

PARENT COUNCIL 25/11/2020

ATTENDANCE

Colin Hamilton, Suzy Douglas, Martin Robertson, Alexander Thom, Fiona Dyer, Miriam Blane, Wendy Cameron, Jaqueline Latta, Alison Brown, Stewart Cameron, Alistair Blake, Elizabeth Graham, Elizabeth Scott, Diana McLeish, Catherine Lyst, Emma Newlands, Karis Nicholson, Duncan Boyd, Mike Whittacker, Horsom Elrakaby, Angie Sin, Bettina Talbot, Robbie Stewart, Inz

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

COVID UPDATE

New policies are on the school website, in the Covid section. Covid Risk assessment version 8 will be on the school website tomorrow. The staff continue to put lots of effort into social distancing, and keeping the children safe.

CHRISTMAS UPDATE

School will not be able to run all of the usual events on the Christmas calendar but have tried to adapt some events. The whole school will learn a Makaton song to perform as singing is still not allowed. On Friday the 11th of December it will be Christmas jumper day and all the children will be encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper. The classes will be filmed performing their songs on this day and the clips will be pieced together. All Christmas parties will be held on the 16th of December and will take place in the classrooms instead of the hall. Children will be asked to bring in their own sweet treats again in the same format as Halloween. The class teachers have put together an adult Christmas hamper that will be raffled off to the parents and the support for learning staff have put together a children's hamper. The office staff are happy to handle money if it is brought in in an envelope and is quarantined for 72 hours. Wendy is looking into the app parent pay, but that would be able to be set up until the new year. There will be no Christmas fayre but the children will still make the class crafts which they will advertise on seesaw. The fuel zone will have a Christmas lunch. A Scots nativity reading will also happen on Friday the 18th of December. The school will have three large trees up and a digital Christmas countdown. Santa will make a virtual appearance at the Christmas parties. There will be no nativity this year but the classes will watch last year's BOSCA panto with subtitles.

DIGITAL UPDATE

The school are still waiting for the shared iPads to be fixed, and an engineer should be coming out within the next few weeks. The digital learning leaders will be teaching the children how to use more of the iPads. Parents were asking if they could get nonuniform notifications on seesaw, which was agreed to. Was asked if the expressions app was still being used, which it isn't, and the school have moved onto Groupcall instead. The school news letters are also going to get put out on Seesaw.

PUPIL COMMITTEES

Each year there are lots of pupil committees run, and many pupils are involved in each. This year it has been decided that it would be more Covid friendly if only one child per class is on each committee. P4-7 fill out an application form to be in the

committees. There is also a new house point system that involves receiving tokens for acts based on the school values. The tokens are then put into token collectors so the children can visually see how well their house is doing. The primary ones are now also in houses and all siblings are in the same house.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

FET

INCLUSION

More people were in the meeting than before, and asking how they found out about the meeting. A lot of people have more time to come to parent council meetings as they are working from home, but also with the meetings being online it has made it easier to attend. Was asked if the staff like having the meetings online or if they prefer them being in person. Was acknowledged that the meetings being on Zoom are less inclusive as some people do not have access to online. Was agreed that the best approach for after Covid would be a blended approach.

COMS

Issue for paying for the website domain, as it needs to be paid for by a credit card or PayPal, was thought that the FETs PayPal could be used but in the end it was decided that it would be best to just have a section on the schools website. Parents asked what the app is, which is called the PTA social. It was mainly used in pre Covid times to arrange volunteers for events and hasn't been used much recently.

PARENTS EVENINGS

Parents expressed disappointment that there were no parents evenings, and requested that in the future there would be more communication than before. The headteacher explained that the recent LNCT Report by Executive Director of Education stated, 'there should not be parents' evenings in schools'. Also that, 'class teachers should not be expected to report on progress to parents through phone calls or on-line meetings'. Broomhill does not currently have the capacity. This local authority position will remain in place until the end of March 2021.