



Parent Council Meeting Wednesday 26th January 2022

Present – Gavin Byrne, Lynette Thomson, Julie Journeaux, Tiera Byrne, Suzanne Bryce, Laura McPherson, Sierra Martin, Fiona Crookston, Deny Spalding, Rachel Fraser, Lynsay Ewart, Ashley Patterson, Nadia Hogg, Ruth Johnston, Michelle Humphries, Hayley Allan, Sarah Nicholson, Jonathan Clark Frost

Apologies – Kerryann Sim, Ross Martin

Welcome to new parents, Jonathan, Lynsay and Hayley. GB described to the role of the PC and how we are the link between the school and the community and the leadership team. We are the voice of the parent community and also involved in fundraising. There is no commitment for a set amount of time you can allocate to the PC and all help is greatly appreciated.

HT Update

School Achievements/Events

Rights Respecting Schools Award

Following a very successful assessment today we have been awarded Silver. Feedback following the assessment which included an interview with staff, pupils and parents was very positive and we are now in our way to achieving Gold. Thank you to Sarah Hutchison and Scott Mitchell who has led the committee towards this great achievement.

Book Fair will run this year from 21-28 Feb. Children will have the opportunity to view the books and purchased can be made online.

Covid

No change to mitigations in place. When further guidance is given this will be shared with parents. Staff absence challenging but manageable at this time. Some concerns as we have seen an increase in cases over the last few days/

Pupil absence due to covid relatively low.

Staffing

Appointment of 2 new PSA's (Full time) plan to recruit an additional part time PSA – recruitment challenge due to low numbers applying.

PEF

Update from Ashley Paterson and Sarah Nicholson (Principal Teachers)

Their role was explained and they provided a presentation about the targeted support with identified groups of learners and professional learning they have undertaken with staff. They have provided data that showed the impact this has had on attainment for our most vulnerable learners. The SWAY shared will be uploaded onto the school website and links will be sent out for those who wish to know more.

Learning and Teaching

Order a further 60 laptops, with aim to provide greater flexibility of use.

Signed up for Digital Cultures programme to further develop staff confidence, creative approach and innovation.

New structured spelling programme introduced

Further £4000 spent on AR programme

Agenda Points

Red Nose Day

This will be discussed with the pupil council and if they wish it to go ahead parents will be informed.

Home Bargains

School have not been consulted about the impact this may have on travel/congestion etc but JJ will look into it.

Travel Action Plan

Questionnaire has been sent out to parents which has received a high uptake of replies. The main concern appears to be the safety of surrounding streets around the school and how the traffic/parking impacts on these.

Children are working on planning new routes to school and to see where the main congestion points are. The junior Road Safety Officers are working on a road safety campaign and new posters will be on display soon.

Health and Well being Census

This was discussed at a previous HT meeting but nothing has been forthcoming. Fife Council rejected the census yesterday at councillor level. Awaiting further update.

Literacy

LT suggested once covid restrictions allow that parents could possibly come in and support paired reading. This was well received but as yet it's not an option due to regulations around covid.

Playground Behaviour

It was noted that the large majority of children in the playground do behave responsibly but that sometimes children can make the wrong choices with their behaviour. The supervision of children is a

challenge when the school is so short of PSA's. The PSA's that the school does have are supporting children who would not otherwise be able to be in the playground.

P7 Update

The P7 hoodies should be with the children in the next few weeks – they have arrived at school but as yet are not badged. The main hold up has been parents not paying until the last minute or after the deadline date.

Ardroy should go ahead as planned for P7 in May. All payment details were sent out in original letter last year. Anyone experiencing difficulties should contact the school to discuss payment options.

Transition to Woodmill should look a bit more like normal this year with transition visits planned for the last term when senior pupils are on exam leave.

Covid Updates

As mentioned in HT update no new updates at present – asked if Warn and Inform should be sent via groupcall text but this costs money for every text sent so will continue to be sent via email. Parents should ensure they are checking emails regularly for any school updates.

Photos

Hopefully if restrictions allow school photographs will be 24/25 March. More details to follow.

Free bus travel for children

This was discussed and questions as to how people are managing applying. The PC would like feedback on this please and we will pass onto the school.