**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**ALLOWAY PRIMARY PARENT COUNCIL**

**14/06/2023**

Attendance

Fiona Meney, Lauren Miller, Laura Cameron, Catriona Andrews, Emma Jamieson, Janine Leonard, Claire Campbell, Michelle Gass, Krzysztofa Krawczyk

Minutes of last meeting dated

Read and approved.

Head Teachers Report

The school fair was amazing, everyone worked so hard as a team and the group gave the kids and their families an amazing time, and raised a mind-blowing amount of money. There was lots of positive feedback, some great support, and it was lovely to see everyone including some of the new families back in the school. It was very much appreciated.

Currently the quality assurance is on pupil focus work, what do the pupils think of the school and it has been great, there are still a couple of classes to do, but it is clear the children know the school well and are able to talk about it. Feedback is very interesting and will be looked at.

Parents night happened, went smoothly, online system went well and will continue to use this method in future.

Inservice day launched online planning with staff with Amanda Pickard of SAC who recently won a digital Innovator Scotland award. The staff are very motivated to relook at our planning to make sure we give the children the best planned experiences.

The school show was amazing, kids were phenomenal and had full audiences. The sound equipment was bought by a previous PTA but has been poor this year despite an IT technician working on it several times so current PTA to look at replacing it this year. Mrs Meney will try and get a company in as no actual sound system in place, she will see what is available and look into the best options. It was again an all-inclusive show as it has been the past 6/7 years to make sure everyone gets on stage rather than just a few main parts. It was well written by staff, and school will continue to do it this way for now.

Outings this year have been a great success and included trips to the titanic museum, dolphin house, Inverclyde, etc.

Staffing interviews took all day today and included a teacher for P5 & and a maternity leave, posts have been filled satisfactory. Mrs Hopper is moving to Heathfield PS a few others are leaving school as week and there are 2 maternity leaves in school coming up.

The school budget is not through as yet.

The Summer Celebration picnic was great and the Alpacas were a huge hit. The Company were great to work with and would recommend. The ice lollies were needed and appreciated. The P7’s lead the activities and it was enjoyed by all so school would like to continue this annually but think of a wee change each time to keep it fresh.

Inductions days went well, parents have been in for lunch, bump up day seemed settled for all.

Sports day happened and weather was really hot for kids to sit out in as long, new sacks to follow hopefully by donation for sack races.

The Church service will be on the last Friday of June and it will be a summer celebration. It has been a very busy term now covid restrictions are lifted and these activities are able to take place again.

EYC - Mrs Miller

Active schools’ have helped provide a busy term, the P7 football team are in the Mackie cup final against Forehill, Mr Hall has worked really hard with the team. Thanks to all staff who help in these out of hour activities.

EYC ties (bought by PTA) have been given out to out with Alloway PS new students and our in-house pupils will get theirs at their graduation ceremony which takes place soon along with the new PTA handbook.

It was a very busy term as there was an unannounced visit from the Care Inspectorate which was very in-depth. Staff were noted to work well with both parents and other agencies. 22 parents returned the survey, which was fine as it was very informal, feedback is very positive, but there are a few areas to work on which is already being looked at. The staff were noted as being nurturing, knew the children well and for providing individual support to individual children when required. They go above and beyond for individual families, and they are working well with other agencies. Full results will probably come out after the summer holidays now and will be shared then.

The EYC went to Dumfries House for their trip. Transition bump up day went fine and pupils will continue visiting P1 until the end of term. Inductions were attended well. New starts visited this week and they got on really well with their parents and will come again to meet their key workers.

EYC Sports day will be held next week as will the graduation for preschoolers in a new format with a balloon arch and graduation type sign, outfits, a goody bag which will include a cupcake, a tie, and a framed photo.

Chair Report

School fair went well, thanks to all who helped on this, very proud of all. To enable this to repeat we will need more helpers on the day and will try and advertise/recruit. There are books left over which can be given out for free one day along with lost property. New to you clothes will continue to be on rails in the library over the summer holidays and Gillian, librarian, will restock when required, this information will be shared with parents soon. New signage to follow to promote as much as possible.

Bookfair orders are in, some books have arrived and will be looked at for distribution asap It was felt that it might not be a great system, but that it worked well holding it on parents’ night so PTA might continue to hold the fair in this format in future. It was felt to have raised over £1000 and profits made are required to be spent on books.

Thanks to those who are able to help at induction nights, next year might set up drinks at P1 end as that’s was where parents seemed to accumulated. Supplies for these types of events now live in the PTA cupboard in the multipurpose room.

PTA happy to continue with a summer picnic each year.

The show tuck shop went well, there was no way to do ice cream this time so was a mix of sweets and juice which may have raised a few hundred pounds. The Sum up machines were super, easy and used so happy to promote at future events. Parent pay could be used but they also take a cut and monies would go into the school account rather than the PTA account so could be an issue working out whose money is what, etc. Could look at Event bright, QR codes, PayPal account, etc?

A sports day tuck was set up to move leftover stock and PTA sold a wee bit but the weather and lack of ice was an issue. Some people had their spot on the day and didn’t want to move in case they lost it so maybe consider one tuck at each end or someone being mobile, taking orders, etc. Consider healthy snacks for future as it is followed by health & wellbeing fortnight.

The PTA recruitment/information table is still set up and in use in school but PTA hope to put up a blue board type thing up with this info in reception area soon.

Tempest update on school photos. PTA met with George from company and felt it was appropriate to stay with them just now as George is able to address and can change some things that were raised (not all).

The school currently get a 25% kickback from all orders which is quite high and they have new packages coming out this Autumn which should help. George will take the information back from our survey to his marketing department for review and consideration. He advised it may be possible to make a book for P7’s leaving in future as they hold all photos for free for 10 years currently. It could be an EYC to P7 journey. Another thing Tempest does for free is let school have the tempest photos for their files which currently other companies charge for. All staff are PVG checked and photos are safe and secure in a cloud.

The final term will see a newsletter put out from both school and PTA, possibly the same file.

Trim trail update, how do we fund? Do we start a totalizer? The plans/drawings are still required for Mitie to approve it. Grants are being applied for, is there workplace funding available? Do we still want one?

Easy fundraising is still trickling in and we hope to expand it into our community and out with the school parents as can’t keep asking the same people all the time. Consider advertising QR codes, PO, Village Hall, brig doon, burns centre, and local places like library, etc to expand and reach other groups.

P1 ties worked well as a gift from PTA.

P7 ties had to be cancelled as no Belmont ones were ordered as requested by the PTA. Having to now considering books, frames, leavers hoodies as it was reported that ties are not compulsory and might be a waste of money if not worn? If PTA bought the leavers hoodies it could be in January with funds raised from Xmas fundraising?

The new PTA parent booklet is complete and has been e mailed to school for distribution.

Proposed Dates for Lets/Diary

PTA AGM - 7/9/23 @ 6pm

PTA Meetings – 9/10/23, 9/11/23, 4/12/23, 17/1/24, 26/2/24, 25/4/24, 17/6/24.

Welcome back disco - 20/9/23

Halloween movie night – 26/10/23

Christmas Event - 25/11/23 reindeer visit with photo opportunities, Santa, (chair being refurbed by PTA member), sleigh, grinch?

Ceilidh – 26/01/24

Easter Event – 31/3/24 family event, possibly scavenger hunt

Spring/Summer Fair - 11/5/24

Willie Wonka golden ticket?

Quiz night?

Frosty Fridays?

Donuts Day?

Emma Ledger to contact Mrs Meney to arrange an apple pressing event in school in Autumn.

School to consider sponsored walk and/or other events to help with the cost of the school day and buses to trips/events.

PTA to get back to Mrs Meney before the end of the term to confirm dates so lets can be put in to guarantee that we get what we need.

AOCB

None raised.

Date & Time of Next Meeting

PTA AGM - 7/9/23 @ 6pm in APS.