

St Pauls Primary Council Minutes

Wednesday 4th March 2020

In attendance

Deacon John, Lisa-Marie Townsley, Leeanne Nelson, Karen Hallan, Yvonne Moohan, , Louise Maher, Lisa McIlreavy, Jen Mulholland, Kayleigh Tait, Emma Stewart, Mary Sloan, Emma White.

Apologies - None

- **Previous Meeting** - Nothing from previous meeting
- **Accounts update -**
CFK balance £9514.00 PC Balance - £2637.23
Total bank balance £12,151.23 on 4th March 2020
Yvonne spoke with the bank on the phone regarding setting up internet banking on a read only basis. Everyone agrees this would benefit Leeanne's role as treasurer and make things easier. Leeanne suggested keeping a small float of £50 in our safe for let payments etc to save trips to the bank for small amounts, all agreed. Leeanne will organise this.
- **Deacon John's report -**
Programme agreed until Easter break
Thursday 5th March - Lenten Service in the school - Canon Eddie
Friday 6th March - First Friday Mass in church
Tuesday 10th March - First confession for P4 in church at 7pm
Thursday 12th March - Lenten Service in the school - Deacon John
Tuesday 17th March -P1,2,3,5 & 6 Lenten Service in the school - Deacon John
Thursday 26th March - P4 & P7 Lenten service with Canon Eddie
Mon 30th & Tues 31st March - P4-P7 Confessions with Canon Eddie
Friday 3rd April - Mass in Church

Yvonne brought to Deacon John's attention about the food choices on the menu on Ash Wednesday, Beef mince was on the options for the children. Louise informed us she contacted head quarters regarding this and they refused to make an easy change to the menu by switching days however they did say for next year this is something they will look at. Deacon John said he will speak to Canon Eddie and maybe write a letter to head of catering to point out his concerns too.

- **Head teachers report** - City of Play was a great success, the children thoroughly enjoyed it and materials were left for the children to continue to use and the school may look at buying tools and materials to continue with this sort of learning. The support staff have a training day in May to learn about activities that can be done at playtime and make the playground more engaging for the children.

- **Head teachers report continued -**

A request for resources from the staff has been passed to PTA for some 'specialist' items that they feel the children would benefit from.

Items include things to promote STEM more and keep learning standards the same as other schools. An approximate amount for the resources is £900 because the items are specialist items. Yvonne has been given the paperwork to have a look at the items and costing in more detail and to consult PTA on a decision.

Travel - Still ongoing issues with parking in the car park, complaints have been made to the school from drivers and residents. Residents were advised tonights meeting is for parent council members only and concerns can be handed in to the school, information was printed again in this months newsletter to parents.

Trips - Some classes have already been out on their trips with some still to go ahead. All feedback so far has been positive especially from Anchor base who made Thank You cards for the PTA.

Staffing - Mrs McCaig returns from maternity on Monday and will go into P6 class on a Mon and Tues with Mrs Grindlay teaching Wed, Thurs & Fri.

The successful candidate for P2 was Miss Docherty who will start after the Easter break. Approval has been given for another advertisement to be put out for another ISA.

Parent Pay - 35 people have signed up so far, drop in help will be available in the school on Friday 13th March for people having problems setting their account up. Fundraising concerns were raised by the school in regards to handling cash, cash will still be accepted for fundraising events in regards to donations but if it is a fixed amount for the specific event then it will be encouraged for parents to pay online but it should not effect fundraising.

Families First - Foxbar service will attend parents evening to promote upcoming events in the school and get families involved. Ideas are welcome and the next meeting in regards to what we would like to get out of their service for the families of the school.

Parents Evening - PTA attendance at parents evening or a suggestion box for parents. Yvonne will organise something and inform Louise.

- **Credit Union** - Over 20 children attended to add funds into their account on Monday. There is now over 60 children signed up to the service, credit union are really happy with the process so far. Yvonne has raised the issue of the fact the children get no interest on their savings and feels it would encourage more savers if there was an incentive. Contact at the credit union will discuss that and get back to Yvonne. Feedback was that the family room was too small to work effectively in so Louise has agreed for us to use the dinner hall in future. Next visit from credit union has to be confirmed but provisionally is April 1st.

- **Discos** - Not very good feedback from the kids after the Valentines disco, this has made us think of possibly a change in event style i.e silent discos or movie nights. Children will be consulted and we can discuss this at our new sub group meeting.
- **Prom** - Louise will send out a letter to parents confirming date of prom and the children's choice to have prom in the school.
- **Sub-group** - Yvonne suggested trialling forming a sub group to discuss events like prom and fundraising in a less formal meeting environment to give parents an opportunity to have input on events, share ideas and help organise events. First meeting is on Thursday 19th March at 1:30pm a post will be shared on social media to invite everyone along.
- **SPTC** - Feedback good, everyone enjoyed the training session and came out feeling positive in regards to our own parent council. Other specific training sessions are available that we may take advantage of in the future.
- **Anchor Base** - Yvonne Moohan and Lisa McIlreavy attended the Anchor base cafe on 27th February, they had a lovely time and had a positive outcome with our attempt to recruit parents of the anchor base children, today we welcome Emma Stewart to the meeting and Emma informed us at least one parent will attend PTA meetings each month to represent the anchor base.

Fiona McCreadie from the Community Garden Project then joined the meeting to tell us a bit more about the project. They are in the process of trying to secure the land on which the old school was built on to create a community garden. They have applied for funding and were granted £10,000 for a feasibility study done on the land which is currently on going at the moment. Fiona is keen to work with the school and get children from the eco committee involved, she shared drawings of their plans at the moment and is keen to come in to the school to speak with the children, a date will be arranged with Louise for The Project to present at an assembly.

A.O.B

No other business

Next meeting

PTA meeting on Wednesday 29th April