

Abernethy Primary School - Parent Council Meeting Wednesday 24 April 2013

Attendees

Mrs Morrison, Mrs Hodgkinson, Fiona Stewart, Katie McAleese, Karen Jerrard-Dinn, Fiona Duncan, Tim Dewhirst, Lorraine Kinnear, Anne McElnea, Marian Fyfe, Lynn Mitchell, Gordon Miller, Claire Stoddart, Kirsty Baird, Alistair Robinson

Non PC attendees - Claudette Ghioalda

1 – Comments on previous minutes

There were no amendments to the last meeting's minutes.

Fiona S thanked everyone for their help with the book sale. It was a great success, raised £597.94 for the school and all agreed it was a good return for low outlay. Key reasons for the book sale success were cited as:

- Venue - the Williamson Hall helped to bring in people outwith the school's circle
- Timing – having the sale in February was a positive in that the sale wasn't competing with pre-Christmas spending and time pressures.
- Other aspects mentioned were kids' activities and combining fund raising with coffee and cake.
- To note for the future - most money was raised via the entry charge.

2 – Financial update

- Tim is standing down as Treasurer, due to work relocation to London. Marian was nominated and seconded as new Treasurer. Tim and Marian will arrange an accounts handover.
- Tim confirmed the PC has just under £2,000 in the bank. Expected outlays this term are covered in section 4.
 - Thanks to Tim for his time as PC treasurer.

3 - HT Report

School news - staffing changes

- P6 class remains shared between Mrs L Robertson and Mrs F Robertson in Mrs MacDonald's absence
- Mrs Styles will now cover the mentor time for Mrs Murray on Friday mornings as well as being successful in getting post for covering the PT mgt day for Mrs Hodgkinson
- Mr John Bustin has been appointed as our PE specialist until June 2014. He will start in Abernethy as soon as relevant paperwork has been finalised
- Mrs Lara Robertson will be going on maternity leave at the end of this term. We wish her well. Her posts (RCCT & Support for Pupils) will be advertised and hope to have filled for August.

School news - classes

- These will be shared with parents at start of June once we know our staffing allocation for next year and if we will be getting a Probationer. Only definite is that Mrs Livingstone will be Primary 1 teacher.

School News

- Congratulations to pupils from P5 & P6 took part in Oliver.
- £193 worth of books from Scholastic Fair sale.
- Sports Day is 5th June and will take the form of Potted Sports and some races so that every child is active and also there is an element of competition.
- P5 are currently undertaking their 2 weeks of swimming tuition.
- P6 & 7 are off to the world of employment in 'Take your child to work Day' on 25th April.
- P6 are participating in the Creative Day of Dance on 7th May.
- P5, 6 & 7 classes are participating in 'Show in a Day' on 9th May.
- Possible tennis coaching will be starting end of May with P4 class.
- County Sports on 19th June

School Extension

- Current status is that we have a handover date on May 16th. Our intention is to take children out on a whole school trip on Friday 17th May. Still to be confirmed is the exceptional closure days : 20th & 21st May, however this seems likely.
- All classes to have new furniture and new Smartboards on media wall. Existing Smartboards will be used in 'spare' classrooms. Also a screen in hall for presentations etc. and Wall bars in the gym hall.
- All staff have visited and are very impressed and excited!
- Eco/Garden Party will be organised for parents to attend to see new building : date TBC pupils from ECO committee will be planning this.

Nursery News

- Nursery natters: last one was about new nursery handbook. Now currently being updated taking into account some of the feedback from parents.
- Care Inspectorate draft report came out – final report to follow. We are very pleased with the grades. Excellent and 3 Very Good with excellent s within every quality statement. This is an improvement on last inspection report. Well done to the nursery team!
- Nursery Parent Contact sessions in March – majority done during session. This will be the format from now on.

4 – Upcoming PC expenditure

- Sports day will be in Powrie Park. Lorraine will organise the ice poles (148 children).
- Mrs Hodgkinson will order the P7 dictionaries.
- The PC will cover half of the cost of the bus hire for the P7 transition day.

5 – Peel2save update

- Out of an initial 100 cards, 14 were left at the end of the Peel2save initiative in November. 7 have subsequently been sold, with 7 remaining.
- Tim to confirm bank account details to Claire to allow £70 to be transferred to PC account.
- It was agreed to offer the remaining cards for £5 each (they are valid until end September) to get rid of them. This will cover any cost due to the Peel2save rep.

6 – AOB

- **Nursery enrolment** - Kirsty mentioned that some parents had not been aware of when to register their children for nursery/school. Mrs Morrison said this is normally in the school newsletter and there is also a poster on the school gate advertising registration dates. PKC also publicise this via the press, posters etc.
- **School website** – it was suggested that eg enrolment details/school uniform re-ordering forms etc could go on the school website. While Mrs Morrison agreed that this would be helpful, it was unlikely to be resourced any time soon.
- **Uniform order forms** - these will go out in May, will also be part of the pre-primary 1 pack. It was noted that parents can request the form at any point by eg sending a note in with their child.
- **School photos** – the merits of newer style school photos v traditional were discussed, and it was agreed that this was a matter of personal taste. The school will continue with the current format at the moment.

7 - Next meeting

- The next meeting is on Wednesday 12 June, at 7pm, back in the school.
- The AGM will be held on Wednesday 28 August.