

LARGOWARD PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Date: Monday 6th September 2021

Time: 18:30

Location: Zoom Meeting

Parent Council Meeting

In Attendance

Adam Lawson (Chairman), Leanne Law, Vicky Lothian (Treasurer), Donna Bain (Headteacher), Chris Law, Jinty Smith-Spiers, Stuart Stenhouse (Secretary),

Apologies – N/A

Head Teachers Report

Covid-19

Very little changes to our current risk assessment despite the relaxation within the wider community. Main difference is the changes to contact tracing – as per the letter from Carrie Lindsay. School will issue a ‘Warn and Inform’ if a staff member or pupil tests positive.

The Public Health team will be warning and inform approach and not managed by school or likely result in full class isolation

Teaching status

Confirmed Miss Morrow has joined Miss Lloyd and Mr Mitchell to provide 2 x FTE teachers in classes P1-3 and P4-7.

Adam called out the positive impact having the dedicated teachers has had and highlighted the positive feel around the school and noted thanks on this. Wide acknowledgement from the group on this that children are happy to go in.

Pupil Updates

Number stable at 19 meaning the 2FTE teachers remain. This will need to be the same to continue next year so hoping the school will continue to attract new pupils.

Two additional enquiries have been made to join

Two primary 7's will leave so will remain above threshold without including new intake

School Improvement plan

Three identified areas are;

- Develop curriculum rationale
 - PTC, Children and families to help shape this
- Raising attainment in writing (most impacted across five by coved/lockdowns)
 - Learning and teaching will be a focus
 - Joint effort between Largoward and Lawhead
- Outdoor Learning progression (see related note on garden below)

A summary will be shared online

School classroom update

Several upgrades have been completed during the summer and it was noted that this has been a big and well-required investment. Appreciation was given for the focus on this.

- P4-7 room new ceiling, painted, carpet and flooring
- P1-3 same as above next summer
- Toilet block all refreshed
- High sports fence extended, and soft core repaired/sealed

It was requested and agreed for Mrs. Bain to share pictures on FB for parents since can't go in.

Pupil Equity Fund

Smaller schools calculated different and given a set annual budget not formula based on % of free school meals. This is targeted at closing the attainment gap.

£3,308 grant this year + Carry Forward +15% based on normal year (covid recovery) = £3,709

Initial spend identified on the following areas;

- Three laptops ordered (~£1200) to support literacy/numeracy. All identified pupils to have individual device.
- Early level play provision development- new home corner
- Conceptual understanding in math's (SEAL boxes)
- Targeted daily writing

Leadership positions

All P3-7 to are to have positions in the school, 2x P7 leaver positions to be filled.
Including the existing roles, there will also be Junior Road safety officers

Garden Update

Mrs. Bain highlighted that they are looking for volunteers to help action changes.

The garden will be Redesigned (as part of outdoor learning focused)

There is a need to move the vegetable plots as trees blocking sun impacting crops. Likely that this will be where the pixie house is just now.

There was a suggestion for the trees to be looked at, and volunteer Jinty knows but with the mature garden these may not be able to cut too much.

Adam said that he can get a donation of potatoes to help for next year

It was called out a thanks to everyone who helped look after garden during summer

Agenda Items

School Events

A school calendar of events is currently being finalised and will be shared in future newsletter for parents.

All are being planned under the assumption they will go ahead to keep dates, but all events are subject to change or impact on scale (including parents' attendance) due to covid situation.

Halloween Party

This is planned for Friday 29th October and the children will be allowed to dress-up

Mrs Bain to check on use of hall for the party as suggested by the group and games will be reviewed dependent on Covid. Hoping to at least have music and some events

There were offers to help put up Decorations and tidy-up

The hall is currently booked on Tues and Thurs for PE

Update the village hall has been booked for 12 noon for this

Christmas Fayre/Raffle

Initial thought was to have this on same day as Christmas concert (See below). Adam and Vicky highlighted that this was too late and could restrict the value.

Date decided was Sat 4th 1-3pm (Vicky to book hall and allow for setup/cleaning time)

Children will help create crafts to sell

Home-baking is also requested to sell

Previous events (pre-covid) had 5 stalls paid for and this is the ambition again in addition to the raffle donations being on display and drawn at the end

Volunteers from parents and staff to help or attend on day but it will not be compulsory or expected working hours for staff

Christmas Concert/Party

This is planned for Tues 21st December

Ideally will allow parents attendance, but will be recorded if not and all parents approve permission

School Photo's

Miss Taylor is looking at options to get these done

Some options were mentioned including Tempest and locals that Mrs Bain had used at previous schools

Likely to be done in garden to help with restrictions and enable these as highlighted there haven't been any for a couple of years

Update – photographer has been booked for Wednesday 27th October

AOB

No

Next Meeting

Agreed that moving to a Tuesday would be more suitable – next session Tuesday 2nd November @ 6.30. Likely via Zoom meeting and all welcome