Minutes

Lochwinnoch Primary School Parent Council Meeting

Date | time 22/01/2024 7.00 pm | Meeting called to order by Alison Ramsey

# In Attendance

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| Lynne Gilchrist, Deputy Head | Jennifer Smithsimmons, Parent |
| Anne Menzies, Principal teacher | Ailidh Campbell, Parent |
| Alison Ramsey, Chair | Clare Gilmour, Parent |
| Rebecca Garman, Treasurer | Emma Duncan, Parent |
| Dee Butler, Secretary | Mhairi Morrison, Parent |

# Head Teacher’s Report

**Key highlights:**

* MP absent – people will be wondering but she is keen to be back at work, just uncertain when that will be. But have a lot of new staff and education maanger and network of Head’s to support. Any concerns, go to LG and will
* £1k raised at there with a view to spending £x on bus for the residential trip for P7s
* Tinsel run – despite wild but had a great time. Hot chocolate was appreciated.
* All activities went well pre Christmas – a parent had come in to discuss various other religions.

**Anne Menzies** – update on reading – have just received silver award from Reading schools

* Have spent £1k recently on PM books which there is notable progress as a result.
* Upper levels have been bought with selection of graphic novels.
* **EPIC** – not currently GDPR compliant and therefore can’t use them but the company will be looking to resolve soon. $12 per student, and so quite expensive.
* **AR -** have identified the gaps now it is quite clear what we need to order as a result. Have discussed widening the bands and have a plan on how we can allow the children to chose but with suitable challenge.

**Parent helpers –** benefited crafts, STEM activities and so others have volunteered and have some sewing coming up. Therefore, anyone has skills to share, more than willing to have people in.

**Building partnerships with parents** – survey has taken a little back seat however will get to shortly. Drop in coffee sessions commencing.

**STEM visit**

**NICOS** - working with nursery and P2&3

P7 first visit to high school.

**Burns** - There will be a lunch on Thursday for Burns. Each class will take a turn to perform their poem at assembly. Those who want to do it competitively, we will have that also…happy medium!

**Cross country for P6+7**

**Emma Hagen** – to discuss show. Looks ambitious P3-P6, choice of activities whether that be music etc

**Playground** – made a change since Christmas. Safe space created for areas P1 to P3. They can come out of the space but it does give them an area. Football at other side. Also trying something different with football, groups to avoid conflicting personalities. Front garden being open does help and have plenty staff around the playground to go to but can’t see everything unfortunately.

**Removal of trim trail** is starting tomorrow and so need to discuss what we might want to do with that space.

**Hugh’s retiral** – 9th February – worked for 13 years. Will be hugely missed. Staff have organized a collection and something will be happening on Wednesday 7th. If want to wish him the best, suggesting Thurs 8th. Whether want to do a collection from parents – LG confirming whether Parent Council will want to coordinate something of their own. Mrs Gilchrist going to put a note out on retiral and a gift coming from PC to mark retirement.

**Nursery parents –** suggestion to extend invitation to nursery parents to attend LPC, should they wish.

# Treasurer’s Report

* Christmas Fayre saw the following receipts:
* Hot dog stall & light ups - £230
* Thammi - £210

Perhaps need to do an official thank you to Mooni for raising funds for school. Mrs G has taken an action to prepare a card.

* Halloween disco c £300
* A few receipts requiring refunded
* £3,937.58 outstanding in the account. Includes £1.5k station rise, of which, agreed to pay for 3 Ipads out of the SR money with 1 other Ipad to be paid from LPC funds.

**£2,652.58** remaining after SR.

# Parent Council Updates

Key updates:

* Books – [Alison – could you update – something about a book shelf too???]
* Preloved uniform well established and seems to be going well.
* Had to cancel Christmas fun run due to winter weather. More community event but hope to do in the spring.
* CHEF funding Emma Hagen Jen O’brian (Music broth) to create bespoke play. Meetings have started and will continue to build something for end of year.
* Doing well with physical books and therefore EPIC may not be as good value.
* Outdoor space – Trim trail and having a rethink

Fundraising:

* Christmas Fayre - Hot dogs went down well but still did buy more than was required. Perhaps must have a think about anything that we could have done differently.
* Spring fling ceilidh – perhaps get together to plan – after Easter
* Spring disco – Wednesday 27th March being proposed
* Duck race – don’t want to impinge – Alison to speak to Bill and look to arrange.
* Jen – Easter hunt – parent pay

Thanks to Jennifer on the books [@Alison – could you elaborate?]

Raised by parent:

* Reinstate visits to church – Mr Paton does come to church regularly, smaller church and therefore not really the room to make it for parents too. Non-denominational school and taught about a variety of religions in school. Parents do have the option to take their children at the weekend and therefore not something willing to commit to in MP absence.

Seems more reasonable to have people from a variety of religions to come to the school to educate.

* Burns – doing it differently. Those who want to compete, can and 3 judges. Do our best to have winners but not always easy. Have explained to children that they are welcome to take part, it is a competition and may not win, to help prepare children should they not win.
* David Healy – school meals - collective letter is possible. There has been a survey – encourage on class chats to effect change that way.
* Mixing older / younger kids in playground – see notes above. Action has been taking place to separate the kids as best as possible.

# Next Meeting

Next meeting – 18th March

Adjourned 8:20 pm