**Wester Overton Parent Council meeting minutes**

**14th November 2023**

**Present:** June Moir, Natalie Currie, Emma Beaumont, Alison Chand, Stephanie Chillingworth, Lisa Hendry (chair), Becky Hunt, Karen Kelly, Lyndsey Morton, Sarah Murray, Amy Piper, Kirsty Redfern, Fiona Redmond, Gillian Storrie

**Apologies:** Kate McDougall, Stacey Nisbet, Jonathan Orr

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 17th January, 7pm**

**Welcome and apologies**

**Minutes from previous meeting and matters arising**

**June’s news**

June gave the following report of news from the school:

* **Budget Cuts**

Attend a meeting today where proposals for substantial budget cuts were announced which will affect us directly. This can be seen on the SLC website from today.

* **Staffing**

Mr Rashid has now resigned, and Miss Thistlethwaite will be the Room 6 class teacher. Mr Rashid will not be replaced, and this cover will come out of our ‘additionality’ allocation, which has been used for learning support and running our nurture groups up until now.

* **Social Media**

I would ask that a reminder is put out on the school Facebook page of the pages purpose, and that there should be no criticism of staff or the school on this page. Anyone with a concern or issue should contact the school directly.

* **Christmas Shows**

Our rehearsals for the Coffee and Carols and Christmas shows are all underway. All information on dates, times and how to book tickets has been sent out via Facebook, the App and email.

* **Cashless School**

Our paperless/ cashless system has been overwhelmingly successful with only two complaints by parents who found the system challenging to use. Parents have engaged really well with the school to overcome registration and system difficulties, and we now have less than 2% of pupils still to be registered. We will now only use Parents Portal for permissions, and Parent Pay for payments. This has cut down on the time spent by our staff handling return slips and money.

* **Coffee and Carols**

We desperately need volunteers to serve teas and coffees at Coffee and Carols on Thursday 30th November. Please let me know if you or anyone you know may be able to help.

**Next fundraisers**

* Discussion took place around cost of tickets for Bounce Bingo night in March. Tickets to be charged at £25 per person, including buffet and bingo. Event to be BYOB. Bingo company will print tickets. Tickets to be sold for 120 people, with buffet booked for 80 people at £7.95 per head. June to put tickets on Parent Pay for sale after Christmas holidays.
* Discussion took place about timing of event. Decided to open doors at 7pm for 8pm start, with 11pm finish.
* Nine prizes required for bingo games. Lisa to check with company if they will provide any prizes. June to keep back three raffle prizes to use at event.

**200 Club (Strathaven Academy)**

Fiona told the group about Strathaven Academy’s 200 Club fundraising initiative. School to circulate information on how to sign up for this if parents want to.

**AOB**

* Discussion took place about the P7 group class photo as quite a few children were off when it was taken. June to arrange to take new group photos later in the school year, possibly at Easter assembly.
* Lisa raised a question she had been asked about rules for PE kit. June confirmed that if a child does not have PE kit they cannot take part in PE, but she and Natalie were not aware of any instances of children having their names put on a list.
* June asked for volunteers to help with serving coffee at coffee and carols night on 30th November, and for helpers at panto.

**Next meeting date:**

Wednesday 17th January 2024