

# LARGOWARD PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



**Date:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 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, Stuart Stenhouse (Secretary),

Apologies – N/A

### Chairman's Report

Nothing to report

### Secretary's Report

Notes from last meeting have been shared

### Treasurer's Report

Nothing to report

## Head Teachers Report

### Covid-19

Risk assessment continues to be regularly reviewed and updated in line with current Scottish Government guidance.

No significant changes apart from reintroduction of the dinner hall for lunches this term which has been very successful. Still no parents in building and no non-essential visitors.

## Christmas

Unlikely that we will be able to go ahead with our concert planned for end of term so will be working with staff and the children to plan and prepare something that can be recorded and shared.

We will be allowing Christmas cards this year.

Staff to discuss at our next staff meeting crafts for the Christmas Fair to be sold. Some suggestions were given.

Potential outdoor event with social-distancing and masks was raised.

There will be no pantomime this year.

## School Improvement Plan

Continuing to make good progress on priorities.

1. Curriculum Rationale – staff session at next inset day, consulting parents at tonight's meeting and working with the pupils during our assemblies
2. Writing – staff collegiate sessions engaging in professional learning with staff at Lawhead
3. Outdoor Learning Progression – work starts on this priority in term 3.

## Pupil Equity Funding

**Priority 1:** Technology – additional laptops have been purchased and now in use to support pupil learning

**Priority 2:** Early Literacy – new home corner, water tray and other play resources purchased to promote high quality listening and talking and play within the P1-3 classroom

**Priority 3:** Numeracy – additional SEAL maths resources ordered to be used with targeted individuals who are off track in numeracy.

Beginning work on 'Cost of the School Day'. Aim towards a school action plan to minimize/reduce financial impacts of parents. A presentation was shared at the session on this.

## School Photographer

Visited on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October. Information sent home on how to order – individual, sibling, class and whole school options. They had an external mobile studio which enabled this to be done.

Consensus in the session was that the pictures excellent. Thanks were given to getting these arranged.

## Bikeability

Currently in progress of arranging staff training across both school – would any parents be interested in taking part in the training? Only Mr Mitchell able to participate for Largoward.

**Please let the school know if you are able/interested.** Training would be two mornings in term-time and require you to provide own bike.

## **School Travel Plan**

JRSO's have completed route mapping with the rest of the children in school. Questionnaire will be coming out to parents soon. Next step will be for coordinator to come out and walk the routes with the children and develop our school action plan.

## **Residential Trip Survey**

Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their views. Need to now go through the responses – over 100 from the two schools combined. Also need to gather views from the pupils. Want to arrange some nice activities for our current P7's this year including a possible school camp out at Lawhead. Any residential trip likely to be for next year's P7's but will take time to research options.

## **Agenda Items**

Mrs Bain shared a couple of slides to get input from the group on what made the school special and what the PTC wanted the children get from their time there. Key values covered were the small-cosy feel, with a close connection to the local area. Having a great external/unique local environment and good facilities were also raised.

On the learning front, wanting the children to be happy, enjoy their time, learn, be challenged, develop core skills and have the same opportunities as those at larger schools were the key comments suggested.

The children will also be doing the same exercise.

Mrs. Bain also mentioned that she has joined a small school working group.

## **Cost of the School Day**

Mrs. Bain shared a presentation covering cost comparisons of schools and regions. Fife has one of the highest levels of poverty in Scotland. Looking for ways to reduce this and make sure all elements of the school day are inclusive and supportive.

As one of the key actions this will be discussed at the Friday (12<sup>th</sup>) in-service day with an action plan agreed and shared. Potential working groups may be arranged, and parent volunteers asked for.

Support is available in funding for parents (e.g. uniform costs, travel, charity costs). Looking for the best way to advertise this and other ways to seek help if required in discreet way. Parent council happy to support as well.

Also looking at the local area for other ideas.

## **Christmas Fayre/Raffle**

Discussed some arrangements for the school fair and raffle.

Prizes have been largely gathered with a few more still to collect

Tickets are on-sale – **ask for people to collect to sell, buy and return the stubs/money to the school**

Tables are all sold

Arranged who will manage the tombola/crafts/choc-tombola stall and help serve teas/coffees

Flyers are going to be printed at the school and posted through doors. A sign will also be put up at the hall

Staff are all intending to drop-by

## **Looking for home-baking donations**

## **Sumdog Challenge**

It was raised how well the children did on the Scottish Sumdog challenge, coming 12<sup>th</sup>. It was also highlighted that they were now taking part in the Fife challenge. Results of this shared in the newsletter.

## **AOB**

### **Next events**

Discussion on other PTC supported events post-Christmas. Discussed briefly the initial thoughts around an Easter Egg hunt but nothing else. More discussion in the new year and looking for further ideas to support school and fundraising.

### **School crossing**

Vicki raised the question of getting a pedestrian crossing for the school. Discussion on local councilor involvement and who they were. This was followed up after the meeting and initial engagements to look at a requirement to get a crossing put in place. Likely a 3-month assessment.

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January @ 6.30. Likely via Zoom meeting and all welcome.

Offline conversations will continue in preparation for the Christmas Fair.