**Lawhead School Parent Council Meeting**

**Monday 16th January**

**EGM Minutes**

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Present: Louise Donaldson-Nixon, Sienna Sproson, Paolo Ammibale, Sarah Winter, Emma Nylk, Sarah Jane Forsyth, Donna Bain, Rachel Deegan, Melanie Dobie, Paula Sey and Sarah Kay

Apologies: Jen Simpson

1. **Minutes from the previous meeting (AGM)**

Approved. Proposed by: Louise Donaldson-Nixon and seconded by Sienna Sproson

1. **Head teacher report and update**

Mrs Bain’s update was issued on theFacebook page and the school app for parents to read. Mrs Bain summarised this published update at the meeting. Please find attached the published update.



Areas of the update discussed:

* Attainment updates highlighted writing still not attaining. Aim is to focus on children not meeting writing attainment. Achieved attainment apart from P3, P5 and P7.

Melanie Dobie asked when do parents get told if not achieving? Mrs Bain explained it would be parents evening or when they find a child is needing additional support. It was also highlighted that children with dyslexia are entitled to a minimum of 1 annual review meeting.

* French aspect being implemented into the classrooms daily, becomes more natural this way.
* BSL – Roar from Katy Perry being taught currently, finding songs a great way to learn. All staff have been signed on a 2 year module for BSL.
* P4 and P7 are having their national standardised level assessments, any parent is entitled to ask for their children’s assessment data. This can be done by emailing Mrs Bain.
* Cuppa chat set for 27th January.
* Parents evening in March, information will be sent out closer to the time. At the evening there will be interaction workshops
* Attendance monitoring, if attendance less than 90% parents will receive a supportive email.
* Mrs Allan is planning a literacy and numeracy parent interaction session.
* Looking for volunteers for school trips or weekly/regular basis.
* All agreed Festive concerts were a success and £250 raised.
* P7 residential. To consider where best for next year and September seems to best time as weather hopefully ok and cheaper. 2 nights agreed by teachers as best option due to homesick children and staffing. It’s a great experience, team building, problem solving, personal skills and sustainability.
* Bikeability, group 1 complete. Group 2 start on Friday. Once completed will move onto P6.
1. **Proposals for spending of grant money**

Treasurer update: Update by Melanie Dobie. Have raised a lot so far, grants still from last year.

-£687 for outdoor learning

-£625 for outdoor learning/bumpy/learning

-£509 for sports equipment

-£2000 for outdoor learning which was raised through the fun run. Pupils specifically wished it to be used for this so we must honour.

- Over £2000 raised from fair, need to decide what this will be used for. Suggestion from Mrs Bain: School trips, P7 hoodies, sports equipment, and digital trolleys. Only currently have 2 digital trolleys, ideally would like 1 in each wing and full of laptops (each trolley holds 32). Mrs Bain highlighted she has pressure not to ask parents to additionally fund. Suggestion from Rachel Deegan: Party kit from a sustainability view. The party kit is hired for parties which then raises money for the school. It was felt we need to reach out to parents for their opinion before spending. Potentially doing this by using the Microsoft form to ask. Mrs Bain highlighted further reading books not required.

- Overall roughly £8000 in the bank.

- A thank you to parent Stuart Bell who kindly volunteered to look at and organise last years accounts.

-Discussion of what sports equipment should be bought. PSA will go through PE resources and parent Ali GD who has run hockey classes will kindly give a list to what she thinks would beneficial. Sarah Winter is happy to investigate looking into tennis equipment. Overall, it is felt equipment for football, tennis, hockey and sport bibs is required.

- Outdoors update: Planters in but they need to be filled. Unfortunately, shelter is unable to go ahead. Blackboards painted in bumpy. Orienteering company have been in touch to set up.

1. **Spring term activities**

- Aiming to have a film night in February, need to set a date. Also aiming to have a end of term spring disco.

- Summer Fayre this year, we need to think about a suitable date.

1. **Database of University contacts and parent volunteers**
* University contacts to liaise with the school, Emma and Joan are setting up. Emma suggests the idea is to have a database of university contacts and volunteers that the teachers can use. They will design a form which will be sent to parents. They are having a meeting with Mrs Bain on the 1st February to see if this is all ok. If all good they will advertise and send out forms. The form will ask for volunteers.
* Mrs Bain is currently looking for someone who teaches BSL. Louise DN might know someone who does a course and will enquire.
1. **A.O.B**
* When conducting a parent council meeting at school when is the latest time this can be done? 6.30pm is a struggle for many people. Mrs Bain thinks can start slightly later and will investigate this. Mrs Bain did remind us that staff attending will be at the school from the start of the school day.
* Paolo Ammibale asked if there could be an extra parents evenings, for example at least 3 times in 1 year? Mrs Bain felt this would be unlikely due to the teachers working time agreement with staff.
* Mrs Bain did highlight that any parent can phone or email the office to speak directly to their children’s teacher if they wish. This was felt this should be highlighted to parents through the school newsletter.
* It was highlighted that the communication guide is still not set up. This needs to be chased.
* Rachel Deegan asked re reading books going home during the holidays. Mrs Bain said that reading books can’t go home during the holidays, but the children can choose books from the library to take home.
* Rachel Deegan suggested it would be useful if the topics the children are learning are released before the next term. Mrs Bain said they would try to do this in the next academic year.
* Paula Sey asked why BSL and French languages picked. Mrs Bain highlighted Madras now continuing with French so the children will continue their French when leaving primary school.