



NETHERLEE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Netherlee Parent Council

Meeting –19 April 2023

Members	Adam Capek	AC	Parents	Rehana Sharma	RS
	Jane Thomson	JT			
	Victoria Pearson	VP	NPS	Yvonne Donaldson (HT)	YD
	Katie McNair	KMN		Lynn Sweeney (DHT)	LS
	Gillian Gray	GG		Jennifer McCann (PT)	JMC
	Rory McCoy	RMC			
	Michelle Borland	MB			

Welcome

AC opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

AC outlined the remit of the Parent Council (upon request by RS Who was attending for the first time):

- To represent the parent body in regular meetings with the school leadership team
- Act as a 'go-between' and conduit between the school and the wider parent body
- Separate from the PTA who get involved in events and fundraising
- Can get involved in local campaigns deemed to be in the interest of the school/ nursery

1. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Tennant Stevenson, Justin Haccius, Martin Whitehead, Fiona McMillan, Felicity Rose, Harriet Boyle, Fizza Kaneez.

2. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were approved by JT and seconded by GG.

3. Head Teacher's Report

- Diversity Month: YD noted the success of diversity month in the school with the Diversity Evening being a culmination of the work done during the month. Staff felt it was a very successful event which facilitated a lot of family engagement.

The focus of the Diversity month was ethnicity and, although that will continue, the focus will broaden in the next session to include a wider range of diversification.

YD noted that in the recent period Ramadan has been being observed by some of the students and their family and a school assembly was held on the topic of Eid. Students shared what they and their family do during Ramadan and how they will be celebrating Eid.

RS highlighted the charitable and social aspect of Eid and advised that all members of the community are welcome to join in celebrations.

YD advised that the sharing of Eid cards in school is welcomed in the same manner that Christmas cards may be swapped between children with the intention of this being viewed as part of the 'norm.'

- Cost of the School Day: In a correction from a previous meeting YD clarified that it was the Stamperland Residents Association which donated £1000 to the school. This money was used to subsidise the cost to some families of the P7 trip to Lochgoilhead and purchase P7 leavers hoodies for some students.
- Transitions: LS advised that some of the extended transition visits for P7 students to Williamwood High School had begun along with cluster sports days where P7 students would meet children preparing to move to WHS from other primary schools. Mr McAllister (WHS S1 depute) has been visiting P7 classes with S6 pupils. There have also been videos: from the pastoral team; tour of the school and by the S1 student who went through the transition last year. 14 & 15 June are scheduled as the 'big' transition days and there is a Maths Extravaganza planned for June.

P1 Transition: Information on welcome days for children and parents will be coming soon but the numbers of children, including placements from outside the authority, need to be confirmed first.

- Sports Week: LS advised that this year, in keeping with the themes of inclusivity and equity the school is looking into how the appeal can be broadened and as such there will be range of activities for a whole week as opposed to one day. Members of the staff are looking into different ideas including a family carnival style event with 'potted' sports such as dance and fitness sessions. In addition to this there will be a larger programme of competitive races

allowing for pupils to take part in 3 types of races. It was noted that the school felt it was healthy to retain a competitive aspect to some of the events. Some events will be done in school houses

YD advised that the PTA have been coming up with ideas to add into the plans and there plans to have some sports persons come to the school for demonstrations and talks.

VP noted that she had been asked about the dates of the Sports Week and as much advanced notice as possible, for parents booking annual leave, would be appreciated. YS noted that there were some dates in the calendar but these would be clarified in one of the next two Friday Bundles.

- Family Focus Update:
 - School targeting separate Family Focus Gold Accreditation for both the Primary School and the Nursery.
 - Date for assessment: 19th May 2023. Assessors will be attending school including a parent focus group for the Primary School (10am-10.45am) and Nursery (11am-11.45am).
 - Survey: separate surveys for the nursery and primary school assessment. Nursery questionnaire link sent out. Primary School questionnaire link to be resent as previous link faulty. Response rate required is high therefore encourage from the Parent Council to the parent body is appreciated. PC to engage whatapp groups.
 - GG suggested parents are approached during the upcoming open class day on Friday potentially by students with iPads.
 - AC advised that the messaging needs to be clear to differentiate between the paper feedback sheet sent home today and the Family Focus Accreditation survey.
 - Survey closes on 12th May
 - Charter has been completed
 - Microsoft Sway document has been created to showcase good practice employed by the school
 - People from the local authority bodies who have already achieved the Gold Standard perform the assessment.
 - As part of the assessment there is a Staff Focus Group, Parent Focus Group and Student Focus Group (P4-7). There is to be between 6-10 parents in the Parent Focus Group (for the Nursery and the Primary School). LS to review numbers and extend invitations to Parent Council or PTA if required.
 - YD advised the school is also going for Gold Standard re-accreditation in Sports, Eco Flag and Rights Respecting as well as a new accreditation in Digital 360 Safety.

4. Questions to Headteacher:

4A. P5 Swimming

YD advised that swimming lessons have been offered to the school for P5 for the next session (Aug 2023) and the school have noted interest but requested more information prior to confirming whether or not they will be availing of the offer. YD noted that the parents pay for the cost of the lessons, which in the past the PTA have contributed to, but there is a discussion to be had as to whether or not it represents good value for money as many Netherlee children can already swim.

4B. Dance Classes

A parent had enquired as to whether or not the school has a dance/cheerleading team. LS noted that the school had a team in previous years but none currently as the focus had been on other activities/competition groups.

4C. Languages

RS queried whether or not the school plans to introduce more languages into the lessons. LS advised that the schools offer the commonly spoken language plus two others and that the cluster Netherlee Primary was within, the two additional languages offered are French and Mandarin. The school is not aware of any plans for this to change. YD advised the school is very happy to welcome any parents who wish to volunteer their skills in another language with the potential to set up language clubs out of school hours.

5. AOB

Sporty Kids: AC advised he had been emailed by Sporty Kids regarding P1 transition children being offered group sessions. It was felt that the Parent Council did not need to get involved in promoting any private for-profit business.

Parent Council Office positions: AC noted that he will be stepping down after 2 years in the chairperson role and there will be a change to the positions of office. It was also noted that JT will be leaving the Netherlee Parent Council as her child moves on to high school and therefore there will be position(s) to fill in the Comms Team of the Parent Council.

Typical duties in the Comms position included:

- writing copy of the newsletter and co-ordinating with Fiona in its production.
- Maintaining the whatapps groups contacts for disseminating information to each class group

ADDITIONAL POINTS TO NOTE:

- **Next Parent Council meeting will be the AGM and held in person on the 7th June 2023 (AC to book hub space as venue)**