

Carmichael Primary School

Parent Council Meeting

20.11.23

Present-Lisa Glashan HT, Claire McRae, Karen Thomson, Fiona Lombard, Danielle Nisbet, Jane Naismith, Gillian Featch, Heather Stewart, Karie Gray, Rachel Strode, Millie Bompard

Apologies- Julie Green, Hazel Erskine, Liz Galloway

Chaired by Danielle Nisbet

Treasurer- Fiona Lombard

Secretary- Jane Naismith

Minutes from previous meeting- One change to be made to the Corra Fund entry

Treasurer's Report-

Balance **£966.3**

From this

£528 will go towards the panto trip

£252 (Corra Fund) £100 to Karie for Yoga classes and £152.00 for Afterschool Clubs

£144 (Bingo) towards leavers hoodies

Parent Council Meeting – HT Report **20th November 2023**

Staffing

No changes to staffing or long-term absences

Revising vision, values and curriculum rationale

- Pupils, families, and staff have selected values they respect, kindness, resilience, creativity, and confidence. Thank you to everyone who participated.
- Consultation on curriculum rationale has begun, views have been gathered from parents and carers while attending our Black History Showcase, and Book Week Scotland & Book Fair afternoon. Views are also being collected via a Google form, Parent Council meeting and a discussion group (date TBC).
- Pupil views will be collated through assembly and pupils will be part of discussion group.
- Staff participated in West Partnership Curriculum programme.

Extending opportunities for pupil voice and participation

- Young Leaders of learning Programme (YLL) not yet started, and dates have had to be rearranged.
- All pupils have selected a pupils voice group to be part of – Rights Respecting Schools, Eco Schools, or Reading Schools.
- Senior pupils taken on leadership roles through organising lunchtime clubs for younger pupils, so far football, rugby, and dance. We have also had a pupil-led Pokémon club for older pupils.
- Reading Schools group representatives met with Reading Ambassadors from Braehead Primary to plan the literacy themed joint visit during Book Week Scotland.
- Reading Schools organisers from Carmichael and Braehead will evaluate the event online.
- Pupils will be leading development of playground and selection of resources for the playground.
- Eco Committee pupils have chosen to support The Clydesdale Foodbank Foodraiser as part of their action plan this session.

Development of Play Pedagogy and introduction of Skills Framework

- Mrs Macrae has completed Play Pedagogy training with Deirdre Grogan funded by South Lanarkshire Council
- Resources have been bought for classroom from Tesco grant (£500) to support play in P1-4 class.
- All staff working in P1-4 class have accessed training and adapted teaching approaches to support enhanced play opportunities while monitoring expected attainment in learning.
- Mrs Macrae working on Play in multi-composite settings in a group with staff from other small schools (Braehead, Kirkfieldbank, and New Lanark) through Learning Community aligned CAT sessions.
- Miss Glashan to attend Skills Framework training in Carluke High on 30.11.23

Equity (Pupil Equity Funding - PEF)

- Priority for PEF funding is additional staffing to support pupils who need support or additional challenge.
- We purchased four additional chromebooks to enhance pupil access to a device to support learning when required.
- Play based resources were purchased, and book bags were refreshed to support learning at home.
- Emotion Works subscription
- £500 has been ringfenced for transport to access activities outwith school.

Non-PEF funding

- The parent Council and a family member are covering the cost of our visit to the Panto at the Pavilion in Glasgow, meaning there is no cost to families.
- Community Council have awarded a £500 grant to be used as a discretionary fund for families who may be facing financial difficulties.
- Community Council are also awarding a grant of £500 towards transport costs.
- Tesco grant £2000, spend so far £1180 (£560 classroom resources, £120 outdoor beanbags, £500 allocated to outdoor learning resources). Remainder to be spent on playground resources.
- £80 of books from Book Fair

- Ragbag £59.20 (Aug) due to be uplifted next week. (aprox £250 per year collected).

Participatory Budget

This session we increased our participatory budget from 5% (£367.50) to 8% (£588). Our school community voted to use our participatory budget to resource and pay for clubs. Pupils gave us a very long list of activities they are interested in, so far, parent volunteers have offered to run Yoga, basketball, and dance clubs. Staff are planning to run STEM, coding, baking and athletics. We are in the process of investigating a martial arts coach, and possibly an arts-based activity. I have also been in touch with Active Schools to see what they can offer.

Health & Safety Audit

We had our Health and safety audit on 30th October, the inspector (Mr Gowans) was very happy and there were no actions for the school.

Parent Portal

Mrs Lombard, Mrs Macrae and myself have all had Parent Portal training and are now able to support Mrs Mitchell. Parent Portal are always open to feedback from staff and parents and have already made a number of adaptations as the programme beds in. Although a handful of families are still sorting out some glitches all families are either on or in the process of getting linked.

Website

Since the last Parent Council meeting, we have developed our school website and are seeking views, contributions and feedback from parents and carers about content. We hope this will be a useful resource for existing parents and future parents around transition.

Handbook

The school handbook is due for an update, and this has to be submitted in January. The majority of the handbook is set out at a council level, but I would welcome feedback from parents and carers around content we add, and whether we need a clearer, more succinct and practical guide for new parents and what the format of this could be.

SWAY

We are now getting into a routine with SWAY, we hope you are finding it useful!

P7 Transition started!

Our P7's have started their transition to their High Schools, Lanark Grammar have started their multi-sports sessions. Meetings have taken place for any pupils requiring additional support or challenge for all High Schools, and pupils will be more directly involved with their High Schools in the New Year.

Christmas!

We have started working on our Christmas performance – 'It's Chriiiiistmas!' The performance will be in Cairngryffe Church, and we will have refreshments in school afterwards.

Panto

As mentioned, there will be no charge to families for our school trip which is to see Treasure Island at the Pavilion in Glasgow, we are very grateful to the Parent Council and Mrs Taylor for covering all costs.

Clubs requested by pupils – in case you can help us out with anything!

Art/ art & crafts	Football
Archery	Games
Badminton	Gymnastics
Baking	Lego
Boxing /Karate/ Taekwondo /martial arts	Rugby
Basketball	Tennis
Chess/drafts	Yoga
Dancing / Cheer	

Matters arising from previous meeting

C touch update- The has been ordered and will be installed in the big class

Remaining Bingo Funds- £114.00 left and will be used to purchase the leavers hoodies

Remaining Corra Foundation- There is a remaining balance of **£252.00**. £100.00 of this will be used to purchase eye pillows for a new Yoga class for the children that Karie will be starting in January. The remaining £152.00 will be put back into account to cover Afterschool Clubs in the new year.

Parent Council Fundraising planning- Christmas and Bingo- For **Christmas** this year, the parent council will organise tea/coffee and baking after the nativity. A donation box will also be out. Crafts made by the children will be on sale and guess the teddy's date of birth.

For **Bingo**-planned date for Tuesday 19th March 2024. Planning for this will start in the new term.

Playground Improvements- The children and staff are deciding the best way to spend £800 allocated for the playground improvements

Lodge Update- Just needs twinkling lights then its finished. The school has found a source for recycled batteries which will help to cut down of costs.

Bouncy Castle Update- Potential buyer, awaiting update on this.

Microgrants- Have been approved. £500 for swimming transport, £500 for headteacher assistance fund and £500 for leavers event.

AOB

Changing for PE- Advisable for clothing to be labelled/identifiable. Progress is being made, the younger ones are doing well in developing their independence skills

Outdoor Learning- Forest visits take place on a Monday. The outdoor learning is very much at the heart of Carmichael primary and although each visit might not go up into the forest, other areas are explored in and around the school/church/pitch area.

It has been suggested about getting a local company like CCI or the Men's Shed to build a welly boot holder

An application to the Loaningdale Fund will be submitted to fund outdoor learning equipment and the development of the unused area at the back of the school. Miss Glashan will speak to Arty Bits to see if they would be interested in taking on the project with the children. More will follow.

Clothing Bin- The clothing bin is allocated at the front of the school at the gate. This raises funds for the school.

School Accident Policy- The school holds an accident book. For any bumps to head, parents will be contacted and a form will be filled out. The school will always try to contact parents/guardians if any injury has been sustained.

If a serious accident has happened due to a fault within the school, RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013) will be filled out.

Council Budget Cuts- Proposals for the spending cuts will be voted on this Friday, but it is estimated that £20million across the council in year 2024/25 and a proposed £20million the following year.

As it stands, this will not include redundancies but there will be no replacements in jobs from retirement.

There would be a reduced support team and area cover for absences

Extending the walking to school distance to cut transport needs, safe routes would need to be assessed.

Licensing fees reduced per capita (photocopying, food provisions offering less options, summer holiday programmes would be cut

No proposal to reduce PEF funding.

Millie will attend the meeting on 7th December and will report back after.

Carmichael Little Library- Danielle is awaiting a plaque from CCI and the plan would be for the children to hold an opening ceremony for the community. The children will help to maintain the library, checking the books and stock levels

The children will do a SWAY snapshot of the library.

School website/Information booklet- both currently being updated. Information on this is in the HT report attached.

Danielle has suggested asking IT trained parents for help in building the website and Rachel has suggested that information on security should be included in the new parent handbook.

It has also been suggested that it would be helpful for a Q&A section and possibly some videos added to do a walk round of the school etc.

Afterschool Clubs

Beginning in the new year, there are plans to run blocks of classes for the children. The following classes have been earmarked but we are always looking for any other parental input/ideas to take classes after school.

So far.....

Yoga with Karie

Baking with Mrs Telfer

Basketball with Ant

STEM with Mrs Cardwell

Coding with Mrs McRae

Athletics with Mrs Thomson

Dance with Rachel

Frame weaving with Karie

Enquires will be made for Martial Arts and also art classes, Lisa will speak to Arty Bits

The next meeting will be held in the new year!