**Gardenrose Primary School**

**Parent Council**

**Minutes of Virtual AGM Thursday 1st October 2020**

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|  |  | **Action** |
| **In attendance** | Louise Morrison, Kerry Malcolm, Councillor Grant, Dawn McFadyen, Paula Hunter, Kayleigh Crate, Gillian McCauley, Kathryn Woods, Heather Barclay |  |
| **Apologies** | N/A |  |
| **Minutes of previous meeting** | No previous minutes to approve. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic an informal virtual meeting was held on 17th June 2020. |  |
| **Matters arising** | N/A |  |
| **Head Teacher Report** | Louise Morrison opened the meeting with a detailed report informing the group that the Autumn Newsletter will be issued week beginning 5th October 2020. This will cover all elements of the HT Report. It was noted that dates for diaries was provisional at present with details to follow due to the current circumstances.  LM Informed all classes from EYC to P7 have settled in very well to their new classes and have adapted to new routines. It was agreed that this has been very challenging for everyone, but the staff and children have been very flexible in adapting to the continual changes as the school respond to the latest Government Health advice. LM noted that parents/carers were following social distancing guidelines in the playground.  **Parental Communication / School and EYC BLOG**  All letters and important correspondence will be uploaded to the BLOG in addition to sending via e-mail. Facebook as well as twitter will continue to be used to share highlights of learning throughout the school. SEESAW has recently been introduced. It was agreed that this was liked by parents/carers, however, LM informed that there may be a charge for this platform. LM confirmed that Teams is currently being used for children self-isolating and will again be utilised if Lockdown occurs in the future.  LM reminded the group that any information the Parent Council wish to shar eon the BLOG should be emailed to Sophie Caldwell  **ICT Refresh**  Last year, the school was very fortunate to benefit from the South Ayrshire refresh programme and received 13 new desktop computers and 4 new laptops. The school budget was applied to invest in more laptops and new iPads. This session it is planned to invest in more ipads, laptops and storage/charging unit. 4 new interactive promethean panels have recently been fitted in classrooms.  LM informed that during lockdown 2 initiatives were implemented: Connecting Scotland and Digital Deprivation Program. Children identified as in need of assistance will be issued with devices to allow them online access. The hardware has been received and will be distributed.  Counsellor Grant informed the group that he raised the issue at the recent COSLA meeting that internet access was still an issue for some. It has been proposed that elements of online studies be transferred to BBC Scotland. This will be raised with the Depute First Minister.  **MacMillan Coffee Morning**  Primary 7 organised a Zoom Coffee Morning where all classes were invited to the hall for cake and juice. Using Just Giving donations, raffle tickets were issued and Primary 7 hosted a live stream raffle on Facebook. The final fundraising event was a silent auction for an authentic signed ‘Pele’ t-shirt. The total raised was over £700.  **Parents Meetings**  Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, no face to face parental appointments will be held this term. Telephone appointments with parents/carers have been organised. Samples of children’s work will be sent home prior to the telephone appointment.  **Scholastic Book Fayre**  LM informed that the Scholastic Book Fair was due in school in November. It was agreed that this will remain the case, however, the arrangements for viewing books will be a bit different. Scholastic have provided advice on running a COVID safe Book Fair. More information to parents/carers will follow.  **School Improvement Priorities 2020-21**  The School Improvement Plan for this session and the Standards and Quality, detailing attainment and achievements from last session will be uploaded to the BLOG at the beginning of Term 2.  **Key Priorities for Improvement in 2020/2021**   * To raise attainment in literacy and numeracy for all pupils. * To focus on improving confidence and competence of Staff to effectively teach STEM. * To ensure that at least 85% of children in their Pre-school year will achieve all milestones in Literacy, Numeracy and HWB. * To implement our Pupil Equity Fund proposal.   **Outdoor Learning**  P.E. is currently taking place outdoors and the guidelines from Education Scotland will be reviewed on the 5th October. At the moment after school clubs are not available.  **Culzean Outdoor Learning Sessions**  Primary 1 as part of Early Level Transitions are joining the EYC and will visit Belleisle Park in Ayr.  Primary 2 to 7 will attend an outdoor learning session at Culzean Country park. These sessions are being led by Ryan Douglas, our Active Schools Coordinator.  **Additional Staffing**  LM informed that additional staffing has been provided by means of a COVID Post to support school recovery. The post has been filled temporarily to allow the successful applicant to complete current obligations. Chrisite will join the school after the October break. Mrs Briggs will provide support 1 extra afternoon per week. | PC |
| **Office Bearer Nominations** | I was agreed that consistency within the Parent Council would be advantageous due to the current circumstances. The AGM was advertised and applications for Office Bearers were invited. No applications were received. Office Bearers were nominated and seconded as follows:  Co-Chair (Dawn McFadyen / Paula Hunter) Nominated by Kathryn Wood and Seconded by Kayleigh Crate.  Co-Secretary (Gillian McAuley / Kayleigh Crate) Nominated by Paula Hunter and Seconded by Heather Barclay.  Treasurer (Kathryn Wood) Nominated by Dawn McFadyen and Seconded by Heather Barclay. |  |
| **Treasurer Report** | Kathryn Wood informed the group:   * Banked Balance £2804.00 * Cash Balance £63.00   KW noted that we are unable to access all functions of online banking with the current account we hold. KW will arrange a transfer to a Bank of Scotland account when COVID restrictions allow.  Thanks was give for the donation given to purchase the supplies needed for the McMillan coffee morning. | KW |
| **Fusion App** | Paula Hunter noted that the Fusion App was available to parents in Troon to allow lunch ordering. LM informed that this was only at pilot stage and was not rolled out across all schools. LM will update when further information is available. | LM |
| **Homework Survey** | Dawn McFadyen raised the idea of issuing a homework survey to parents/carers. It was suggested that homework was difficult for some families after lockdown and the return to work. LM agreed to issue the survey to gain feedback from parents/carers. The parent council will promote the survey. | LM / PC |
| **Reading Book Donation from Parent Council** | Kathryn Wood offered a donation towards reading books. LM confirmed Beth and Sarah were leading literacy and books had been ordered to fill gaps in current reading series. LM agreed that a wish list will be compiled to purchase further books and the Parent Council will contribute towards the cost. LM will update on funding required. | LM |
| **Forthcoming Events** | The group enquired about forthcoming events within school, i.e. Halloween and Christmas. LM confirmed that due to current COVID restrictions plans were tentative and difficult to facilitate. LM suggested a sponsored outdoors walk with children dressing up. Logistics proved difficult. Gillian McAuley offered use of The Ranch. LM will confirm if this will be an option. PC McGinlay has confirmed help with crossing patrol. This event is provisionally planned late October.  Christmas events are not confirmed at present. Updates will be given nearer the event. | LM |
| **Dogs in Playground** | Paula Hunter raised the current policy of dogs within the playground after speaking with LM. South Ayrshire Council hold a strict no dog policy. Councillor Grant confirmed this was correct. This topic will be addressed in the forthcoming newsletter. Signage was discussed but not agreed. |  |
| **AOB** | A few topics had been raised for discussion that were out with the AGM remit. LM agreed to speak to parties involved after the meeting. |  |
| **Next Meeting** | Proposed Virtual Meeting Wednesday 11th November at 1.30pm |  |