

Braco School Parent Council

Minutes

Monday 25 November 2019 6.30pm

At Braco Primary School

Attendance: Becca MacRae (Chair), Fiona Kerr (Treasurer), Rachel Beaton (Secretary), Susan Ross (Acting Head teacher), Adrian Davidson, Miss Young, Helena Carey, Jo Speed, Anna Black, Dominic Edwards

Apologies: Sylvia Lauder (Fundraising Coordinator), Claire Janse, Carla Geddes, Rhona Nuttall

1. Feedback from the HMIE Inspection

The Chair explained that she had received a draft of the HMIE report covering letter and has provided feedback on the contents. The Chair was unable to share details about the content of the letter due to confidentiality. It is hoped that the final report will be issued before Christmas.

The Acting Head teacher has received a detailed copy of the report and is unable to share the content of the report at this time. Mrs Ross confirmed that the school have requested some amendments to the report. The Acting Head will be invited to attend the Lifelong Learning Committee to provide feedback on the inspection process and answer questions on the report and the inspection. Mrs Ross confirmed that the aim is for the report to be published before Christmas.

The Chair noted that the whole inspection experience had been very well managed by the School and that children appeared to have been unaffected by any disruption.

2. Head teacher report

Staffing Update 2019/2020

Mrs Ross confirmed that the recruitment process to replace Mrs Dawson would take place in the New Year. The Parent Council expressed disappointment that the process being undertaken did not reflect what was previously communicated by PKC. The Parent Council had been assured that as the Acting post was advertised externally a further round of external recruitment would not be necessary. The Chair has spoken to G Doogan to express the disappointment of the Parent Council but there would be no change to the process. Parent Council agreed to seek clarity from PKC regarding their recruitment policy.

Action: Secretary

The Parent Council and those present repeated their support of Mrs Ross. It is hoped that she will apply for and be appointed to the permanent post.

Christmas Lights

Mrs Ross has been informed that the village Christmas tree lights will be turned on 6th December.

Refurbishment

Mrs Ross passed on the apologies of G Knox (Quality Improvement Officer) for not being able to attend the meeting. Mrs Ross updated the Parent Council that the decampment would not begin until October 2020 at the earliest. PKC are hoping to provide parents with an update before the 2020 summer holidays.

It was highlighted that nursery will move to offering the extended hours from August 2020. There were concerns raised that PKC are proposing that Braco Primary School nursery could offer extended hours to 16 children.

Community vandalism

Mrs Ross repeated her request that any parent observing vandalism to school grounds or equipment at any time, should contact the police directly on 101.

Excursions/Visitors 2019/20

P5/6/7 will be attending Sky Academy

P3/4 will be visiting Dynamic Earth for their Natural disasters workshop

Mrs Ross discussed the K'Nex workshop and the lack of enthusiasm from some of the children regarding the workshop.

Funding

The School have been successful in securing funding from ADT for iPads and outdoor equipment for the nursery. The School and Parent Council expressed their thanks to ADT for the continued support.

Mrs Ross passed on the message "Talk to us, not about us" to encourage parents to speak to the teachers.

3. School estate transformation & decampment

As confirmed during the Head Teacher report the school estate transformation would not commence until October 2020. Parent Council had previously been promised that they would be consulted about the school transformation plans. The Parent Council will continue to seek updates on the transformation plans.

Action: Secretary

4. School staffing

This item was discussed as part of the Head teacher report.

5. Lantern Parade

It was decided that there would be no lantern parade for 2019. Instead there would be a social evening in the Village Hall which would include singing, music from Ardoch strings and the P5/6/7 Enterprise group will have a stall selling goods.

6. Fundraising

It was confirmed that the Christmas Fayre raised £216. It was noted that hosting the hall was a significant commitment for those that volunteered and suggested that a bingo tea/beetle drive would be preferred for future events.

6.1 Christmas gifts

Lots of ideas were suggested for the school Christmas gifts.

6.2 Christmas hampers

It was agreed that donations for Christmas hampers would be requested for three main themes: Festive, Chocolate/Movie Night, Beauty/Pamper

7. Community Investment Fund

The Parent Council discussed the option of applying to the Community Investment Fund, with a minimum application value of £3,000 and deadline of 15th January 2020. Lots of ideas were suggested such as drama workshops or Artlink. It was agreed that an application would be submitted.

Action: Helena Carey

8. Parental Involvement

It was agreed that a Parent Council twitter account would be set up.

Action: Secretary

9. AOCB

Mrs Ross apologised that school photographs have yet to be taken. A photographer will be invited to attend in the 2020 to take photos of the children.