

Madderty Parent Council Meeting 4/12/24

In attendance: Jackie Farrell HT, Atalla Buretta (AB), Suzanne Emptage (SE), Mark Lewis(ML), Maggie Bush(MB), Dawn Bannerman (DB)

Apologies: Sabine Geissler, Desiree Pitt, Gareth Bruce, Ashleigh Pink, Katy Turnbull, Rebecca Holland

Meeting start 18:07

Welcome:

1) Round the table introducing our selves and where our children are learning within the school.

2) Please report that Alice Jenkins has stepped down as PC chairperson. Maggie Bush will step up from Vice Chair to fill the role as an interim.

3) Report from HT:

Christmas show is going well, even with the lack of practice time due to the strikes. Mrs Walker will issue information regarding tickets tomorrow (5/12). The practice sessions in the hall this year has come at quite a considerable cost. £80 license, 4 hall sessions £385 - £22 per hour, additional bus hire £350. PC suggested perhaps trying to liase with community hall to see if a more favourable rate can be agreed for next year. **The school would like Parent assistance on the Wednesday night performance to put away stage and chairs etc.**

The school are updating their relationship policy and in doing so have had a meeting with all school children who use the bus service to / from school. The children have been reminded that the same behaviours that are expected in class will also be expected on the bus. The school would be grateful if you could remind your children of this. As such the new policy will dictate that unexpected behaviours on the bus could result in a consequence of being removed from the bus for the following days travel – a lengthy discussion then following discussing both children and driver behaviours on the bus – it was agreed that JF would speak to the drivers to remind them of appropriate behaviours. Individual parents can contact JF or the transport authority will any complaints / concerns.

The school would like to remind parent that **ALL** children must come to school with appropriate Jackets / clothing for the season. Children are allowed to ‘layer up’ if needs be to stay warm.

Christmas Jumpers may be worn on National Christmas jumper day 12/12/24, and then again on Christmas lunch day 13/12/24.

The school have successfully purchased a program called accelerated Reader for all pupils P2 and above – **help to code any existing books by parents would be gratefully received (please contact the school with any availability)-.**

Nessy spelling has also been purchased for a number of children to use, to help identify any academic needs proactively.

Strikes – another lengthy discussion. The school had to remain closed on the first Monday of the strikes for risk assessment purposes. The decision to remain closed was not within JF’s control. It was a decision taken at council level and filtered down to the individual schools. The comparison between local schools who could open were discussed. JF was very grateful for all the offers of support to try to open the schools, but unfortunately the skill set that the support

staff have could not be replicated within Madderty. (First aid / moving and handling /specific need training). On request on the PC JF will find out if there could be any contingency plans if another strike was to be announced.

4) JF has sent a letter of thanks to Maclaggan trust for the very generous donation to help us improve the children's playground.

5) Matters arising from email: [maddparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:maddparentcouncil@gmail.com) 1 email(strikes) already discussed within HT report.

6)Christmas Fayre: Many thanks to all parents / carers who have kindly donated to our Christmas hamper which will be raffled off at the Christmas Fayre. We have a few stall volunteers, JF has kindly offered to support us for an hour on the day – any other volunteers would be very welcome, please contact MB or [maddparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:maddparentcouncil@gmail.com) . The PC have purchased some new mugs and shoppers to sell at the fayre. There will also be glitter tattoos available and some old favourites.

7)We have no plans for a ceilidh this year, we would like to share that the community hall are holding a ceilidh on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> at the village hall. MB will approach the community to see if perhaps a children's hour could be held before hand – tbc.

8) Leaver's hoodies – every year the parent council fund the P7's leavers hoodie. JF has advised there will be 9 P7's this year – more information to follow.

9)Question? How can we help the school? A discussion around what the school are looking for in the parent council. A request for funds and volunteers.

10) Aim of the Parent Council: Fundraising for the school activities (2025 Christmas show expenses etc) We discussed the opportunity of having an expressive art service that the PC could fund. There was a suggestion of a music week perhaps or an art week. If you have any other ideas, you would like us to consider please email to [maddparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:maddparentcouncil@gmail.com) ML asked if we were registered as a charity. To my knowledge we are not, perhaps something we could investigate.

11) DB (treasurer) has called for an AGM. This would be a forum to discuss the positions of the parent council, vote in a new Chair, Vice, Secretary – possibly looking at a moving chair -and re look at the constitution and decide as a body of parents the direction of the parent council.

12)AOB: A Tesco gift card of £200 has been gifted to the school, for incidentals etc.

**CHRISTMAS SHOW - TUES 10<sup>th</sup> December** afternoon performance – ML has offered to help on behalf of the PC to service tea / coffee / mince pies – **IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THIS PERFORMANCE AND CAN HELP MARK, PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN**

**CHRISTMAS SHOW - WED 11<sup>th</sup> December** evening performance – DB & MB have offered to help on behalf of the PC to service tea / coffee / mince pies – **IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THIS PERFORMANCE AND CAN HELP US, PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN**

**\*Dawn – to provide Tea, Coffee, Sugar**

**\*Maggie - to provide Mince pies, Diluting juice, Milk**

Meeting end 19:48