

Minutes of Whiteness Primary Parent Council

Monday 09 September 2019, 6.30pm at the School

Present: Jo Breeze, Rachel Colclough, Cllr Catherine Hughson, Angela Seator, Ingrid Pottinger, Dawn Smith, Hannah Burgess, Cllr Steven Coutts and Marie Grains, Clerk

Invited to attend: Neil Beattie and Marlene Hunter from SIC Catering Services for Item 2

Apologies: Susan Jamieson, Diane Forsyth, Natasha Clubb, Valerie Anderson and Cllr Theo Smith

1.0 Welcome

1.1 Jo welcomed all to the meeting.

2.0 Changes to School Menu

2.1 Neil Beattie and Marlene Hunter attended the meeting to speak about the changes to school menus. There will be a standard menu across all schools. There had been a school inspection with findings way off nutritional guideline targets. There will be 2 choices for lunch and a soup every day. Neil went over the menu showing 'Meat free Mondays', a choice of meat or fish and a packed lunch option - this will be a baked tattie or sandwich. There will be 1 pudding per week with fruit for other days. There will be a menu for each child to take home. Rachel asked if there was more choice there would be more waste? Neil replied schools should be asking pupils who wants what. Rachel suggested having a sample menu and asking older pupils their thoughts on what they would eat. The Pupil Council could get involved too. More information can be found using <https://www.foodforlife.org.uk/schools>

3.0 Approval of minutes of last meeting – 06 May 2019

3.1 Rachel approved the minute with Angela seconding.

4.0 Matters Arising

4.1 Catherine said the rubber crumb is a school estate wide problem and Doug Wallace will be inspecting all schools with a report to Helen Budge. Magnus Malcolmson says the crumb is safe to use. He is aware of the situation and welcomes a proper condition survey. Rachel had met with Fiona Johnson during the school holiday and said maybe within a year the crumb would need to be replaced and to use bark was a no go. This is a community resource and should not be up to the school to find money to replace. Catherine will keep contact with Shona Thompson at Education Services and Doug Wallace. It was suggested Jo to speak with Alan Marcus of Enquest, Sullom Voe for possible funding.

4.2 Angela asked about the classroom dojo application other schools were using. This is a good tool for sharing what is being done in classrooms and sending reminders to parents. This has been looked at before with the issue of how some data is stored. Rachel will speak with staff to discuss this further.

5.0 Head Teacher's Report

Leadership and Management

- We currently have our full staffing compliment.
- We have three new members of staff in school
 - Anita Mayes – established ASN Teacher 3.5 days per week
 - Lynsey Morrison – Class Teacher
 - Catherine Robertson – LSW

- Our teaching staff have moved stages, we have
 - Diane Forsyth in P1/2
 - Elizabeth Garrick in P3/4
 - Lynsey Morrison in P5/6
 - Laura Lawson in P6/7
- Two members of staff were married over the summer
 - Miss McIntyre – Mrs Lawson
 - Mrs Leslie – Mrs Strachan
- Amy Goddard has returned to Whiteness Early Years for one day a week in her Modern Apprenticeship role.

Learning provision

- Primary One pupils have settled in well to their new class and teacher.
- P5 and 6 pupils enjoyed a trip to the Mareel last week as part of the Screenplay showings.

Before the summer....

- P6 pupils came together during a trip on the SWAN
- Parents enjoyed another opportunity to come into school as part of our Art Exhibition Open Afternoon.
- P7 enjoyed their annual overnight stay at Voxter
- P6 parents were invited to join their pupils for a **Bring a Parent** to school day.
- Whiteness Early Years ran a series of **Play and Stay** events for parents through the year.
- The Play Van came for a session with children in Early Years.
- The Pupil Council, JRSO's, Health Committee and Eco Committee have been selected.
- Pupils have decided on the School Improvement Plan priority order, this will determine where our focus will lie through the year.
- P7 pupils are organising the revamped **Golden Time 2.0** and in pairs running the session at the end of Friday afternoons.

Successes and achievements

- Florrie has taken Jules' legacy on and is making home bakes for staff and raising money for charity this year.

Before the summer....

- P6 pupils complete their Bikeability training.
- The netball team visited Sound Primary to play in some friendly matches during Golden Time
- P5 and 6 pupils took part in the Scottish Opera production

6.0 Sharing of School Improvement Plan

- 6.1 Rachel had met with the pupils to discuss the school improvement plan what they thought are more important for them and put them in order of preference.
- 6.2 No. 1. 'find more ways to involve our parents in our learning' through primary 1 reading and primary 6 feedback from the 'bring your parent to school day'. Also a suggestion to have Family Fridays.

- 6.3 No. 2 'working together to improve school environment' Rachel gave the example of the school bell ringing too often and not all pupils like the noise, the bell has been removed at 1235, 1250, 1420 and 1430. Already this has made a difference.
- 6.4 No. 3 'review our promoting positive behaviour policy with focus on building positive relationships' There is a big push to use the £2,300 PEF money on what we need to improve attainment. Gillian Isbister has been employed to see how we behave around children, what language to use and how to promote good relationships.
- 6.5 No. 4 'develop RME progression through school'.

7.0 Treasurers Report

- 7.1 As at 21 June 2019 £2,658.16 in the bank. Discussion about if the school is needing anything. The 'loose parts' project would need a shed for storing outside items. I-pads could be needed for each classroom. Rachel said the GP area was not used at its best. She was suggesting inviting the community into the school more and the area could be used for tea/coffee and to have a sofa. More discussion would be needed to explore this option.

8.0 Polycrub Update

- 8.1 A £50 Plantiecrub token has been received from SMR Garage for children helping plant trees at their garage. Marie to use the token for the polycrub and let Rachel know what was purchased so that a thank you note can be sent to SMR. Suggested to have an open afternoon at the polycrub Friday 20 September 2.30-3.00pm.

9.0 Future Events:

- 9.1 Parents Evenings: Parents preferred the formal event later in the year. This year the child led event will be in November and the formal parents evening will be in March. The parent council will arrange the creche for March.
- 9.2 Christmas Concerts: All concerts will be 10 December 2019. It was suggested to collect raffle prizes at the parents evening in November. School photos will be 5 November this year. Also discussed Christmas jumper day.

10.0 AOCB

- 10.1 Marie is arranging the Scholastic Book Fair, date has been given as Monday 28 October to Friday 4 November. The Monday and Tuesday are in service days at the school. Marie to find out more details and arrange with Rachel where the books can be put on display. Parents will be invited to attend.

11.0 Date for next meeting

- 11.1 Monday 11 November 2019, 6.00pm at the school.