

Parent Council Meeting
15th September 2020 @ 6pm (via Zoom)

Present

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Scott Wilson (Head Teacher) | Katie Lamont |
| Rhianna Tweedie (Principle Teacher) | Keira Neal |
| David Simpson (Chair) | Helen Learmonth |
| Jo Stewart (Vice Chair) | Al Ward |
| Lesley Brown (Treasurer) | Ms Zhu |
| Kerry Simpson (Secretary) | Kathryn Rambaut |
| Kay Sly (PTA) | Bob Hanlon |
| Dawn Ewing | Oliver Koch |
| Andy Jones | Hazel Robertson |

Review of Previous AGM Minutes

- All happy to approve previous minutes

Headteachers report

General

- Staff have been impressed with how well the children have settled back into school and reconnected with each other following lockdown. Zoned areas are working well.
- A new system for lunches has been put into place, with two classes using the school hall, while the older class use the classroom (or the option of the outdoor classroom dependent on the weather)
- School Covid 19 risk assessment is reviewed on a weekly basis. A formal review is carried out every 5 weeks.
- New routines are now well established with hand washing, sanitising, seating plans recorded for every class and children issued with their own pencil cases etc.
- Breakfast club is running well and being well attended.
- Information has been provided on how other schools (Primary and High School) have dealt with positive cases with involvement from the Health Protection Team, by isolating specific classes and communicating with parents. It is felt that Culross would be well prepared, if the situation arose.
- Given the current restrictions, unfortunately there will not be any of the regular events such as assemblies, shared starts/finishes etc. School photos will also currently not be able to go ahead

School Improvement Plan (Agile Recovery Plan)

- Working on feedback from parents, the school is focusing on health and wellbeing.
- All children are working through the resilience alphabet
- 5 ways to wellbeing is being integrated into weekly class planning
- Education Scotland have issued a resource called “The Connected and Compassionate Classroom” to support dealing with and understanding trauma. This will be introduced in middle and upper stages.
- More information on this will be shared on Seesaw and the FB page

Numeracy

- Working on feedback from parents, resources to be produced over the course of the year to help with learning at home
- Staff to take part in professional learning as part of their continued development

- Targeting and supporting children that have gaps in learning following lockdown
- Focus on mental maths

Assessments (Numeracy and Literacy)

- Scottish standard assessments are currently carried out in years P1, P4 and P7
- Additional reading assessments to be done in Sept, Jan and May, for years P2, P3, P5 and P6
- It was requested that the results from these assessments be shared with parents, to allow them to support at home. Support for learning plans will also be shared with parents

Pupil Equity Fund

- The Pupil Equity Fund is money given to the school by the Scottish Government, designed to support children who are eligible and registered for free school meals.
- The school currently uses the funds to pay for additional hours for Mrs Morrison (wide range of pupil support) which benefits all the children greatly.

Parents' Evening

- Currently not able to hold parent evening, waiting for guidance to be issued by Fife Council
- Video call or phone calls have been put forward as possible options but still to be confirmed, currently being piloted at Duloch

IT Survey

- Good response to the IT survey which was sent out to parents.
- Scottish Government have made fund available to schools to provide additional IT for home learning
- Three Chromebooks will be available to Culross. The school is currently using guidelines to assess those that want to be considered

Parent Council Chair Update (David)

- David Simpson taken on the role of Parent Council Chair from Aug 2020
- Connect is a good resource available to the Parent Council and PTA, currently organising a number of dial in calls
- David took part in a call between the Queen Anne hub parent council chairs, to discuss the impact of the covid pandemic, share experiences and discuss approaches to dealing with issues.
- Additional call coming up to discuss online/distanced fundraising ideas

Treasurers Update (Lesley)

- 2019/20 accounts have been signed off
- Due to current circumstances, there have not been any income or expenditure
- Currently a balance of £3,417.58

ACTIONS:

- **Lesley to check if statements are being sent to school and arrange for signatories on the account to be changed**

PTA Update (Kay)

- PTA would normally be preparing for Christmas fair, which will not be going ahead this year due to current restrictions
- A number of options for distanced fundraising were discussed including online raffle, donations only such as 50/50, ebay charity shop.

ACTIONS: Kay and Kerry to progress fundraising ideas

AOB - School Grounds

- The outdoor classroom is a great success and has been an invaluable resource in the current circumstances
- It was agreed that the school ground could benefit from tidying. As we are unable to arrange a working day, it was suggested that a list of jobs should be put together and posted on the parents FB page. It would be good if parents were able to help out with jobs, but to be mindful not to gather in groups
- It was also suggested that we should communicate with the wider village who may be able to help
- Eco school award to get back up and running, and will give a good focus to activities
- The suggestion of improving the area in front of the classroom windows at the rear of the school was put forward. This area currently has the wooden pencils and boat but can become muddy in wet weather. It was agreed that the PC/PTA will looking into the idea of fundraising, accessing grants etc towards an all weather area
- The school are progressing with getting 'items for play' for the play ground and this area could be allocated for this type of play.

ACTIONS:

- **Mr Wilson to put together a list of jobs around the school grounds, along with photos. To be posted on the parent FB page.**
- **David to look into availability of a skip for debris**
- **David to look into available funding/grants and options for all weather surface**

AOB - Communication

- The school has a number of communications channels, with email, Facebook (Parents and School) and SeeSaw all working well
- The newsletter has been well received and will continue to be sent out on a weekly basis
- A text number has been introduced and can be used for messaging the school office
- SeeSaw has been an invaluable tool during lockdown and will continue to be the main channel of communication for homework and feedback between parents and teachers. The older class have a 'Class App' where they can access their activities and upload work directly.
- It should be noted that direct communication with teachers should be via SeeSaw and not through Facebook/Messenger and that teacher will respond during working hours (8.30am – 4.00pm Mon – Fri)
- It was agreed that a review of the current communication plan would be useful to explain each of the communication options and their uses. This should be made available to parents. Also a note should be added to the top of the parent's Facebook page to define the use of the page and preferred lines of communication

ACTIONS:

- **David to add note to top of Parent's Facebook page**
- **David and Jo to review communication plan and issue to parents**

Date of Next Meeting : Wednesday 25th Nov 2020 @ 6pm