

**Transition Steering Group  
Minutes  
17<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

**Present:** J. Collins, P. Ferguson, K. Rawley, M. Kelly, A. Paterson, F. Priest, T. Nabi, L. Steele and S. Curran.

**Apologies:** T. Mayer, D. Carney and V. McClelland.

**1. Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

Marie explained that the existing free transport was for those families who have children at both Robslee and Giffnock Primary Schools and is available for the period of the phased closure only. If the bus was bigger than what was needed then vacant seats would be offered at a fee. There are no vacant seats and a larger bus would not be provided.

**2. Transition Plan 2012/2013**

**Homework**

Kirsty, Fiona and Sandra shared that there had been a healthy return across both campuses. The homework questionnaire was designed to give a yes/no option and comments. This would allow the group to report back a quantitative and a qualitative measure. The group were reconvening today to finish the collation. Early indication shows: parents welcomed workshops, parental prompts and presentations by pupils on their learning. The group will feedback to the Parent Council at the next meeting. An idea was raised that a homework newsletter could be developed to share with the wider parent forum the work of the group. Although parents welcomed an opportunity for children to apply the basic skills the idea of a 'project' was a contentious one. The group talked about re-designing the projects to make them more pupil and parent friendly and indeed re-branding.

**Playground**

Janice shared that Fiona, Linzie and Ewan Small accompanied her to St. John's Primary School to look at their facilities. The children showed us their playground and were very enthusiastic about what they had on offer, including an outdoor classroom, interactive wall mounted games, playground paintings, bike shed/area and musical instruments. The Parent Council have agreed to focus their fundraising for the next session on this area. General discussion took place r.e. possible funding, grants and support. Sandra suggested CiTB. Janice suggested that it become an enterprise project for the current Primary 4 and 5 across both buildings as they will be the senior pupils come August 2014, when both campuses join. For this reason it was agreed that some children would be asked to visit other schools and pick up their own ideas. Eaglesham Primary, Kirkhill Primary and Isobel Mair School were suggested. Janice will pursue this. Pauline suggested that the current Primary 6 could take on the role of financial experts next year and be responsible for the money side of the enterprise. That way they would be involved too. It was suggested that Giffnock Connect could support all 3 stages if we made this our main enterprise of the year. The Financial Education pack discussed at the Parent Council could be used as a support too. The group agreed that a lot of parents would come on board. This would be a huge project and could bring the community further together. Janice agreed to introduce the project as part of her next newsletter.

Linzie suggested that a Parent Council letter could also add weight to the fundraising side of things. It was also discussed that if the children identified equipment etc, they could write to businesses with a specific request (e.g. could you sponsor our vegetable garden). Pauline suggested that we gradually build up the excitement of this project for the rest of this session with the launch next year. The next step would be to form a steering group including staff, pupils and parents to create a draft plan / timeline. Janice will ask for volunteers.

### **3. Transport and Roads**

Janice shared that she had no further news regarding an additional crossing patrol officer. Aileen shared that she had been in touch with the local councillors. Aileen agreed to contact again offering possible solutions, like additional traffic lights at the bottom of Church Road. Discussion followed regarding traffic around the school in general. It was acknowledged that the reduction of nursery places had significant impact on the volume of cars at key times; however some drivers (and parents) still cause concern. It was agreed that this matter should be added to a future Parent Council agenda. Janice also agreed to contact the campus police officer with regards to spot checks.

### **4. Comments – Progress to Date**

Janice shared a child's account of a recent visit to Giffnock. Aileen also congratulated the staff and children on the Nativity success and how included she felt.

### **5. A.O.C.B.**

- Aileen raised the concern over the hole in the Achievement hall roof. Janice explained that a leak was detected and workmen removed large parts of the ceiling to investigate the cause. It has now been fixed and we await the repair to the ceiling. The area has been made safe as all loose materials have been removed / secured. She also shared that a loose slate was in the gutter between Primary 2 and 3 entrance doors. Janice will ask the janitor to investigate.
- Aileen also raised that issue of consulting on Dressing for Excellence and a combined uniform. Janice explained that she didn't feel it was appropriate to consult with the parent forum twice within a year and would be happy for this item to be part of the first TSG agenda of session 2013/2014. She also advised that this should be 2 separate consultations as it is very different agendas. The short timescale of the last consultation was acknowledged but it was agreed to discuss the area further in the future.
- Linzie discussed the Spring disco and asked Fiona and Aileen if they could consult with former Robslee PTA members regarding the events that are traditionally important, with a view to including in future fundraising calendars. The disco detail was also discussed. Fiona agreed to seek parent opinion on the Robslee campus, with the possibility of separate discos. It was acknowledged that although this may appear divisive, it would perhaps support the transition process for parents.

**6. Date of next meeting:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February @ 4.30 p.m. (Giffnock Campus)