

Pollokshields Primary Parent Council meeting 30/03/21

Present:

Babar
Nathalie
Rachel
Sam
Carol
Fozia
Fleur
Saskia

Discussion:

1) Funding: Nathalie suggested that we put together a fundraising strategy to present to potential funders and that we ask parents what they would like funds to be used for. Babar suggested that we send an online questionnaire/survey to parents. A sports day was suggested and Carol said that it could possibly be run with different years doing activities in different places. Carol asked about potential funding sources for installing toilets in the hive and estimated that around £3,000 to £4,000 would be required. Rachel suggested that we fundraise for this rather than apply for a grant. Nathalie is happy to write funding applications if she is supplied with the information that she requires. There are deadlines of 13th April or 3rd August for The Area Partnership, which considers applications for up to £500. Nathalie also suggested the Awesome Foundation as a potential source of funds.

2) Road closures: It was mentioned that we are one of only five wards to not have a road closure. Councillor Jon Molyneux will be advocating for us in the next round. Carol confirmed that community police were to visit the school to take a statement about the recent incident. Babar suggested that the school might consider approaching Glasgow City Council about installing CCTV in the playgrounds; to help if there are any more incidents and to protect playground equipment.

3) Playground: Carol described the improvements that will soon take place to the small playground. A mechanised shutter will be provided by Glasgow City Council as a door has been identified as a security risk. This will provide a secure area for storage of playground equipment. A bespoke canopy company will make a burgundy canopy to tie in with the school uniform colour, which will make outdoor learning easier. Various designs will be painted on the playground floor, such as a number square and a noughts and crosses grid, all of which can be used for lessons and playtime. A wooden wobble bridge and a blackboard surrounded by seats will also be installed. Astro turf will be used to cover the area in the far corner between the planters and an astroturfed area will be caged off for football. Carol confirmed that this all should be finished by the end of May. She mentioned that the children are engaging with the plants in the playground. Nathalie mentioned the need for an outdoor tap for watering them and confirmed that she would chase Jon Molyneux.

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4) PEF spend: Carol confirmed that the school has been given another £148,000 of pupil equity funding. After the April holiday, the school will be reassessing the children for lockdown gaps and support will move to P4-7. Next year, if the school hopes to employ another support teacher. It was mentioned that the pupil equity funding needs to support the health and well-being of the children in our area and it was suggested that we ask parents for their opinions on how it should be spent.

5) End of year reports: Carol confirmed that an end of year report would be issued for each child to replace parents' evening. It will focus on literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing and include the pupil's voice. She is considering putting a tear off slip at the end giving parents the option to receive a telephone call from their child's teacher to discuss the report. She confirmed that the school can offer interpreters for these phone-calls. She is hoping that this method will minimise the amount of telephone calls that teachers need to make. She mentioned that the school is limited in terms of telephones and that calling parents is time consuming and requires senior staff to supervise as protection for the teachers. The Parent council agreed that it would be a good idea to make telephone calls optional.

6) Communication: Carol informed us that a notice board will be placed outside the front of the school during the April holidays. The school now has email addresses for nearly all parents. All parents received at least one phone call during last lockdown and Carol has been keeping everyone updated with newsletters.

7) Hi- viz gang recruitment: Ideas for recruitment were given, for example, posters made by children to take home to parents and to put on the gate. Carol suggested that Mrs Iqbal might contact parents that she thinks might be willing to help. It was suggested that Glasgow City Council is asked to repaint the zig-zags, which are very faded. Carol suggested that some children could write to the relevant people.

8) P7: Funding for the P7 hoodies was raised and the Very Merry Pollokshields Fun fund was suggested. Carol said that she would need to ask Kate if she would be happy for it to be used for this. It was suggested that each P7 could be given an inscribed book instead of a hoodie. No decision was made on this. Carol mentioned that the school will be making a film of the P7s in the manner of the P1 nativity to send to parents and to show to the rest of the school. The school will also make a yearbook with photos of each child now and on their first day of school and comments.

9) Class Photographs: Babar will liaise with Carol about a date for taking class photos and possibly individual photos. It was suggested that the latter could be used for the P7 yearbook. It was agreed that it would be easiest to take the photographs in the playground. It was mentioned that the calendars were a good source of fundraising as they raised a few hundred pounds. Sam pointed out that it was a lot of work when the Parent Council took individual photographs of the children in the past. It was suggested that instead of asking parents to order prints, a photograph of each child is printed and the parents are asked to give a donation. Babar

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suggested that we could send parents an email link, which would cut down administration time and would give parents the flexibility to print photos as they wish.

10) Financial report: Fozia informed us that the Parent Council account had an opening balance this year of £3,122.80. £567 was received from southside housing from Kate. £344.60 was paid out in expenses and £135 was donated to Urban Roots for the allotment. The current balance is £3,115.69 with nothing further due to go in or out.

Next meeting:

This is to be opened up to all parents and has been arranged for Tuesday 25th May at 3:30pm.