



NETHERLEE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Netherlee Parent Council

Meeting –15 June 2022

Present	Kirsty Milton-Moir	KMN	Rory McCoy	RM
	Fiona Edward	FE	Harriet Boyle	HB
NPS	Jennifer McCann	JM	Rebecca Brown	RB
NPS	Julie Roberts	JR	Emma Anson	EA
NPS	Lynn Sweeney	LS	Jane Thomson	JT
NPS	Yvonne Donaldson	YD	Katy McNair	KMN
	Martin Whitehead	MW	Michelle Borland	MB
	Justin Haccius	JH	Gillian Gray	GG
	Tennant Stevenson	TS	Adam Capek	AC
	Mike Law	ML	Victoria Pearson	VP
PTA	Dorothy Buchanan	DB		

Welcome

AC opened the meeting and welcomed three observers (KMN,MB,GG) for the first time.

Apologies

Cllr David MacDonald, Cllr Kate Campbell, Cllr Katie Pragnall, Richard Owen, Felicity Rose, Fiona MacMillan, Fizza Kaneez, Joanna Haw

Minutes of last meeting

Approval of meeting of proposed by AC and seconded by **HB**

Head Teacher's Report

Sports week and 'walk in the park' coming up so parent volunteers needed.

JM - On new P1, NPS are planning an Open Evening on transition into primary and are planning a pitch party for the new P1's and will bring in those starting nursery also.

JR –Current P-2 & P-3 parents will be brought in next session to be given the necessary information. Some P7 will have an extended transition, with a Maths Fair and two full induction days at WWHS. There will be a show and a party for their graduation also.

P1 will be re-shuffled going in to P-2. This is mainly due to rules on class sizes (P1/P2 – 25, P3/P4 – 30, P5-P7 – 33). There will be 3 x P1 classes coming in as opposed to the usual 4. Staffing allocation is based on pupil numbers and can fluctuate year on year.

Oct/Nov – there will be Parent Evenings. There are differing views as to preference for in-person versus virtual, so proposing to have one day for each.

Following the website revamp, NPS needs help with the Parent Welcome Booklet and the Parent Handbook (Action: HB). The website is now much more parent friendly. Every school has a Quality Improvement Officer, NPS' is Rosamund Rodriguez. The old website will be removed at some point.

LS – NPS conducted a homework practice review. Results from that suggested that homework was valued but parents needed flexibility. Reading tasks should continue to be completed independently and quality feedback given to children. Family time activities very important for health and wellbeing, as well as online learning, on-line games etc.

JR explained the Learning Grid approach where children would be given activities to complete (eg a maths grid) over a set period. P1& P2 would be slightly more structured in regard to phonics. P3 – P7 would have a bigger grid with projects linked to teaching in class. All children will get a Home Learning Jotter and would receive feedback on their home learning on the last Friday of the month ('Feedback Friday!').

JT highlighted that it would be useful for parents to know where kids are on their Learning Journey.

JD explained that there was no legislation dictating homework, and there were lots of different approaches. Studies suggested there was limited impact of homework on education, and that prioritising mental health and wellbeing, and quality time between children and parents was more important. NPS would send home student jotters more frequently next session which would address JT's point.

East Ren Education Dept. conducted a survey on how much parents know what their children are doing in school. RB noted it was useful to get in the habit of home work. P6 & P7 may be needed to be more structured as going on to secondary.

DB said it would be useful to have an idea of how much time should be spent on homework, and also to clearly communicate the purpose of the work set. Also need to keep google classroom alive as a great digital tool.

Quick updates on ongoing business

Road Safety – ER Council have provided new "school" signs on approach to the school but have not implemented a 20mph limit despite Transport Scotland guidance recommending this around all

