**Minutes of the meeting of Beith Primary School Parent Council**

**Held on Wednesday 13th of November 2019 at 6.30 pm in the school staffroom**

**Attendance:**

Amanda Doherty - Secretary Mrs Mann

Gemma Michie - Treasurer Mr Lambert

Fiona McClune – Chair Mrs McDonnell

Anna Sutherland

Avril Leith

Lisa Davenport

**Apologies:** none

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| **Welcome**  The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by GM and seconded by AS | **Action** |
| **Treasurer’s report**   * Current Balance £1620.05 with £1000 available after costs for School lets and Disco being paid. * Noted that the Brownies may not need a let after the new year, which would mean that the parent council would need to pay for lets. * £171 left from the last Co-op funding and the new Co-op funding balance is £5606.51 to be spent on outdoor equipment. * £18 was raised from guess how many sweets in the jar. * £180 has been agreed to be paid towards the P7 year book. * Discussion about funding a communication app which could be beneficial to several children in the school (anticipated cost £250). The app would work on Ipad, which may be problematic as this is not supported by North Ayrshire Council. Mrs McDonnell will look into further to see what would be most appropriate and beneficial for the children. | Mrs McDonnell |
| **Matters arising**  February disco is cancelled – Harry Potter quiz will be held instead (on 6 February) in order to fundraise for the school. Parent Council will help at this. FMcC to check dates on disco tuck, which can be donated to Harry Potter quiz.  **Lights n Laughter competition**  Two parent council members volunteered to judge on 29 November.  GM agreed to buy 21 selection boxes as prizes (1 per class, 4 for Early Years). | FMcC  GM |

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| **Co-op Funding**   * Noted that some playground equipment from a previous school was currently in storage, quote to be provided for installation. * Mrs McDonnell to send recommendation of what would be most useful for the p1 end of the school. (Possibly ramps, wooden blocks, puzzles/clocks). Agreed not to have snake & ladders or hopscotch following consultation with teachers, who felt that other equipment would be more beneficial. * Agreed to purchase skipping ropes, space hoppers, inflatable balls – a good supply of general toys. * Community pay-out day on the 23rd November 11am at the Co-op, home baking is needed if anyone can help. | Mrs McDonnell |
| **Queries/suggestions from parents**:   * Suggestion received to donate rather than children send each other Christmas cards. A suggestion had also been received to run the reverse advent calendar again this year. It was agreed to tie these two suggestions together and that children could send each other Christmas cards if they preferred to do that, or they could donate instead, using the reverse Advent calendar – or both, as it is all voluntary. | Mrs Mann |
| * Suggestion that parents/carers are messaged when the year planner is changed. This was agreed. | Mrs Mann |
| * Noted that the school lunch option had changed and a query had been received as to what was the reason. Mrs Mann advised that the numbers had dropped and the options were changed following consultation with children by North Ayrshire Council. |  |
| * Tough Mudder. Mrs Mann explained that the money raised (£2,806) had been for school funds. |  |
| * World Polio day, etc – agreed that these days would be on the school planner where possible, although some ‘days’ crop up and are good for awareness-raising. | Mrs Mann |
| * Fundraising idea of using hand or footprints on tea towels, etc. This was a good suggestion but timing too tight for this year. The school will consider this for next year. | Mrs Mann |
| * Leavers’ hoodies – the school was supporting the year book for P7s, however parents could organise hoodies if they wished. |  |
| **Dates: January learning evening**   * Suggested that PC Duffy could give an internet safety talk. * Agreed to man the pc stall from 3 pm if possible, having a tombola. | Mrs Mann to consider |

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| **School news** |
| Miss Dunlop has been seconded to Irvine (due back in June) and Mrs Mann is now the acting head teacher. Miss McDonnell and Mr Lambert will continue to be the deputy heads, with a new deputy head coming in.  There had been a classroom assistant ban within North Ayrshire Council, with staff who left not being replaced. The ban has now been lifted and staff are being recruited.  Two-day school inspection by North Ayrshire Council had been postponed until January.  This year’s charity, chosen by House Captains and voted on by the children, is St Vincent’s Hospice.  There is a new updated version of the school calendar with all the December dates for the nativities and class parties on the school website.  Please see the promoting positive relationships policy on the website also.  Huge congratulations to the P7 team on winning the rotary quiz. The children had volunteered to take part in the quiz and were not selected by ability. This was the first time they had won in many years.  The Early years class have been focusing on the environment and have created their backdrops for their displays to look like wood.  There will be calendars on sale created by the EYC please look out for the details.  EYC have a trip to see the MacDougall’s in Irvine please see your child’s key worker for more information.  The EYC nurture program has been a huge success and the children were treated to a free cinema trip. They are also doing outdoor learning at the Astro.  P1 have had a lot of parent helpers if you have spare time and can volunteer within the school please contact the school directly.  The P1 nativity is a Makaton nativity and the children are working hard rehearsing for the nativity.  P1 topic this term is the polar express and large cardboard boxes are needed to make the train. If you have any please hand them in to P1 teachers.  There have been numerous visits to the library for P3-P7 for stem focus which the children have enjoyed and learned a lot.  Sports captains were trained up and are leading clubs for p1-3 at lunchtime as part of their Playmakers Awards. They also ran the Aldi competition. They have all the stickers: fingers crossed the school wins the £20k worth of sports equipment.  P4 have attended an orchestra concert at the Grand hall Glasgow.  Both the girls’ and boys’ football teams have taken part in cluster games. ASN sports took place in Irvine.  Junior Road Safety Officers are going to create an iMovie to show the importance of following the rules of the road and the parking rules.  Please donate gym clothes to the box in the front office so everyone in school has a gym kit.  Also please donate hat, scarves and gloves and outdoor clothing to the box in the front office so every child will not be cold this winter. Nurture room are always looking for wellies.  Noted that the recycling of Hallowe’en costumes had been a success, with many items being donated and recycled.  The school looking to set up a Walking Bus, NAC funding is available. It was decided to wait until lighter mornings to discuss/organise. |
| **Upcoming dates**   * Meeting Dates: 15th January, 18 March, 6th May, 10 June (AGM) * Learning conversations: 29th January, 28th May * Family Harry Potter quiz: 6th February * Disco Dates: 14th May, p7 leavers 24th June. * Family film night: tbc * Wrestling night: tbc * Judging of Lights N Laughter and Easter bonnet competitions |