

boydWHITEHIRST PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 23rd JANUARY 2024 AT 7PM

Those Present: Jordan McManus, Chair  
Vicky Black, Vice Chair  
Louise Clark, Treasurer  
Nicola Brown, Member  
Carrie Anne Stewart, Member  
Emma Young, Member  
Laura McKinlay, Member  
Mrs Robertson, Head Teacher  
Miss Johnstone, Depute Head Teacher  
Mr Anderson, Principal Teacher  
Gillian Macfarlane, Minutes

1. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**

Minutes were agreed.

2. **Treasurer Update**

Louise provided an update on the income and expenditure.

£2000 donation towards the Panto trip - £1245 for the buses and £755 to subsidise the cost per pupil  
£1,270 raised at the Christmas Fayre.

Email received in regard to the Tesco Community Tokens with a focus on healthy food and activities. It was agreed that WHP would be put forward in the hope of purchasing new library books – keeping the support for the school improvement plan with reading.

3. **Fundraising Update**

Jordan thanked Nicola and the fundraising committee for the successful Christmas Fayre which raised a fantastic amount.

Nicola updated the group on the plans for the Valentines Disco which will be held on 15th February. Jordan confirmed that he was in the process of arranging the let due to the past issues with Janitor cover.

#### 4. **Head Teacher Update**

##### Staffing

Two adverts for classroom assistant posts until June 2024

##### After school Care

Care commission are working with provider to support the provider on how they could manage both provisions. It doesn't look like it will happen this session.

##### Events/Achievements

Busy time in School over the next month with lots of events:

World Languages week w/c 29th Jan – activities shared and planned through whole school

Word Gaelic Week 19<sup>th</sup> February – concert and various activities planned

Burns – poetry competition final will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> February. Classes all learning poems. P7 planning Burns Supper and will share with the rest of the school

Cross Country competition for P5-7 starting over the next few months

Cluster football on 31<sup>st</sup> January. Mr Anderson had 3 children in regional trials

Euro Quiz – work is underway to form this year's team.

Forthcoming Outings – Celtic Connections P3a, P3b and Gaelic School, Science Centre P5, 5/6 and 6, P7 to GE Caledonian.

Visitors to classes – Heart start for P7, Climate Change for P5.

Students in school for classes – P4, P4/5, 5 and 5/6

P1 Registration – waiting on placing requests, but will start visits this term.

Good cohort for Gaelic P1.

P7 Transition – programme well underway also community work as well from Kimberley O'Neill.

P7 Leavers – P7 parents have formed a group to plan the leavers events for this year's P7.

Cluster Working next term planned from staff feedback

##### **Wednesday 17th January @ Kilwinning Academy**

Health and Wellbeing focus – visiting specialists from KA Leisure and NAC Livewell Team facilitating

##### **Wednesday 21st February @ Abbey Primary**

Supporting Needs Focus – Keynote from Lindsay Morris and workshops

##### **Wednesday 13th March @ Whitehirst Park Primary**

Moderation Focus – Keynote from Pamela McCallum

##### **Wednesday 17th April @ Pennyburn Primary**

## Tree of Knowledge

### **Wednesday 15th May @ Kilwinning Academy**

Showcase and celebration of Cluster Collegiate

- PLA working with school for 8 weeks in line with SIP priority on Reading , supporting staff, pupils and parents with reading, phonics across the school and play in early years.
- Digital support from Rosslyn Lee for 4 days in February – supporting in class and CLPL for staff

#### After School Clubs back underway:

Monday after school	P2 Athletics after school
Tuesday after school	P5 Dance Tuesday after school Dungeons and Dragons
Wednesday after school	P7 Football – lunch P7 Netball – after school
Thursday	P4 Tennis – lunch P1 Multisports – after school Magic the Gathering
Friday	P5-7 Cross Country

#### Quality Assurance:

- New senior manager Fiona Hopkins. Coming to visit school on 8<sup>th</sup> February. New executive manager Kathleen McCormack visiting on 15<sup>th</sup> February.
- Trio Review day of Learning and Teaching – will need some volunteers to form a parent focus group - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February. Contact school office if interested!

#### Reading Survey feedback

Miss Johnstone summarised the results of the survey carried out at the November Target Talks.

- Nearly all pupils surveyed either enjoy reading or maybe enjoy.
- Nearly all pupils surveyed feel that they are a good reader, 17% feel that they are not.
- Pupils feel to make reading even more enjoyable:
  - Variety of books
  - Comfy place to read
  - Funny books
  - Football books

- Music books
  - Reading games
  - Movie based books
  - Jeff Kinney books
  - Comics
  - Gaming books
- Pupils experience a variety of types of reading in class.
  - Other activities that pupils take part on in class include IDL/Nessy, DEAR, Independent Reading and Reading journals.
  - 64% of pupils feel very confident/confident completing reading activities.
  - 36% of pupils feel okay or not confident completing reading activities.
  - 92% of Primary 4-7 pupils say that they do not take reading books home.
  - 58% of pupils do not use Bug Club at home, 42% access Bug club at home.
  - When visiting the school library pupils said that they read books/comics, silent reading, read a book of choice and read with a friend.
  - 57% of pupils have visited Kilwinning local library, 43% of pupils have not visited Kilwinning local library.
- More than half of parents/carers surveyed access Bugclub at home.
  - More than half of parents/carers survey do not receive a hard copy of a reading book.
  - Almost all parents/carers surveyed say that their child reads for pleasure at home and has access to books.
  - A third of parents/carers visit the library, a third do not visit the library and a third occasionally visit the library.
  - 28% of parents/carers feels that their child struggles with reading/phonics.

Parents/carers were asked - Over the next few terms we will be promoting a whole school focus on reading and will be looking to involve parents/carers. Is there anything you would particularly like to see.....

- Book Club
- Makaton for reading
- Family learning
- Visit to the library
- Reading together in class
- Less digital reading
- Graphic novels and comics
- Hard copies of books sent home
- Additional support
- Challenges

## **5 Any Other Business**

5.1 - The markings on the road outside the school have been repainted. Mrs Gaw and the JRSO had contacted the Assistant Road Safety Officer at North Ayrshire Council and sent her photos to highlight the need for this to be done. Mrs Robertson confirmed that she will be making a request to have the markings at the school gates re-painted.

5.2 - Hoodies all delivered to the P7. Jordan thanked Vicky for helping to present these to the Primary 7's.

5.3 - Mrs Robertson asked if the P7 could do a wee fundraiser stall at the Valentines Disco. It was greed that they could run a temporary tattoo stall.

## **6 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 20th February 2024 at 7pm.