



Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 2nd June 2021

Held via Zoom call

1. Welcome, Apologies Previous Minute and Opening Remarks

Present: Mrs Sandilands, Mrs O'Neil, Mr Bamford, Councillor Fulton & 9 Parents

Apologies: Councillors Brogan and Loudon

Opening Remarks: The chair had received an email from a parent to extend thanks to the school staff for the compassionate way they dealt with the families of children who had positive cases making a stressful time more manageable.

1. Head Teacher Report

- See Appended Document

2. Councillor Report

Councillor Fulton updated that Newton Farm Primary have had a planning application approved for an extension to build an extra 7 classrooms. This may impact on catchment areas.

3. Catchment Review Update

The Parent Council's recent formally request to SLC for a catchment review was noted. The chair received a holding reply, and has also given an update and a copy of the paper that was shared at the council (planning or education) meeting which is a public document. The extension to Newton Farm Primary may partially solve issues. There is a recognition with SLC that a requirement for a catchment review can be evidenced. A paper has been prepared and will go to relevant SLC committees. The head-teacher stated that she has spoken with Lynn Sherry and she will be in discussion with Parent Council prior to the summer holidays. It was agreed any significant update would be shared by correspondence by the Chair.

4. Parent Council – 2021/22 Academic Year

There has been an expression of interest for the Chair of the Parent Council. This will be proposed and formally agreed at the AGM, unless there are any further expressions of interest prior to the AGM.

5. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 1st September 2021

The Chair thanked all staff, parents and careers for their continued support and contributions over the past Academic Year. The Chair recognised attendees' valuable inputs across what has been a challenging year for everyone. She commented that the opportunity to support, challenge and help shape the approaches taken and decisions made at Hallside was of significant importance and it was only possible through the collaborative approach that this could be successfully done. The Chair wished everyone a happy, healthy summer break when it comes.



Hallside Primary School

Parent Council Meeting 02.06.21

Headteacher Report

Introduction

Good evening everyone. Lovely to see you all. Thank you for joining on such a beautiful evening. As always, your support and input is greatly appreciated. This evening the report will focus on reporting arrangements, transition plans and class structure and anticipated school roll and staffing for next session and of course a Covid Update.

Session 20/21

It is three weeks tomorrow until the school closes for the summer holidays. This is the busiest term of the school year and the last few weeks are incredibly packed.

Some important events coming up.

Class Photographs – As we are not allowed a photographer to the school Mr Bamford will take class photos of children tomorrow Thursday 3rd June. These photos will be emailed to parents/carers and there will be no charge.

We will launch Sports Week on the 14th June with a wear tartan (or Scotland top/strip) to celebrate Scotland's first Euros game. The children will have the opportunity to watch this game in their class.

As we can't have Sports Day in the traditional format all classes will be split into four teams, Red, Blue, Yellow and Green and children will take part in Sports Day themed events as part of their class on the Muga...scores for each team recorded and tallied across the school to declare an overall winner.

P7

The staff team worked incredibly hard to plan the P7 staycation. The P7 staycation has been rescheduled to the 10th and 11th of June and we will make this a memorable and fun experience for our young people. P7 are also currently working on their virtual graduation. To celebrate we are hosting a 'Wrap Party' on the 22nd of June with the graduation being broadcast that evening. A huge thank you to Friends of Hallside for donating £1000 to support P7 end of term events. P7 are also having the opportunity to visit their secondary school for a shorter than normal, socially distanced visit.

P1

We have 47 P1 children due to start with us in August. We have held virtual events but all children will have the opportunity to visit the school on Wednesday 16th – Friday 18th June. All families received a letter prior to May holiday weekend detailing arrangements in line with latest national and local Covid guidance.

Reporting Arrangements

Teaching staff have completed end of year pupil reports. Robert and I are currently reading the reports. All schools in SLC have moved to a new reporting system called Progress and Achievement. The report will focus on Literacy, Numeracy and HWB. We aim to have these to parents/carers by 18th June as a written report this session – not by email.

Class Structure Session 21/22

We have an anticipated school roll next session of 272 children. I have recently had confirmation that we can configure to 11 classes, which we are delighted about. (We had 10 classes this year). The structure is as follows.

P1

P1

P2

P2/3

P3/4

P4

P5

P5/6

P6

P7

P7

Today I received confirmation that we are entitled to 1.FTE Teacher to support recovery planning. Next session we will have two Newly Qualified Teachers with us in class. They will be supported by a class teacher and a member of the management team.

I know what an anxious time this can be for children and families thinking ahead to next session and particularly this year when they have been unable to play with friends from other classes while at school. Teachers are currently working on completing transition information. This will support us in configuring classes for next session and we will inform our children and families as soon as we can and certainly prior to summer holidays.

Covid Update

I am pleased to say we have had a settled period in school over the past 10 days. However, the week before this was incredibly challenging for many of our children, families and staff as a result of the positive cases within our school community. While restrictions were easing in many places we were plunged back into anxiety and worry and for many of our children periods of self isolation with some family members unwell. While I cannot go into detail of the cases I want to reassure the Parent Council and the wider school community that NHS Lanarkshire's health protection team and the assessment team at HQ are reassured with the mitigations that are in place within the school premises and the staff team have been commended for the swift and thorough action that was taken in responding to news of positive cases. In addition, the school also received a deep clean on Friday 21st May. I'd like to formally thank the PC, our parents/carers, children and staff. When phoning families, particularly out of school hours the kindness and understanding demonstrated by our school community has been outstanding. Families utilising the covid email out of hours communication system has enabled me to discuss cases at the weekend and out of school hours with the assessment team. That partnership working is what will get us through these times and ensure the continued safety of our school community.

End of HT Report

"When we work together everything is within our reach."



