

Parent Council Meeting 6 February 2024

Present: Ruth McCarthy, John Paterson, Laura Young, Diane Colgan, Carrie Strachan, Carolann McLuckie, Alison Breingan (notes)

Communication

Ruth confirmed that there is currently a technical issue with twitter feed. John is chasing up NL Council however they have confirmed that IT are unable to fix the issue. John is working on it and hopes it will be up and running in next few weeks.

Family group

Unfortunately, as John has been class committed since November he hasn't been able to organise this group to meet. He will look at this as soon as he is able.

Educational Outing

Ruth went over the class outings over the year. Laura raised the cost of the P7 trip to Strathclyde Park for 5 days (residential not an option) and commented that a pay up scheme would be a good option for parents. John agreed and will look at what was done previously. Ruth said we could look at fundraising for P7 trip.

Ruth informed the group that there is a Learning support teacher in school, which will be shared with shared with Chapel Green and Banton. Unfortunately, this has an impact on budget in school.

End of year award

Ruth confirmed that this is paid for through school funds. Ruth asked for ideas. Laura commented that need to be careful. Ruth said that pupils could start with say 100 points and points could be deducted for any blue slips received.

School bus and breakfast club

A concern was raised regarding the children being left unattended from 8.45am to 9am when they come off the school bus. What are the breakfast club ratios? If there was an incident, who is ultimately responsible? Ruth confirmed that teaching staff aren't contracted to 9am. It was suggested that senior staff should take turns in being present each day. Ruth didn't think this was possible. It was also asked who is accountable should something happen during this time, especially as the breakfast club person isn't a first aider. Ruth confirmed that there is a first aider in the nursery. Laura suggested asking NL for their take on it. Ruth said the person to contact at NL is Robert Lindsay. Carrie agreed to contract Robert on our behalf.

Staffing

Ruth said there is a problem getting supply teachers at the moment and she is planning cover week by week. She confirmed that the procedure in past was to contact central person who was responsible for organising supply staff now it needs to be done by school. This is a time-consuming exercise and is having a bigger impact on teaching due to number of staff absent and management spending their time trying to find supply staff. Ruth met with HR who said they could give the school one person. Ruth confirmed that the school structure is one HT, one DHT and one PT, not two as previously.

End of year award: Ruth spoke about introducing an end of year award. Laura advised Ruth to make sure it was equitable. Ruth agreed to consult pupils and teachers before introducing award.