Minutes Parent Council 2nd March 2020

**Attendance:** Lindsey Shah, Fiona Sufferedini, Katie Mcconnell, Claire Quinn, Caroline Black, Sarah Louise Bailey-Kelly, Tracy Ann Wilson, Evonne Smith, Lynsey Robertson, Kirsty Tyrell, Alison Mcneil, John Green

Apologies: Charlie Smith, Nicola Ferguson.

**Agenda:**

**Meeting Structure:** It was noted that in light of both the Chairperson and Vice chairperson being unable to chair todays meeting Claire Quinn as Secretary would chair. This would allow the meeting to go ahead and was agreed by general consensus of the parent council.

**Head Teachers Report**: John advised that Nicola was currently at a head teachers meeting for North Lanarkshire in light of the recent budget cuts that were announced last week. It is therefore currently unclear how these will impact on the school but it is likely that there will be approximately £20-£30 million pounds worth of cuts across the authority and the school will be impacted upon in some way. Further discussion about this will take place at the next meeting when more information is available.

Coronovirus: The school have not yet had specific guidance issued in light of the recent information that Coronovirus has been confirmed in Scotland over the weekend however it is likely that there will be guidance issued shortly. Despite this John has spoken with the children today about the importance of washing their hands and maintaining good hygiene standards, parents are encouraged to support the school with this. The issue of soap within the children’s toilets was raised as some children have reported this is not available or that the dispensers are too difficult to access. John will raise this with Mr Carbry and ensure they are well stocked.

School Maintenance: There is work currently taking place within the school to replace the smartboards and some general maintenance within the gym hall this week. Work in the playground is currently dependent on the schedules of the companies who have committed to installing the work. Given the level of discount and support that has been offered the work is dependent on them. It is hoped that the work will be completed by the end of the school year however the recent weather has also impacted upon this.

Communication between Parent Council and wider Parent Forum: Discussion took place regarding the best way to engage with the wider parent forum. It was noted that the parent council currently have a twitter account however there is little interaction through this forum. Similarly the parent council have a page on the school blog but it is recognised that this is dependent on the school being able to post information and does not allow for two way communication directly. Discussion took place around the use of an official facebook page and how this could help with organisation and engagement. A vote took place and it was agreed a parent council facebook page would be established. Sarah will set up and design the page and Sarah, Tracey, Claire and Kirsty will act as admins to monitor and respond.

This has now been established and can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/WoodlandsCumbernauldPC/?notif_id=1583177350894877&notif_t=page_fan>

**Update on Parent Council Projects:**

Nursery Railing: It was acknowledged that an update regarding this is required from Charlie who was pursuing this.

Book Tokens: The Sun book tokens were collected at the end of last year and the new books for the nursery should arrive by the end of March. Many thanks to all who helped with this.

School Crossing: The parent council have submitted a petition to the local council and made contact with local councillors regarding the risks associated with the parking and speed of traffic on the road outside the school. Similarly the school have twice raised this with the council and the parent council have contacted the local community police. The police have advised that they would support the view that the road poses a risk for children crossing however the local council have advised that the level of traffic does not warrant anything being done. Given recent budget cuts to existing school crossings it is unlikely this will change without significant public pressure. It was agreed that the parent council will engage with parents via facebook to encourage support from the wider forum, similarly Tracey will contact the council to find out if fundraising to install a zebra crossing ourselves would be an option. Sarah and Lyndsey will link in with parents from the Parent Council at Glencryan to determine whether joint work would be possible.

Events:

Recycling Competition: The deadline for entries for the recycling competition is the 18th March and this will then be judged and winners announced and entries displayed at parents night on the 19th March. John will contact Greenfaulds high to find out if one of the art teachers can act as judge and Evonne will contact the local church to see if members will act as judges. There will be no involvement from the parent council in picking winners.

Uniform Exchange: The parent council will be working with Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Uniform bank to run a Uniform Exchange at parents night. Parents are encouraged to drop off any uniform that children have grown out of/not made use of and collect anything that they can make use of. It is noted that this is an important part of supporting the school’s eco approach through sustainable fashion and recycling. Any uniform not made use of on the night will be forwarded on to the Uniform bank. Parents do not need to donate to make use of available uniform and everyone is encouraged to get involved.

Claire will liaise with the uniform bank and parent council members will support maintain the available stock during the parents night. The following Rota will be in place:

3– 5pm slot: Fiona/Lindsey R/Tracey/Sarah

6 – 8pm slot: Claire/Lindsay S/Sarah

The Uniform exchange will be advertised via facebook and the school blog asap.

A further opportunity to engage nursery parents in this will be considered for later in the year closer to the end of term.

Sports Day: 21st May, the Parent Council will run a refreshment stall selling tea/coffee/juice/cakes/biscuits etc for parents/family etc. School children will not be able to purchase from this until after 3pm.

Tracey will make purchases in relation to this and will check what stocks are available in the parent council already.

Rota for the day will involve:

AM (9 till 12): Lindsey S/Evonne/Caroline/Katie/Sarah

PM (1 till 3pm): Sarah/Kirsty/Alison/Lindsay S

Lindsey R – possibly able to help at points. Tracey will support set up and purchasing.

P1 welcome event – to be discussed at the next meeting.

The parent council also discussed that they would like to work towards a larger family event next year and this will be further discussed at the next meeting.

**Other business:**

Fundraising: It was noted that the parent council currently have approximately £1900. We have committed to making a contribution towards the p7 leavers event however it was agreed that in light of upcoming budget cuts himself and Nicola would discuss if there were other areas where the parent council could contribute such as the purchase of books etc.

**Current Parent Council committee**: It was noted that due to circumstances it may be necessary to appoint another Chair Person and Vice Chair to run the parent council at present.

Nicola or John will chair the next meeting until a new chair can be appointed.

**Next meeting to take place 2.45pm Monday 30th March.**