

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

### **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 6:30pm on Teams online only**

Present – Cllr Catherine Hughson, Cllr Davie Sandison, Rachel Colclough, Monica Moncrieff, Darren Silver and Amy Leask.

Apologies from Dawn Smith, Hilary Winks, Susan Jamieson, Diane Forsyth and Marie Grains.

#### **1.0 Welcome**

1.1 Darren welcomed all to the meeting, apologies received as above.

#### **2.0 Approval of Previous Minute – 12 September 2022**

2.1 Rachel approved minutes and Monica seconded the minutes.

#### **3.0 Matters Arising**

3.1 Parents have suggested email traffic coming out the school – some parents wondering if that can be condensed. Rachel – aware of this – suggested combining a lot of emails into one email. A lot of emails get passed on to share, due to parents wanting all the information from different places. What do we want shared - Once a week send an email that has all the emails from other people. subject field non-school information, then during the week ad hoc, the school information - find out for next parents meeting if that is more useful for other parents. Parents suggest that the Questionnaires are quick and easy.

3.2 Crèche for parents evening – Darren, Becky and Monica will help run this over the evening.

#### **4.0 Headteachers Report**

##### **4.1 Leadership and Management**

- Vacant post in P6/7 – 14hpw (replacing Jaclyn Ross who left at the end of session 2021/2022). At present, Mrs Jeanette Leask is covering this until the Christmas holidays.
- Mrs Rachel Morris has started in her established support worker ELC after the October holidays.
- Rebecca Riley left her post as Clerical Assistant in October, Sue Lewis continues to work on a supply basis, covering most Tuesdays, Wednesday's and Thursdays. We have a preferred candidate for the post, Yvette Pearson, who will start after the Christmas holidays.
- Monica Moncrieff has picked up the temporary Play Practitioner hours in P1.

## **4.2 Learning Provision**

- Continuing with whole school approaches to planning with all classes working on same area of interdisciplinary learning.
- Instrumental instruction for piano, woodwind and guitar takes place in school.
- Swimming is being delivered again – p6/7 have completed their 6-week block.
- We welcomed many parents into the school last term to talk about their careers as part of the interdisciplinary learning taking place across all classes.
- All classes have now visited the windfarm.
- We ran a successful coffee morning with families coming together to be in the school again.

## **4.3 Successes and achievements**

- The eco committee ran an eco-week as part of the Shetland climate week.
- Our families donated 15 show boxes for the Blythewood Appeal.
- The school has been used for a Halloween party P1-P7, run by the P7 parents.
- The school has been used for the Brownies to have a sleep over.
- We welcomed parents in for our first music assembly of the session.
- Two of our P7 pupils – Jessie and Sonny laid a wreath at the war memorial during remembrance Sunday.

## **5.0 Treasurers Report**

5.1 Balance in November 2022 £2,711.73.

## **6.0 School Improving Planning – Evaluation and Forward Planning**

- 6.1 Improving health and wellbeing – planned opportunities for pupils to build up confidence – getting back into performing at music assemblies and Christmas concert. Pets have been coming into show and tell in the classroom and P1/P7 buddying takes place once a week. All committees are up and running.
- 6.2 Raising attainment in writing – our writing bookmarks have been updated ensuring they are in line with the Highland Literacy Progression framework. Staff have updated the bookmarks drawing on suggestions from pupils.

- 6.3 Family learning – Maths homework grid on time and money and activities for families to take part in during the coffee morning and open classrooms – parents have been surveyed and feedback will be shared at next meeting.
- 6.4 PEF – is working well with the extra staff time delivering targeted input for some children – this is being measured and evaluated.

## **7.0 Future Events**

- 7.1 Christmas jumper day is set to be the same day as the school Christmas dinner this year, anyone that doesn't have a new Christmas jumper can make one or get one from school swap shop. Helping with families in this climate.
- 7.2 Cllr Davie Sandison and Cllr Catherine Hughson hoping to get around the schools before Christmas and come for a visit.

## **8.0 AOCB**

- 8.1 Outdoor provision of school project. Quotes and funding – Rachel suggest it's possible the necessary funding will come through and the project should go ahead, school has invested in storage resources and it's all waiting to be set out in the outdoor spaces.
- 8.2 Fundraising – Darren suggested the anchor project – looking to involve more in communities and have a once-a-month dinner that the community can come along and have food. Something that Tesco with for communities, possibly the parent council could help.
- 8.3 Evenings for parents to come and see what they miss at coffee morning – this is something that isn't possible to achieve this year with allocated hours out of teaching time already full and stretched. Could be a questionnaire of what suits parents or what parents would like to see in the future for this kind of thing.
- 8.4 Regards to signage for the playground – some options available that will be sent through email, suggestions for something with the space – school having responsibility to it by proxy – making it a nice space to visit. Could there be a donation box of some sort.

## **9.0 Date for next meetings**

- 9.1 Monday 13 February 2023 at 6.30pm.