



Wallace Primary School Parent Council
Minutes of meeting held Wednesday, 10th October 2023

Present:-

Headteacher	David Rigmand (DR)
Chair	Natalie Burgess (NB)
Secretary	Antonia Aitken (AA)
Treasurer	Claire Bunting (CB)
Council Members	Linda MacMillan (LM – Community Council)
	Craig Speirs (CS)
	Louise Moore (LM)
	Iain Stephenson (IS)
	Tara Gibson (TG)
	Kirsty Thornton (KT)

Apologies:-

Council Members	Jennifer Phillips (Vice Chair)
	Charlotte Boyle
	Lorissa Kennedy
	Marjorie Wilson
	Tracy Scott
	Emma Rankin
	Diana Brooker
	Lynne Docherty

Item of business	Action
<p><u>Head Teacher’s Report</u> School roll: 330, 40 in nursery (increases as year progresses).</p> <p>Staffing update: Mrs Kidd has resigned and will be finishing up at October week. Donna (ELCC) also finishing up. New posts to be appointed after October break – ASNA roles (Additional Support Needs Assistant) and 2 new additions to ELCC. Looking at employing health and wellbeing assistant – focuses on sports, targets groups of children who may benefit from more active activities – 10-hour contract (2 hours each afternoon) – hopefully in by November. John Fox has joined as new senior facilities manager, supported by Alison.</p> <p>Annual calendar has now been issued via SeeSaw. Subject to change but hopefully provides an overview for the year.</p> <p>School Improvement Plan & Standards and Quality Report now uploaded to school website.</p> <p>Newsletter will be issued later in October – to include PTC update and update from house captains.</p>	

School photographs should be sent home this week.

Family learning – ELCC have sent out new home learning bags.
Volunteers have been assisting with provision of clubs and school trips.

Further volunteers required for whole school cinema trip. Ideally require 18 to run it safely, currently at 10.

Extra-curricular clubs will continue after October break – cooking club led by DB, badminton led by DR, netball – positive start following tournament, drama club. Trying to prioritise those who were unable to access clubs last term. Reliant upon volunteers due to lack of funding.

P7 residential will take place at beginning of June 2024 – going to Newtonmore again. Positive feedback from last year.

P1 transition feedback was very positive (results obtained via survey).

SeeSaw – going to run an information session at parents’ night to assist anyone who may be experiencing difficulties using the app.

School Improvement Plan – priorities: (1) inclusion and wellbeing; (2) learning, teaching and assessment, specifically Talk 4 Writing and numeracy within ELCC; (3) learning, teaching and assessment for STEM; and (4) raising attainment within ELCC.

Highlights from this term – Smart STEMS event for Maths Week Scotland for P5-7; top secret delivery from NASA; James Dyson Foundation – engineering kits came into school alongside design kits to take children through process of manufacturing Hoover; work on a mural painting focused on 50th anniversary; received Worldwide Model School award in relation to PATHS (international accreditation); staff have been attending SERC training (science focus); P4 have visited Pizza Express; DB involved in substance misuse profile kit and Renfrewshire won award; Seafood Sustainability Scotland have been in for a visit with P5; came first place in Walk to School week – led by Miss Harper; new PE equipment – new netball stands and basketball hoops; road race went very well – P6 group came first in Renfrewshire, 2 P6 boys came 2nd and 3rd; harvest service at assembly – all very generous with donations, lots to go to food bank; £475 raised for Macmillan with the Wear Green day – hoping to run it as more of a community based event next year.

Next term – parents’ evening Thursday, 9th November 2023; whole school cinema trip 8th November 2023; Book Week Scotland; anti-bullying week; non-uniform day 24th November 2023; Christmas Fayre; nativity; choir preparing for concert at Johnstone Town Hall on 14th December 2023; Christmas service on 19th December 2023; and non-uniform day on 22nd December 2023. More James Dyson boxes come and pupil voice assemblies and project groups will begin after October break.

AA to advertise for further volunteers via social media

<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u> Balance as at 10th October 2023: £3,562.60</p> <p>Bulk of fund held for trim trail.</p> <p>Lottery licence for 2023/24 has been paid</p>	
<p><u>Positive Relationships Policy</u> Behaviour on school bus – no chaperone, difficult to police.</p> <p>Communication/handover from teachers from year to year when there may have been difficulties in relationships between kids. DR confirming teachers expected to assist with transitions and supporting relationships.</p> <p>Need to revisit the policy – raise awareness of what it is.</p> <p>Use of language on communication cards so that there is consistency throughout the school.</p> <p>Discussion around whether there is a trigger once a certain number of cards have been issued, i.e. parents invited to school to discuss.</p> <p>Approach to praise in public/reprimand in private (PIP/RIP) – first attention to good behaviour and rewarding.</p> <p>There are time-out zones in upper and lower school. Inclusive environment. Support plans in place for individual children if it has been identified this has been required – coping strategies identified.</p> <p>Discussing use of reflections – can be quite a drawn-out process, whether appropriate for all.</p> <p>Need for closure with children – report back if they've been subjected to bad behaviour from another.</p>	<p>DR to redistribute policy. Need for consultation – with staff and wider group with potential for review.</p>
<p><u>Halloween Disco</u> Will circulate information at end of this week re disco itself, seeking volunteer.</p>	<p>AA to circulate via social media.</p>
<p><u>Christmas Fayre</u> Plans are underway. AA has got a list of stall-holders. We will seek volunteers nearer the time. Raffle prizes to be requested. Santa requires to be identified.</p>	
<p><u>Food Bank</u> Working with number of organisations who support families through food banks – scope to set one up at entrance to the school – leave what you can, take what you need.</p> <p>Local businesses becoming involved.</p> <p>School swap shop – clothes, shoes, etc. Difficulty can be where to store it. Winter coats – opportunity to collect at parents' night, etc.</p>	

<u>Wish list from PTC fundraising</u> IT – smartboards Outdoor equipment These items will feature on raffle prize request so that businesses know where funds raised will be used.	
<u>Christmas Gifts for lower school</u> Discussion re games/toys v books. Consensus is books.	

Next full meeting:-

Tuesday, 7th November 2023 at 6pm