffing, training and resources
- Netherlee staff are constantly monitoring, and have continual dialogue with the Leadership Team on assessment and on how every single class including nursery is progressing.

### **Assessment of Children's Progress**

JR stated assessments and supports have been ongoing across school and nursery since August within the support for learning team including:

- Together better readers
- Trail to support literacy in p2 and p3
- Focus on p2 as essential learning loss in p1
- Staff around stages supporting small groups across the school
- Dyslexia assessments have continued, and meetings with parents virtually

### **School Performance, Trends against Curriculum 17/18 – 19/20**

TS asked for school performance over last 3 years, and if this can be made available for the parent council.

YD stated East Renfrewshire ask Netherlee School to make judgments on where our children are based on Curriculum of Excellence four times per year.

YD updated the Parent Council on Netherlee's standardised test results in literacy and numeracy for p3,5 and 7, sat in February and gave a detailed breakdown of the progression showing attainment had improved on previous years and was well above ERC average.

FR asked YD about P4 children normally assessed for music tuition, YD will ask for an update from ERC and will communicate any information she receives via a Friday bundle.

## **7. Next Meeting**

Discussion turned to general matters and plan for the next meeting:

- JT asked if school needs any help from parent council.
- TS suggested to reconvene in December to cover the rest of the agenda on educational matters, and to deal with internal PC matters in smaller groups. It was

agreed that this would be a continuation of the current meeting and therefore not be subject to the usual 2 weeks' notice.

- EG expressed interest to get involved in subcommittees.
- BC stated caution about subcommittees, important for subgroups to ensure the wider group vote on issues.
- HG suggested time limits for next agenda
- JB suggested shorter agenda

TS adjourned the meeting until December, thanking everyone for attending



**Working With and For Children**  
**Netherlee Primary School and Nursery Class**