**ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**

**TUESDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2017 AT 6.45PM**

Present Lisa Gardner (Chair) Helen McPherson Heather McKendrick

Jan Devanny(Treasurer) Rhona Campbell Carolyn Leckie

Suzanne Crossan Densie Brock Lesley Mitchell

Lauren Anthony Jenny MacLeod

Apologies Denise Farrell, Lisa Murray, Laura Watt, Jacqueline Smith and Lucyna Prochazka

1. Welcome – Lisa welcomed everyone to the meeting. Lisa reported that all that had taken place since the last meeting in December was that all the children had received their selection box as planned.
2. Previous minutes were agreed. Proposed by Jan Devanny and seconded by Lesley Mitchell.
3. Treasurer’s report – Jan reported that nothing had changed from the last meeting as no more events have taken place.
4. Upcoming events and playground update were taken together. The quote for the mainstream playground equipment is approx. £13.300 and there has been a new quote for LCSC playground of approx £40,000 which is a lot better than the first quote. A grant from the National Lottery for all of £10,000 has been approved this is not in our bank account yet but we have a year from the date it does to spend it. The LCSC support group have yet to apply for any grants as they have not yet been granted charity status and they will have lots more grants available to apply for once they do. At present we have £1,500 in the Parent Council bank account. Denise Farrell has been looking into other grants for us and we have applied for one from Scotmid we have just narrowly missed a recent cut-off date so next date is the end of March we should hear a few days after that.

A discussion took place on how we can raise funds for these two projects. Lisa said that we had been in contact with both Tesco and Asda re bag packing – Tesco has given us Saturday 6th May and having to fill in paperwork for Asda but hopefully will get a date from them as well.

Lisa Gardner and Anne Dexter are attending a drop in meeting in the near future for the Tesco grant where members of the public can choose a project to support with a green disc. There are usually three at a time the winner receives £5000 second is £3000 and third is £2000 we think. We have been advised that we can apply twice separately for the two projects. They will report back at the next meeting.

A few ideas were discussed for events that we could hold in the school. At present we have one night booked and this is the 29th March 5pm – 9pm. It was decided to approach a company called Micro fitness. They have been used recently by NLC in their sports centres. It was decided to try and have a sponsored obstacle course in the afternoon so that everyone was able to participate and then get Micro fitness to run a Nerf Wars event in evening that children can come back to – a ticketed event and of course we can sell juice and crisps as well.

One of the parents asked what the LCSC Support Group was as she didn’t understand the role of the group. Jill explained that this group was a support group. A forum where parents can get together to discuss the challenges they face in day to day life. For example, it can be a simple as asking another parent if they know of a dentist that is trained with dealing with Autism. The fundraising role developed this year as we are a new campus and it was quickly identified we needed significant investment in school grounds.

It was suggested that maybe it would be a good idea if some members of the Parent Council went along to one of the LCSC support group meetings.

It was decided that we needed to communicate what we were doing to the Parent Forum as one or two parents had asked where the money was being spent. It was decided to display the plans for both playgrounds at the Parents Night in March as this would show what was planning to be done and what we had to fund raise for.

1. Scottish Govt Pupil Equity Fund – School is due to receive £58,800 from this fund. This is to help raise attainment in the school. Jill will be attending an event on 27/2 where she will get some guidance on how to spend it. HT will in term 3 /4 consult parents on plans of how to spend to have biggest impact and sustainability. The Parent Council asked the HT how she was feeling about this money. Would feel happier once she had attended the up and coming meeting and had more clarity.
2. Primary 7 Leavers – The Parent Council wondered if there were any plans for P7s. Jill said there would of course be a Leavers assembly but had not looked at term 4 yet. HT does not want a prom but other than that she is happy to hear all ideas. Discussion took place – would there be a budget for an event, could the Parent Council help pay for something. It was decided that a delegation from the Parent Council would visit the P7s and would ask them what they would like to do and bring their ideas to the next meeting.

Whilst discussing the P7’s Jill wondered if the Parent Council would buy a book for the new P1’s. She explained that there would be a P1 induction pack made up and included in this would be the book The Three Little Pigs. There will be 3 induction meetings the first is on 9/3 at 6.30 this would include a tour of the school for the Parents only she wondered if a representation from the Parent Council could come along. A further 2 meetings would take place in May when the children will visit there new class.

1. Procedure for collecting children from school. Parents will be called from office or SLT, each child will be assessed on best place to wait – classroom, SLT or main office, Parent/Carer to come to main campus office when here child will be brought to them by member of office staff or first aider if necessary. Discussion took place as there were concerns with children being left at office when High School have their breaks as felt children could feel intimidated. Also questions about how the children moved about the campus. Jill explained that if they leave the school to go to office they always go in twos.
2. Head Teachers update

* Developing new learner profiles in nursery. These will give a view of the whole children and will be introducing in term 3-4.
* Pupil Groups up and running from next week. Children selected group and mainstream staff planned for activities. Groups are – Eco, Health, Global Citizenship/Fair Trade, JRSO, RRSA & Outdoor learning. All groups mixed P2-7. P1 will experience through play.
* Awarded a grant through Voluntary Action Fund £400, this will be for an art project for targeted children in P4-6 on the theme of nurture and inclusion.
* Nuture – Family Breakfast, Inside Out (coping with emotions), Team Building activities & Peer mediators/nuture buddies for break.
* Pitches – been in use since end of Jan. Our classes began use this week. This continue to part of play and PE.
* Running two parent groups currently with CLD – Sollihull and Speakeasy.
* Changes to learner’s evaluation of learning. This is to be done in class, with teaching giving more information in Snapshot jotter. Looking at a parental focus group to review/changes parental evaluation. Continue to develop snapshot jotters next session and use for across stage moderation of learning.
* Continuing to develop literacy and numeracy progression planners to be complete for June. Progression planning will begin at the early years/early level and follow child through school.
* Developed 2 parent guides so far should be a further 10 developed this session to tie in with policies being written.
* Have now purchased additional Reading resource to offer support where needed. Issued active learn logins for maths. All staff trained in Heniemann Active Maths, ABC Music and Clicker 7. Will now be trained in Number talks and additional use of Promethian Panels. We are also piloting a new online resource to support dyslexia, with a view to purchasing this in the new term.
* Beginning to use Rainbow Reading a targeted support resource for literacy. Mrs Chisholm will be working with identified children throughout the week.
* Inclusion meetings to develop approaches to enhancing inclusion continue twice per term. This has been and continues to be a very successful approach to inclusion and meeting individual needs.
* Continue to develop our partnership with CVHS. Working with Maths, Home Economics, Modern Languages, Humanities, Music and PE.
* Jill been working with Ed Scotland and Attainment Challenge to develop approaches to knowing and following our children. A whole range of tracking materials now in use across the school. Jill’s materials now being shared as an example of hood practice within NL.
* Orchards approaches to inclusion are being shared and recommended in NLC and other authorities as best practice to meet needs of all. Jill being asked to mentor new/actin HTs to support practice.

1. AOB – More issues with parking so it was decided that Jill would do a letter communicating a few things to parents to include parking, collecting ill children policy, fundraising and movement of pupils

A uniform bank was spoken about and agreed upon a letter will be sent out re this.

Next meeting Tuesday 7th March at 6.45