



## Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

7-8pm - Teams

**Apologies;** Penny Canning, Catherine Macklon

**Present;** Fiona MacKenzie (HT), Susan Etheridge, Sarah Barry (chair), Alison Renfrew (secretary), Hazel Munton (uniform crew), Andrew Doherty (parent)

### 1. Minutes from prev meeting 17 January 23

Nil arising.

### 2. Head teacher update

Mrs Mackenzie updated us on;

**World Book Day;** reading challenges, wearing of comfy clothes and many other activities. Thanks were extended to Waterstones for co-ordinating the book tokens and WBD books, allowing children to have a book to take home with them on the day.

Thanks also to Mrs Robb, Miss Murray and the wider staff team for organising and supporting the days activities.

**Red Nose Day** is coming up on the 17<sup>th</sup> March. Due to a significant level of wastage in previous years with noses and fundraising items being leftover, it has been decided not to have noses etc for sale in the school this year. Any further info about the day will be communicated to parents.

**Cash for Kids** We have been accepted as one of the schools for the Cash for Kids school challenge. Information will go home via parent pay and PC will post on the parents page on facebook. The children will be doing a daily mile for the duration of the fundraiser (approx. 2weeks). Sponsor money raised will then be matched by cash for kids and the top three schools will receive an additional winning jackpot;

1<sup>st</sup> £5000, 2<sup>nd</sup> £2500 and 3<sup>rd</sup> £1500.

**Internet safety** bulletin was sent home last week. This information is to allow parents to be aware of safe and appropriate use of the internet within the home and ensuring our children are protected as much as possible from the darker side of the internet.

**Class trips;** P4 released their fish into the burn at the bog park. This was the final stage of their Clyde in the Classroom topic which they have enjoyed in partnership with Glasgow Science Centre.

P6 have had a great trip to Whitelea Wind farm where they got the chance to see the extent of the farm, how they turbines work and how the power generated supports the national grid.

STEM trips also underway with P5-7 to UWS – see pictures on Twitter.

**Pupil committees** continue to meet on the first Monday of every month.

**World of work week** is planned for the last week of March – information will be sent home and PC to post on FB. It is hoped a wide selection of parents can come in to school to show/tell their varied professions to the children, allowing them to see the many varied jobs that are out there for them.

**Connect survey** on parental engagement will also be sent out soon.

**Lilias Day** – school king and queen to be chosen from P7. The ethos of this years nominations will be to select two representatives of P7 who display and uphold the school values.

**P7 Leavers.** Plans are underway for the end of term P7 leavers events – the requests so far have been for a ceilidh/band mix of music at their dance with balloon arch, chocolate fountain, pizzas and a sweetie bar also in the pipeline!

Year book preparation is well under way.

It is hoped the weather will be good for the leavers dance so they can be piped from the steeple to the school as had been the tradition in pre covid times.

School have requested parent council support for this ->discussion focused on the option of the parent council funding a dictionary for those leaving and contributing to the leavers events. Amount to be discussed and costs re dictionaries to be investigated.

**Parent Pay** – This will be the main way in which schools communicate with families from now on. This is a council wide policy affecting all schools.

There have been some issues with information not reaching all families. Mrs Mackenzie highlighted that more than one parents email can be registered on the child/family account. The school office are trying to contact those affected to ensure as close to 100% of families are on the platform as possible.

It was recognised that there is some confusion between Parent Pay and Parent Portal. PC will also post on the parents hub re this.

### **3. Chair update**

#### **Community Council meeting and follow up**

Sarah attended the January meeting of the community council where road safety issues around the village and school were discussed.

There was a subsequent (albeit short notice) meeting at the school where Helen Kissell kindly represented the school voice – it appears there is a feeling that the school may not be a high profile focus area given its relatively quiet residential location.

There is hope that a future meeting can be arranged circa the end of March to take things forwards and Sarah has asked for PC availability already.

One option mentioned was to pressure the redefining of the boundary of eligibility for the school bus.

Sarah fed back positively on the connect webinar she had been on regarding Parent Council constitutions. Very helpful and informative. Sarah will update the current constitution to be more relevant and pass on for discussion when in a position to do so.

#### **Trim Trail**

We have been successful in our application for the grant from the council for the playground/trimtrail fund (£5k).

Andrew Doherty has been co-opted, and kindly agreed to help with sourcing quotes and site meetings for this.

#### **Book Fayre**

Parent council/parent volunteers required for the Book Fayre running on Parents Nights 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March. Ideally three at least so we can attend our own appointments. Names to Sarah please.

#### **Lilias Day** – Pamela Yule

Support has not been great for either the float option or stall in the park.

It was recognised that many of the parent council have many other community roles, leading to conflicts in availability of time to support the school in their efforts. Pamela has kindly agreed to focus on a float which will allow the children to have a fun time riding up the village in the parade.

Pamela will co-ordinate the FB page to garner support and get parents on board to help out with decorations/art work

Catherine Macklon has already discussed arranging a float.

**AOCB:**

- Miss Etheridge and the forest group have been busy prepping and planting with 4 trees due for delivery approx. 15th March, with an aim for planting on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.
- Kilbarchan Smile are co-ordinating a community litter pick 26 March from 2pm. Meet at the car park at Ewing Street. All equipment will be provided.
- Potential upcoming strikes and impact on school shows – it was decided not to cancel until as late as possible.

Updated since the meeting took place – Scottish teachers have accepted the most recent pay offer, thereby cancelling all upcoming strike days.

School show dates will go ahead – please ensure you bring your tickets or entry may be declined. This is due to Fire safety and hall capacity restrictions.

**Date of next meeting;** Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 7-8pm MS Teams

(link will be on the FB page and can be requested from the office the week of the meeting)