

## Pollokshields Primary School Parent Council Meeting 25/06/21

### **Present (names as per zoom):**

Sam Miller  
Babar Malik  
Taz Ahmed  
Saskia Gildawie  
Kate E. Deeming  
Rachel  
Anna  
Taimur  
Carol Wood  
Sara Spencer  
Karen Brown  
Fleur Gayet  
Ambreen M  
Laura Piacentini  
Fozia  
Nathalie  
Shazia  
Sonia Cromarty

### **Welcome from Babar**

### **Update since last meeting:**

- 1) Update from Carol on developments within the school and on the playground work since our last meeting.

The installation of the shutter has been holding up playground work. The canopy will be installed next Monday whilst the children are on holiday. During the week beginning 31st week Carol should hear when the rest of the playground equipment will be installed. It should all happen before the end of term. An outdoor tap has been installed and Ian is getting work done in the boiler house, hopefully including a tap in there as well.

- 2) How has the money raised by the Very Merry Pollokshields fundraiser been spent?  
Are there any more plans for the rest of the money?

Money has been spent on an online pantomime and another has been booked to be shown before the end of term. Carol was hoping to use some of the money for a big party outside before the end of term but due to current restrictions, feels that it would be better to arrange it for August.

### **End of this school year:**

- 1) Brief update from Carol on P7 leavers book/presents etc.

Mr Mclellan and Ms Mitchell are making a video of the children singing, which will include baby photos. This will be put on youtube as a personal link on monday 21st June. A leavers' book is also being created which includes baby photos and their aspirations for the future.

- 2) New books for the school.

Some PEF money has been used to buy novel sets for the upper school (p6-7). The school has tried to buy books that are relevant to the children's lives. The school has started buying new readers as they need lower level books that reflect the interests of older children. PEF money could buy library books for school. Children are only being given one book per week due to covid, as books need to be left for 72 hours before being passed on to another child.

### **Looking ahead to the next school year:**

- 1) Update on recruiting a new Headteacher. Will there be any other staff/teacher changes?

The process for recruiting a new headteacher will take place before the end of June. (Leet on 3rd June, Carol showing prospective candidates around the school on 15th and interviews on 21st).

Taz Ahmed will remain deputy for the time being whilst the position is advertised. Sadly but understandably Carol has decided to retire for family reasons. She will be greatly missed. She has asked that we do not pass this information on to the children for the time being as she would like to retain a feeling of stability within the school for the rest of the school year.

The school has received £148,000 PEF money plus an extra £34,000 so it can afford to keep on Miss Mitchell and Miss Mullan.

- 2) When will we find out which teachers our children will have next year? Will classes be mixed up or stay the same as this year? Would it be possible for each 'new' teacher to send a welcome letter to the children letting us know the sort of things that they will be learning in the next school year and introducing themselves to students and parents.

Carol confirmed that she will be sorting out classes for next year this weekend and should be able to give out that information by the end of next week. She thinks that there will probably be composite classes as there is a very small P1 intake. In the last week of term the children will have a day with their new teacher, in their new classroom. Carol will also make time for the new teacher to speak to the current teacher about the children's progress.

- 3) Possible sports day early next school year. Yes - Carol will try to get a date sorted.  
Any ideas for other extra-curricular events for the next school year? There will be a free cricket summer school and cricket coaching during the school year. Carol will provide more information on this when it is available.
- 4) P1 transition. When will parents of children entering P1 in August receive correspondence from the school?

The video has been updated and a new link ready for go out to parents. The P1 intake is very small; only 34 children. They will not be arranging for children to enter the school but hopefully will invite them to come into the playground towards the end of June to meet their teachers and play with playground equipment. A date has been arranged for an enhanced transition for a boy with Autism; he will be photographed with key members of staff so that he can look at photos of the school and staff during the summer holiday. Mrs Ahmed, Miss Kelly and Mrs Gray will be meeting the new children.

#### **Any other business.**

- 1) A massive thank you to Babar and Shazia, who will be leaving the Parent Council at the end of this school year as their youngest child will be leaving P7, for all of their hard work and for giving so much time to the school and community.
- 2) PEF: Carol mentioned that the children have been very involved in telling school what they want. She would like feedback from parents and Babar will liaise with her on this. The Parent Council has offered to create feedback forms to be sent to parents.
- 3) Karen Brown informed us that the Council will provide us with paint and brushes etc for painting the school railings but not labour. It was suggested that volunteers from the school/community paint it over the summer holidays.
- 4) Allotment: Mrs Firdous has been taking classes to the allotment and has been training other teachers to take children. A massive thank you to Nathalie, who has put a huge amount of time and effort into sorting out the plot along with other volunteers.
- 5) Kate informed us that P1 and P7 children will be filmed dancing on 3rd June. A lorry showing the film will be driven around Pollokshields on 17th June.