**ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**

**TUESDAY 6th DECEMBER AT 6.45PM**

Present Lisa Gardner (Chair) Tracey Whitelaw Laura Watt

Jacqueline Smith (Vice) Suzanne Crossan Denise Brock

Jan Devaney (Treasurer) Lesley Mitchell Jenny MacLeod

Jill Woodward (HT) Helen Mackenzie (DHT) Lesley Histead (clerk)

Apologies Nicola Kerr, Carolyne Leckie, Lauren Anthony, Lisa Murray

1. Lisa welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for helping at our first events. Also newsletter went out but unfortunately have had very little interest in having things emailed out to the parents.
2. Previous minutes were read and agreed. Proposed by Jenny MacLeod and seconded by Jan Devaney.
3. Treasurer’s Report – All events were a great success and all made a profit.

Disco - £241.90 profit £42.71

Football Cards £1330.87

Christmas Crafts £424

Selection boxes have been purchased for every child across the three sectors. These will be given out on the last day. Hopefully bank account will be open by end of week. Balance is £1598.07

1. Upcoming events – We have two dates pencilled in for January 17/1 and 25/1 these were going to be our movie nights. It was decided to cancel these lets after all the recent events it was decided that we had asked enough of the parents as a very expensive time of year. We thought we could reschedule for perhaps for February or even next September
2. Playground update – After speaking with Jill it was decided for us to look at the mainstream playground. Scotplay have been out and produced a plan for us at a cost of £13,300 and advised us to apply for a £10,000 grant and then fundraise for the rest. Jill mentioned the LCSC Support Group set up for the parents in the LCSC one of the things they will be dealing with is the LCSC playground. They are looking at a much bigger cost and initial costings came out at £145,000 this has been cut down to £95,000 which still is a huge amount and also the nursery playground needs looking at. Jill has managed to get Early Years to give us £5,500 towards some equipment. She explained that the Parent Council was for the whole school so she thought that when launching our playground project it should be marketed as for the whole School grounds. Discussion took place with regard on how to market this project. It was decided that the Parent Council was to go ahead and apply for the £10,000 and hopefully we will know the outcome by February and hopefully by then the LCSC Support Group will have had their charity status approved. Then at the next meeting in January we can think about how we launch the projects across the three sectors.
3. HT update – The school is working on involving the children in 5 committees to give the children a voice in their learning. Will hope to launch these Jan/Feb. Jill will be meeting with Helen and Linzi Bowden later this month to discuss inclusion throughout the school.

Improvement plan has been written and will be in the handbook which Jill has just finished. There is also a handbook for nursery and these will be given out when children come to enrol. Helen and Jill have also decided to produce a handbook for LCSC which will be looked at in January.

Info for Primary and Nursery enrolment has gone out. The Parent Council asked if there would be any P1’s in LCSC at present this was not known.

As the Parent Council probable know heating within the building is an issue – but rest assured Jill is notifying the engineers on a regular basis if rooms are too hot or too cold. Main area with problems is P5, P6 and P7. The children have been told that they can wear hoodies or fleeces but not outdoor jackets etc. The heating engineers have admitted there is a fault and are investigating it. The rooms that are cold have been issued with heaters.

Yvonne Orr in the nursery is retiring at Christmas after over 20 years at Castlehill Nursery and then here, actual date is 20/12. Parent Council to organise flowers for her.

Jill wanted to thank the Parent Council for all their support and hard work since the beginning of term.

1. AOB – Lisa read out an email from Nicola Kerr saying that unfortunately she was unable to continue as a member of the Council at present due to family issues.

Lesley Histead wanted to clarify if the Parent Council wanted to go ahead with the meeting on 10/1 or put it back a week due to it being the beginning of term. Yes the meeting is to go ahead.

Jan asked if you could pay online for Kilbowie – yes this was not a problem. Before payment can be made online for other trips these trips need to be set up first. If this is done parents will be informed.

There were some questions raised with concern about the lunches - are the catering staff allowed to make changes to the menu Jill said that as long as they tell us first thing in the morning this can happen. The quality of the dinners has not always been very good, Jill said that she was aware of the issues and these have been dealt with. Jill assured the Parent Council that there was constant communication between the school and catering.

Jan wondered if there was any chance of having some of the assemblies in the afternoon. Jill said this could be done and that she will look at it after Christmas.

Nick Quaile asked Jill if she would ask the Parent Council if they would be prepared to support the ban of energy drinks in the school campus. This was agreed it was discussed whether this should include fizzy drinks within the Primary.

Jill informed the Council that the Christmas collection from our end of term assembly would be given to Clyde Valley to give to their nominated charity – Beatson cancer charity.

Next meeting would be 10th January 2017 at 6.45