

Masterton Primary School Parent Council

Tuesday 17th January 2023

Attendees: David Adamson, Ross Blanchflower, Suzy Brown, Deborah Farquharson, Amanda Fyfe, Becca Hamilton, Stephen Humphries, Rhona Hynd, Caroline Ndlovu, Sharon Saxton, Karen Stewart, Fiona Waddell, Luisa Walker

Apologies: Anne-Marie Greer, Nicole Hendrickx, Kelly O'Reilly, Debbie Rankine, Lorraine Scoullier, Jen Wilkie

Chairperson's Welcome

Luisa welcomed everyone, including new participants, to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting held 26th October 2022 (inc. AGM)

Approved & published.

Outstanding Issues from Previous Meeting

Lapwing Drive Speed Limit (Luisa) – Luisa has been liaising with local councillors Cara Hilton & James Calder. A proposal to reduce the speed limit to 30 mph went to the West Fife area committee, who requested a road report. A recommendation for the reduction will now be put forward to a full council vote (don't anticipate any objections).

iPads Follow-Up (David / Luisa) – A letter was submitted (via email) to education services, unfortunately we received no response. A further follow-up email again received no response. David spoke to a contact at Glenrothes House who will take this up or David may follow-up when he is next in Glenrothes House. In addition, Stephen will liaise with education manager to request our email is forwarded to the most appropriate person and requesting a response within 2 weeks. Next steps, we will escalate to our local councillors.

Headteacher's Report

Since the last meeting there has been lots of activity in the school. There have been several football matches and several visits from reading reps as we look towards buying a new scheme. There is still work to be done in selecting a new reading scheme, but we hope to have this in place, at least for the lower school, by August 2023, as our current scheme is no longer published.

Beatbox have visited the P5 classes to help with creating their own songs and videos, and our Children in Need activities were well received.

We held out first face to face parent evenings since covid restrictions were lifted, which went well, and it was lovely to see parents back in school.

P4 had a storyteller in and Rosyth Eats also visited to work with the P.5/6 and the P.6 classes.

We had several Christmas events, which went very well, including:

- P.7 Brass Instruments players taking part in a concert at DHS
- P.1 Nativity – 2 performances for parents
- P.2-4 Christmas performance
- P.5-7 Christmas performance

- Christmas Fayre 3.15 – 4.45 pm
- M&M Productions Pantomime on the last day of term

Since the start of the new year Mr. Ross (minister) has rejoined us at assemblies. There have recently been 2 strike days (one in 2022) with more to come.

Coming up we have the Rotary Quiz for P7, which we will host as most recent winners, and we are seeing the return of some after school activities.

We have number of teaching students who will be in the school, there is currently Miss Andrew in P.3 (Miss Mills) and further students are due to arrive in P.1/2 (Miss Swift), P.1a (Mrs Robinson) and P.3/4 (Mrs Houlston / Mrs Murray).

School photographs are due to take place in February as well as our Ceilidh (times & ticket information for the ceilidh will be issued soon).

Financial Update

Item not covered due to Treasurer absence.

FroMPS Update

Debbie was unable to attend tonight's meeting. However, it was noted that recent events were a great success and very well attended (Halloween Disco & Christmas Fayre). FroMPS are planning to meet soon to plan events for the full year so we can prepare well in advance.

The group discussed the need for a review of process & procedures around events e.g. process for banking cash promptly.

Gala Update

Amanda advised that the Dunfermline Gala Committee is now filled, and an announcement is expected soon, presumably a date for the 2023 gala!

Any Other Business

Winter Coat Drive / School Uniform Clothing Bank (Becca)

Becca reported that we received over 50 coat donations, however, only a few families utilised the bank so remaining coats were donated to the local social work department.

The group discussed our plans for a School Uniform Clothing Bank – not sure we'd have much uptake for uniform based on coat drive, which was a lot of work for little uptake. Should we start small with a selection at each age in a location that parents can come in and collect at their leisure e.g. outside classrooms on parents night? *Topic for next meeting.*

School Bell Timing (Becca)

A few parents have noticed that the school bell appears to be ringing a few minutes before 9am in the morning and before 3pm in the afternoon. *Stephen will ask the janitorial staff to investigate this.*

Late Items (Luisa)

A parent had raised with Luisa the tone of the communications around the office not being able to accept late items into the school. With the exception of medication or glasses, Stephen explained

how it was not feasible for the office staff to deliver forgotten items to classes. *Stephen will put something in the next newsletter to publish this explanation for all parents. In addition, Sharon & Stephen will review the issue of packed lunches and if these should be under the things that can be handed in or not.*

Seesaw/Homework (Ross)

Ross asked if there was a standard as to what should be added to seesaw consistently. While there is no standard guideline (tool to be used by teacher's as they need), any homework and a review of the week should be shared on see saw. Homework is ideally reading, numeracy and something else each week; some classes only get reading. *Stephen & Sharon will investigate and try and get consistency.*

Date of Next Meeting(s)

Tuesday 25th April 2023

Venue: School Community Room