

Balmerino Primary School

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING – Wednesday, 29 March 2023

Minutes

Present:	Lucy Jess – Head Teacher	Louise Cole – Chair/Parent
	Sarah Proudfoot – Secretary/Parent	Laura Schofield - Parent
Apologies	Alison Smale – Treasurer/Parent	Marlyn Menzies – Parent
	Rachel Ives - Parent	

	Agenda Item	Action
1.	Welcome from Chair Louise welcomed everyone to the meeting.	None
2.	Finance Update Starting balance: £26.69 from Marianne Borland (former Chair) <u>Halloween Treasure Hunt</u> - many families joined the event. Total raised = £57.69 [expenses of £32 (sweets) and £22.75 (hall hire) = £54.75 Total raised = £2.94 New balance: £29.63 <u>Pre-loved clothes sale</u> - only about 6 families attended the event held at drop off and pick up, although many clothing donations were handed in. Total raised = £80.90 . New balance: £110.53 <u>Christmas Concert</u> - BPC sold teas/coffees along with baked goods (which had been asked to be donated by families.) Not many families handed in baking, possibly due to the change of date of the concert. BPC also organised a 'Guess the Weight of the Cake' competition, Christmas wordsearch and had a stall where parents could buy pre-loved uniforms. Total raised = £144.66 [expenses of £30.62 (tea/coffee = £13.36 (receipt from Aldi) and cakes = £17.26 (receipt from Tesco) New balance at date of meeting: £224.57	None

<p>3. Ideas for fundraising in 2023</p>	<p>It was agreed that piggy-backing on existing events was a good idea in the short term. All agreed to a pre-loved uniform and bake sale on Sports Day which is 31st May this year. Similar to the Christmas Concert, parents will be asked to contribute home-baking to sell on the day.</p> <p>LJ reported that she had seen a drop-box/honesty-box type initiative that might work well for us. It would involve a fire-proof storage box or unit with items inside that could either be taken for free (period products), swapped (books) or a pay-what-you-can policy (pre-loved uniform). Karis Peters could open the box before and after school pick-up and drop-off for parents to access (i.e. 8.30-9am and from 3pm onwards). It would be BPCs responsibility to maintain. It was agreed that this was a good idea and something to look into.</p> <p>SP suggested a sponsored 5k for the summer term where any activity could be logged to contribute to the overall distance, fitting in with the hobbies of the children (i.e. horse-riding, swimming, walking etc.). It was agreed that this would be an easy, no-cost way of raising funds.</p> <p>LS put forward the idea of a bonus ball fundraiser. This would entail parents choosing a number/numbers for £2 per number and if that number is the bonus ball that week then the proceeds are spilt equally between the winner and the PC. It was agreed that this could be revisited at a later date and to look into the complexities of it.</p>	<p>LC to arrange email to parents with details nearer the time</p> <p>LS to research storage that meets school fire regulations to ascertain cost</p> <p>SP to arrange form</p>
<p>4. Internet Safety Evening</p>	<p>Fife Council representative has been in touch with LJ about a possible Internet Safety evening for parents. This was considered a good idea in light of recent events in the news regarding children accessing inappropriate content on the internet. LJ underlined the importance of both the training itself, and the element of community, where parents have an opportunity to talk over concerns and strategies with each other. This helps to remove the element of peer pressure (ie. age of children having phones etc.)</p> <p>Consensus was that the Morison Duncan Hall was the most viable location in terms of capacity.</p> <p>LS suggested that this event could also tie in with a future session with the Community Police team.</p>	<p>LJ to pass on contact details of facilitator to LC</p> <p>LC/SP to create survey to circulate to gauge dates and appetite</p> <p>LC/SP to then check availability and book hall</p>
<p>5. Inspection</p>	<p>LC explained that she had met with the Inspectors in her capacity as Chair and that this meeting went well. She was asked about the work of the PC and communication and support of the school.</p> <p>LJ continued by saying that it was a good week and all the staff felt positive about the experience. There had been no surprises and many areas of good practice had been identified. She was looking forward to being able to share the full report with the school community when it is available.</p>	<p>LC will circulate the full report when it is ready to share</p>

<p>6. Coffee Morning</p>	<p>It had been discussed at a previous meeting that a regular coffee morning would be a nice social event for the PC to endorse, especially now that COVID restrictions have lifted. LS put forward that it was difficult to find a convenient time for parents who work and suggested a regular Friday after-school gathering on the pitch. Here, parents could socialise together whilst supervising their children playing and BPC could provide tea/coffee/biscuits. LJ could also drop in on occasion and have contact with parents in a more informal setting as she saw fit.</p>	<p>Date for first meeting to be decided and information circulated to parents</p>
<p>7. AOCB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RI had asked what the composition of the classes would be next year and if any additional classroom support would be available. LJ explained that as the numbers stand for academic year 23/24, there could be a P1/P3/P4 composite and a P5/P6/P7 composite. SP asked if the completion of the new housing development would have an impact on this. LJ explained that the demographic make-up of the houses (ie. only a proportion of them being family homes) meant it was unlikely to change things. LJ further noted that the school roll call and how classes are split in relation to that is Fife Council policy and not an internal decision made by the school. In terms of additional support, the existing staffing levels of one class teacher plus one additional classroom assistant would remain. LJ reported that each year there is a Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) allocated to the school based on the number of children receiving free school meals. The PEF has been used to help fund classroom assistants and it was agreed that this was a good use of the funds. • LJ had recently been asked about wrap-around care/after-school facilities. Gary Peattie had been tasked with gauging interest and reported that there had not been enough support to explore opportunities of linking with the after-school club at Wormit Primary School. This may be revisited if demand increases. 	

The next PC meeting TBC

The meeting was closed with thanks to all attendees