

# **Minutes of Whiteness Primary School Parent Council**

## **Monday 09 November 2020, 6.00pm on VScene**

Present: Jo Breeze, Rachel Colclough, Darren Silver, Cllr Catherine Hughson, Angela Seator, Diane Forsyth and Marie Grains, Clerk

Apologies: Ingrid Pottinger, Dawn Smith, Cllr Steven Coutts, Susan Jamieson and Cllr Theo Smith

### **1.0 Welcome**

1.1 Jo welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were noted as above.

### **2.0 Approval of Previous Minute – 09 September 2020**

2.1 Rachel approved and Darren seconded the minutes.

### **3.0 Matters Arising**

3.1 Rubber crumb – Catherine reported this is now with Carl Symons of Building Services to move forward, it is also noted there is no budget for this work. A report will be presented to Council showing a programme of works. Catherine to let Jo know when she has spoken with Carl.

### **4.0 Covid-19 Updates**

4.1 Rachel asked if the communication from school to parents was good. Darren said communication has been excellent coming from the school. New guidelines are for all staff to be wearing face coverings, teachers were finding they were at their desks more. Some teachers have a 2m strip around their desk, so pupils know not to come in that area. Pupils are getting used to their daily routine and accept this is the new normal.

### **5.0 Headteachers Report**

#### **5.1 Leadership and Management**

- We currently have our full staffing compliment.
- Nicole Gilfillan is due to go on Maternity leave from the beginning of January 2021- I am in the process of recruiting to that post
- The school has worked through a positive case of COVID-19 in September. Support from central staff aided a timely response. We were able to keep the school open for all other classes due to the mitigating measures we have in place.
- Reporting to parents will take the form of telephone conversations during week beginning 16 November
- Staff have undertaken training during the two October in service days at the start of term two

#### **Learning provision**

- Children are receiving a full education
- Whole school approaches to planning with all classes working on same area of learning- positive outcome from COVID-19
- All specialist subjects taught. PE has been confined to outside only and Music to non-instrument and singing.

- Indoor PE resumes this week.
- Swimming resumes and for Whiteness that will be in January.
- Instrumental instruction takes place remotely and live each week on a rotational basis.
- We have Izzy in this term working with each class on drama- within the guidelines.
- Pupils share their learning during Assembly on a Friday

### Successes and achievements

- Pupils continue to do well and adapt to any new protocols without any fuss
- Pupils are truly back into the swing of school and enjoy seeing their friends
- We had Halloween parties for each class- as no outside events are taking place. They enjoyed these
- We are operating as normally as we can – we have had a virtual music assembly and intend for these to continue.
- Two of our pupils with additional support needs enjoyed an outdoor day with Pete Richardson last week.
- We raised £50 for the NHS during our Virtual coffee morning in October- where children had their snack outside.
- Last year's Junior Road Safety officers were acknowledged for their work by Elaine Skinley in October and our new JRSO's have been briefed on their role this year.
- The school has collected 20 shoe boxes for the Blythswood Shoe box appeal.
- Four primary 7 pupils took part in the National Euro Quiz final which was run virtually from the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh
- All children in school on 3/11/20 have received their Flu vaccine
- School photos were taken on Friday 6 November
- Two Primary 7 pupils laid a wreath on behalf of the school at the war memorial on Sunday.
- The whole school will take part in a 2 minute silence at 11am on 11/11/20

## **6.0 School Improvement Planning**

- 6.1 The school improvement planning is realistic to achieve within the working time agreement, there is 7 hours left from the 195 hours. The parent friendly poster will be emailed.

## **7.0 New Behaviour Policy**

- 7.1 Discussion about the new behaviour policy, Rachel to amend the word 'relentless' in the consistency section. A new version will be emailed to all members.

## **8.0 Treasurers Report**

- 8.1 £940.33 balance as at 4 September 2020. A second water but has been purchased for the nursery.

## **9.0 School Milk**

- 9.1 School Milk is no longer being funded through the EU. Uptake of milk is about ¼ of pupils. This will not be taken any further.

## **10.0 Future Events**

- 10.1 Parents evenings will be conducted over the phone. This will be held on the afternoons of 16, 17 and 18 November.
- 10.2 The Christmas concerts is in the planning stages. This will be shared with parents on YouTube with the link removed after a few weeks with a suggested option to buy the DVD. Discussion about how best to share with parents as not every parent wants their child on social media. Darren to investigate 'Twitch'.

## **11.0 School Communications**

- 11.1 As above no. 4.

## **12.0 AOCB**

- 12.1 The P7's is wanting to run the Christmas card post box this year. They will be problem solving how to do this within current COVID-19 guidelines. Email to be sent home with instructions for posting the cards.

## **13.0 Date for next meeting**

- 13.1 Monday 15 February 2021 at 6.00pm on VScene.