

MINUTES OF MEETING

ALLOWAY PRIMARY PARENT COUNCIL

1 October 2024

Attendance

Fiona Meney, Lauren Miller, Michelle Gass, Catriona Adams, Kasia Munro, Janine Leonard

Apologies

Kerry Simpson, Autumn Billick, Emma O'Neill, Christopha Krawczye, Louise Drennan, Emma Jamieson, Julie Grant, Laura Cameron, Lucinda Ferguson-Hunter, Claire Campbell.

Minutes of last meeting dated

Read and approved.

Head Teachers Report

It is nearly the end of term 1! The children have been amazing and settled in, well established and the staff have been mostly stable this term. Mrs Jackson is coming back from maternity leave soon. There have been some new pupils coming starting school but they too have all settled well. The harvest festival is next week and the school is collecting donations for the food bank which will be put into bags for collection from the library again. Anything left after a few weeks will then be donated to the food bank. The children will do a poster to advertise that these bags are available to anyone who may need them. The night before Xmas campaign will be given both church collections this year, Xmas and summer.

This year's Xmas cards have been given out to staff; the plan is to send them home on 28 Oct for orders to be put in then returned to school on 1/11 for posting on Monday 4/11 to the printers.

The staff will be working on the school improvement plan next in-service day with the EYC staff attending Ayr town hall for an ASN conference with Tanya Tenant. School Staff will attend a learning festival in February 25.

The local authority visit with Gavin Pitt and team went well and there were several strengths highlighted and only one recommendation for the school. The parent group who met with Gavin gave good feedback to the team, it was a very busy 2 days. The first day consisted of a meeting re the context of the school, where it was at with the improvements, learning, etc. Day 2, the team spoke to the children (who were amazing) and other groups. The feedback said one strength commented on the positive relationships, the nurturing the staff give the children, that they are supported positively, they are confident, kind, respectful, demonstrate the school values, are well mannered, (holding doors open for the team and others), they know the new school values but also understand and demonstrate them while learning about them in classes.

The team commented that Alloway Primary Staff were committed to providing high quality learning and teaching approaches in the school in order to meet the needs of the children.

They said they have a vigorous approach in monitoring, planning and tracking individuals to help them achieve goals and more.

The recommendation was to develop consistency in the quality learning experience they give to the children to allow them the opportunities for challenge and in leading their own learning.

This was great feedback from the team, a few tweaks could be made but overall, it was really great. The HMI is due any time

Patent portal is getting there but Mrs Meney would prefer some more sign ups before it can go 100%.

The Tempest photos will be taken on 24 October and the PTA agreed that P1 & P7 will have both individual photos and a class photo and that the other classes will continue with a class photo only this year and no sibling photos, these will be next year with the whole school having individual photos. Mrs Meney reassured the PTA that the Tempest photographer, George is extremely experienced and very good with all the children. He spends a lot of time with individuals if required to get the best possible and more inclusive end result, the PTA agreed George was the right fit after meeting with him last year.

Mrs Meney discussed a wish list of items with her house captains and they advised that after consultation the children would like more ICT, I pads (£278), laptops (£416) and/or tablets (£146) and outdoor toys. Rather than a trim trail in one playground (there are 3) which costs thousands of pounds, they would prefer 2 more outside huts with toys in for the other two playgrounds. This would ensure all children get to play with toys and not just the ones in the bigger playground. P5 and P7 are currently thinking of fundraising ideas for their class trips.

EYC - Mrs Miller

Active school clubs are well attended, the sport hall athletics qualifying event for P6 & P7 stated children should attend an athletics club of some sort if/when possible, they will need some knowledge of the sports before competing that day but as they numbers are low, a note will be sent out to parents saying others can attend as long as they have a knowledge of the activities taking place.

EYC feedback from the LA stated that staff were welcoming, engaging both inside and outside in sensory play, free play, that they balance work well, that parents were able to engage in stay & play activities and outdoor learning, they advised they should continue to support the children to talk about what they are learning and what they should do next in the form of setting targets (age appropriately) and that they should further promoting creativity and learning.

The stay and play session was well attended in term 1 and another 2 will take place later on. Nicola from peep came into the EYC and introduced herself, she is currently doing a block of work. Child smile is coming into the centre next week and the Halloween party is on 31 October in the morning.

Chair Report

The Halloween event organising is well underway! The PTA need 48 volunteers to man all the stalls, and currently have 23 parents who have signed up. Catriona asked Mrs Meney if it would be ok to ask parents if the P7's could sign up to help and Mrs Meney will send out permission slips asking parents asap. Teachers have also asked if they would like to sign up to help.

Janine will arrange to visit the school and measure up the hall to check what is able to go where in the space we have. Food stalls including a hot dog bar and games are arranged, Mrs Meney will send Catriona a blank standard risk assessment for completion.

Kasia advised that the baking stall is being organised and that this year she will also be offering healthy options including fruit and items with less artificial ingredients.

Mrs Meney advised we can come into school and set up on the Friday after school and that we could use the meeting room all day Friday and Saturday for storing items as it can be kept locked.

The chill out room is available to transform into a Spooky story room.

The ASN admission will be 10.30, no other people should be in the hall at this time without permission.

AOCB

None.

Date & Time of Next Meeting

25/11/24 in school 6.30pm