

## Carmichael Primary School

### Parent Council Meeting

19.02.24

**Present**-Lisa Glashan HT, Claire McRae, Fiona Lombard, Danielle Nisbet, Jane Naismith, Gillian Featch, Heather Stewart, Karie Gray, Liz Galloway, Katie Haverstock

**Apologies**- Hazel Erskine, Rachel Strode, Mille Bompard

**Chaired** by Danielle Nisbet

**Treasurer**- Fiona Lombard

**Secretary**- Jane Naismith

**Minutes from previous meeting**- Approved DN and HS

**Headteacher's Report-**

**Parent Council Meeting – HT Report**

**19.02.24 (rearranged from 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024)**

#### **Staffing**

Student Megan Carswell will be working in the P5-7 class this term alongside Mrs Thomson

#### **Revising vision, values and curriculum rationale**

- Parents and carers, pupils and staff have been consulted about priorities for our curriculum rationale and there will hopefully be a draft copy ready by the end of February.

#### **Extending opportunities for pupil voice and participation**

- Young Leaders of Learning Programme (YLL) has started, 4 pupils will attend training at Rigside Primary delivered by Education Scotland. We will be working with Braehead Primary, Kirkfieldbank Primary, New Lanark Primary and Rigside Primary. Pupils will be supported to evaluate an area of school improvement based on the principles and structure of How Good is OUR School (also known as Wee HGIOS). The schools are going to start by looking at relationships, and as part of the programme will have the opportunity to visit and host other schools.
- Our pupil led clubs were mostly successful and senior pupils have chosen to continue. This term we will be running Dance, Drama, Art, and Rugby. As well as running the clubs pupils will now be encouraged to evaluate the club that they ran and think about the skills they have developed when organising them.
- The focus for our next joint visit with Braehead Primary will be STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). This time pupils from Braehead will come to Carmichael, a group of

pupils from each school have planned and will deliver the programme for the day with Mrs Macrae and Mrs Straiton from Braehead. Visit date 20.02.24.

- The Eco committee have been leading discussion around the development of our playground and selection of resources for the playground.

### **Development of Play Pedagogy and introduction of Skills Framework**

- We are working on finding a balance between increasing opportunities for learning through play. The opportunities for pupil led and adult designed play experiences have increased, within a clear structure established by staff to ensure appropriate pace and challenge for all our learners.
- Mrs Macrae is continuing to work with the Lanark Learning Community professional enquiry group focusing on Play in multi-composite settings.
- Miss Glashan attended training on the skills framework in Carluke High at the end of November, further sessions to follow. We will be introducing vocabulary around skills and in classrooms over the next few weeks.

### **Christmas Events**

- Pupils had a very busy Christmas period in-between practising for their own performance!
- They had a Christmas Craft Morning preparing gifts to sell after the performance.
- They had hot chocolate and marshmallows in the forest.
- We had a fantastic Trip to Glasgow to see Treasure Island at the Pavilion.
- We had our school Christmas lunch showing off our Christmas Jumpers.
- Pupils put on a wonderful performance of It's Chriiiiistmas in Cairngryffe church.
- Christmas House Quiz
- Christmas Movie and treats
- Christmas Party with a very special visit from Santa.

Thank you to everyone who supported us with these events, either by attending, providing baking, helping children rehearse, and making sure they had everything they needed with them for all the different activities!

We raised £278.70 through donations, guesses, and craft purchases after our Nativity!

### **Transition**

#### **Primary 1**

Enrolment for P1 pupils is open and can be accessed online. Placing requests can be applied for between January and March, outcomes from placing requests should be confirmed by end of April. [https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary\\_school\\_information/569/school\\_placing\\_requests](https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/569/school_placing_requests)

We have planned additional visits for pupils who attend Carmichael Toddlers and have enrolled or submitted a placing request to Carmichael Primary. Visits have started, P6 buddies visited the toddlers in the hall and the toddlers joined us in school this morning for their first visit with their buddies. The official transition programme for Primary one pupils will begin in May.

#### **Secondary**

Transition events for Lanark Grammar and Biggar High have begun, each school has their own transition programme, dates for both programmes are included in the newsletters. If parents wish to make a placing request to a High School outwith their catchment, they should follow the same procedure as primary pupils between January and March, with outcomes confirmed by end of April.

### **Additional funding/grants**

Tesco - £2000 awarded – approx. spend £1100

Community Council Grants - £500 towards panto tickets

£500 P7 treat

£500 Discretionary fund

Participatory Budget (clubs) £588

This term we will be offering Yoga (all pupils), Dance (P4-7), Coding (P4-7) and Baking (P1-3). We are hoping to offer Basketball, STEM (p1-3), and athletics (p4-7) in term 4.

### **Playground developments**

We have met with Arty Bits and Lanark Men's shed with a view to working in partnership to develop our grounds.

Arty Bits visited the playground and have given us some ideas, however they would not be able to deliver an art/recycling club until the autumn, this would cost approx. £250 per 6 week block, we may need to add travelling expenses to this.

The Men's Shed were very enthusiastic about most of the ideas and suggested some of their own! They have on-going projects and suggested that this would potentially be a longer term project over a few months.

We have had discussions with pupils who have already given us their thoughts, the Eco Committee are in the process of inviting the Men's Shed to school for a meeting, and to develop an action plan with realistic time scales and costs. Parents are also welcome to join us for this meeting.

We are looking for a group of parents who would be happy to give us hands on help or may be able to provide materials.

The Men's Shed would also be happy for pupils to visit them at their new premises at New Lanark.

### **World of Work Week**

We are still looking for volunteers to come in and talk to our pupils about their jobs and the skills and qualities required. Please let us know if you would be interested!

### **Visit to Scottish Parliament**

P5-7 are learning about the Scottish Parliament this term, We have just had confirmation that we will be able to visit the parliament for a tour and to watch First Minister's questions on the 25<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Swimming Sessions**

Swimming sessions will be starting for P5&6 on 19<sup>th</sup> March for 12 sessions on Tuesday afternoons. The final session will be 18<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Lockerbie Manor**

P6&7 pupils set off for Lockerbie Manor on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April. Pupils and staff will go via Drumlanrig Castle for lunch and play in their adventure park to extend the day as they cannot get into Lockerbie until 2.30pm. The bus will be leaving Carmichael at 11am.

An information session is planned from 2-3pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

### **Bingo Night**

Plans are in place for the Bingo night on the 19<sup>th</sup> March but this has not yet been discussed at Parent Council due to the change of date of the meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report-**

Balance **£685.87**

With one uncashed cheque for leavers hoodies

Balance will be

**£548.87**

### **Head Teacher Report**

### **Bingo Night**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Doors will open at 6pm

6-6.30pm- Tea/Coffee/Homebaking (set out on platters on the tables), Tombola

6.30-7.15pm Bingo Games

7.15pm-7.30pm Break for refreshments

7.30-8pm Bingo Games

Kids will design a poster for the community noticeboard and a leaflet to drop around the houses, leaflets will also be sent home to distribute around your own area.

Donations of raffle/tombola/home baking would be greatly appreciated and can be left at the school from now up until the Friday before the event. Home baking can be dropped off on the Monday 18<sup>th</sup> or the morning of the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Parent council members will assist in setting up and running the event alongside the teaching staff.

An order form for tickets will be sent home with the children. This should be returned along with the number of tickets required and the money in an envelope.

Tickets £5 per adult and £1 per child, this will include 4 adult games per person and 1 child game per child. It will also include refreshments.

### **School Handbook**

All information regarding school life is available on the school website.

A shorter version for new parents will be issued during transition time that will cover what you should expect from the 1<sup>st</sup> day and week of school. The information for this, has been collated from parents and what they found helpful to know on the first few days.

The info will cover-

What to bring with them

Arrival time for P1s and parents

Lunches/snacks/water bottle

Booking Milk

PE/Forest kits/Indoor shoes

Homework

Uniform/Pre loved uniform supply

Parent Pay/Parent Portal

WhatsApp group

Signing in at front door visitors book

Transition time will commence on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Indoor Shoes**

All children must have a pair of comfortable indoor shoes that they should change into when they come in from outside. The majority of the children do have a pair in school but some are reluctant to change their footwear. The staff would appreciate support from the parents to encourage the children to follow this rule.

### **Transport**

A child's place on school transport must be applied for before the beginning of the school term in August. The details on the transport can be very last minute and might not be decided until very close to the start date. Applications are done through South Lanarkshire Council.

The school doesn't have any input as this is all done through SLC. Miss Glashan is happy to contact transport if anyone has any issues though.

It is normal for the minibus drivers to do a dummy run a week or two before just to get their route and to introduce themselves.

### **Birthday Cakes**

From August onwards, it will no longer be appropriate to send children into school with cake for the class on their birthdays. This is due to dietary needs and restrictions

### **Little Library**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb at 9.45am, the children from the school and toddlers will cut the ribbon and unveil the plaque to officially open the library. Danielle will issue an invite on the community FB page to anyone that wishes to come along and support this fantastic addition to the village.

### **Parent Participation**

If any parent would be interested in coming along to the school to spend some time chatting to the children about their job/career, please get in touch. This would take place on a Monday at present.

### Reading Book Choices

It has been expressed by some parents that the availability of the reading material has been a restricted and the children don't have access to a better and larger choice of books. The staff feel that there is a varied and good choice of books available and that funding is not an issue for purchasing books.

### AOB

The security of the playground in the morning had been highlighted by a parent

Details for morning drop off are-

From **8.15am-8.45am**- Children can be dropped off to come straight into school to attend breakfast club. This is staffed by Mrs Telfer/Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Campbell.

From **8.45am-9am**- The children from breakfast club go outside to join the other children off the buses. At this time 1-2 members of staff will be in the playground until the bell rings.

If any parent is concerned about the drop off for breakfast club as no staff are in the playground at this time, they can walk their child to the side door and see them in.

Children should **not be dropped off any earlier than 8.15am** as there will be no members of staff to supervise.

At any other time, parents are not permitted in the playground, and should only enter the school from the front door and sign the visitor book on arrival.

The school is on the council waiting list for a new gate and fence to be installed.