

## Parent Council

10th November 2021

Present – Gavin Byrne, Lynette Thomson, Julie Journeaux, Ross Martin, Tiera Byrne, Leah Harper, Suzanne Bryce, Laura McPherson, Sierra Martin, Avril O'Donnell, Fiona Crookston, Deny Spalding, Donna Parker, Rachel Fraser.

Apologies – Kerryann Sim, Ruth Johnston, Michelle Humphries

Gavin - Welcome to Term 2 of 2021-22.

### Actions from last meeting

- JJ was to send out fundraising video. JJ confirmed she sent this to EW (office) to action.
- LT looked to recruit parents to support Travel action plan Health & Well being. Despite facebook request no replies so Rachel Fraser will represent H&W and Lynette Thomson to represent the Travel.
- Kerryann and Tiera to hold fundraising meeting – held and taking ideas to JJ.
- Lynette working on passing treasurer role to Sam- still ongoing. Fundraising total currently at approx. £3600.
- Sports kit - Joe Cardle Academy looking at prices, and possibly looking at supporting it. Claire Thomson supports the Sports Ambassadors at school and would like to be involved.

### Agenda

- Covid Update
  - Currently the same mitigations and regulations are in place as prior to October holidays. The only change is that bubbles are no longer required, so classes can mix again enabling committees (eco-committee etc) to resume.
  - There has been an odd case around the school, however no onward transmission. There have been isolated cases.
  - Procedures can affect staffing levels as it can take two days to take a PCR and get the results before returning to school, normal winter bugs are also having an impact and any similar symptoms require staff to go for a PCR.
- Class teacher
  - A member of staff has been absent for a longer duration than expected. A letter was distributed last week with further details. JJ is hoping the teacher will return shortly.

- Missed parents Evening.
  - Currently the parents' evenings that were missed have yet to be reorganised. School is waiting for teachers to return, or further information before reorganising. JJ hoping for the Parents evenings that were missed to be reorganised for the same time, however will review depending on returning dates.
  
- Halloween Dress Up
  - Feedback that the children missed not being able to dress up for school.
  - JJ consulted the schools cluster before Halloween, and was advised they were not the only school not dressing up. It can have a large impact on children, with some finding it scary, upsetting and children with additional needs do not cope very well. Some of the families in the school do not agree with Halloween. The school does provide a lot of fun and special events like silent discos and will continue to provide fun activities for the children outwith Halloween.
  - Previous years the school has supported the parent council holding a Halloween Disco in the evening, therefore allowing dress up but only those who wanted to attend. Due to covid these have not been possible the last 2 years but we are hopeful these can return next year.
  
- Christmas Jumper Day
  - Parent Council would like to organise a Xmas Jumper Swap, and link up with the Eco Committee. Save money and the environment.
    - Lynette to email Julie to pass on to Eco committee
  
- Reading Den
  - The Den arrived last week. School is organising decorations, ribbons, cushions etc. Weather allowing, official opening next week or two.
    - Parent council to provide the sign to the school to be fixed on, and covered for the revealing.
  
- Homework
  - Feedback received regarding the level of homework given to the children in the upper level of the school. Children were finding the transition to High School more difficult, as they were not prepared for the increased levels of work required to be completed at home.
  - Laura McPherson - Found that there were previously varied views on the amount of Homework required. There is a Home Learning Statement and Policy on the school website, alongside resources. If there was to be a change, a consultation would need to be completed, to gather the whole school point of view.
  - Possible review required, potentially just of the upper school classes. To help increase Time Management and Organising Skills of these children to help them work towards deadlines.

- Transitions are a big change for the children, and therefore to help make them as smooth as possible.
  - LM, GB, SM and LT to discuss further. Possibly a survey required just for the upper school.
  
- Transition Update.
  - No update available as yet, Woodmill lead the transition and will do everything they can to provide a full transition if circumstances allow.
  
- Attainment Levels of the Children.
  - The levels of the children learning are as expected and in many cases are higher than expected. During the In Service Day, the teachers will be carrying out a thorough look into the data provided from the standardised testing, base test (P1, P4 and P7) and teacher assessment to review if any additional focus needs to be carried out. However, all current levels are positive.
    - LT to share the attainment for April to August levels as provided in the highlight version provided to parents, on FB. Bitesize highlights as very positive.

### Headteacher Update.

- School Improvement Plan 2021-2022 and Standards and Quality Report 2021, Full versions are now on the school website.
  - Any feedback would be greatly appreciated.
- Carnegie PS now 11 years old. Possible HMI inspection within the next 12 month. There will be a role for parents and the parent council, to support.
- PT's - Ashley Paterson and Sarah Nicholson would like to provide a presentation on the PEF funding. Will present in next meeting.
- Health and Wellbeing. The 5 ways of wellbeing **Connect** – positive relationships, staying connected to the people around you. **Be active** – regular exercise indoors and outdoors helps you to release anxiety and stress, boosts mood and self esteem. **Take notice** – being mindful of emotions of self and others around you. Prioritising self care, eg eating and sleeping well. **Learn** – learn something new, achieving and being successful improves self esteem and confidence and reduces anxiety. **Give** – helping others with kindness. This of others less fortunate and how you can help and support them. The school is building awareness, throughout the school huddles, within the learning and there are now displays around school.
  - Booklets will be going out next week, with tasks and resources to use at home. To start the conversations with your children regarding their emotional wellbeing.

- Coats for Kids.
  - For families to donate but also if required to receive any coats available.
  - Nursery are already doing this with coats and wellies within their Fair Share table.
    - Possibly include nursery on Facebook, Lynette to discuss with VG from nursery in first instance.
  
- Commission from Cauliflower Christmas Cards - £761
- JJ has requested the Parent Council potentially fund new benches for the playground as previous ones have been removed due to being not fit for purpose.
- Next meeting to be scheduled for January. Potential for face to face – risk assessment to be carried out nearer the time.
- Parent Council to send photos, a little bio for the Facebook 'Meet the council campaign'