

**Wester Overton Parent Council meeting minutes**

**7th September 2023**

**Present:** June Moir, Laura Ann Bailkoski, Natalie Currie, Alison Chand, Lisa Hendry (Chair), Lyndsey Morton, Jonathan Orr, Kirsty Redfern (Chair), Gillian Storrie.

**Apologies:** Stephanie Chillingworth, Becky Hunt, Stacey Nisbet, Sarah O’Brien, Jo Tunney

**Date of next meeting: Monday 9th October**

**Welcome and apologies**

**Minutes from previous meeting and matters arising**

**June’s news**

June gave the following report of news from the school:

**Transition**

Really successful transition has taken place, which was highlighted as good practice and many schools are now taking on this model. Very settled P1s.

**Residential**

Due to take place 19–21 September. 7 members of staff have volunteered to go. Children have selected their activities.

**Staffing**

Mrs McCulloch will go on mat leave from tomorrow. Miss Bailkoski will go on mat leave next Friday 15th September and plans to return 4th March. Mr McCracken will be Acting DHT during this time. Mrs Hannah will be Acting PT.

**Parent Events**

We have a P1 parent information evening **Wednesday 13th September** to share information on your children's planned learning for the year ahead. The P1 teachers will demonstrate the resources and learning approaches we use, share expectations and answer any general queries.

In our school we use Talk for Writing to teach writing and Number Talks to teach mental maths.

There will be an informal information event for each taking place on 4th October to help parents support children's learning and learn about ways in which to support them at home.

**Uniform**

We have been encouraging full uniform to be worn and almost all children are doing this now. It reduces teasing and keeps everyone equal. We have also seen a huge increase in unnamed lost property. If a children’s belongings don’t have a name, we have very little chance of reuniting them.

**After School Clubs**

Our clubs are now up and running, with football, netball and athletics for the P6s and 7s. Rugby is taking place for P7s and gymnastics and coding will start after Sep weekend for P4 and 5.

**Communication**

Just a reminder that phonelines are only open 8.45–3.15, and staff can’t access email out of working hours.

**Fundraiser events**

* It was agreed that there is now not enough time to organise a quiz night before 1st October. Gillian suggested looking into booking Bounce Bingo at the hotel in the spring. Lisa to contact Bounce Bingo and ask for available Friday/Saturday dates in March, and Gillian to liaise with Lisa on available dates at the hotel. Kirsty to check available Friday/Saturday nights at Scout and Guide Centre as alternative. Gillian to organise refund from rugby club for cancelled booking on 1st October.

**AOB**

* Discussion took place about Parentportal. June noted that she also still needs to post on the app as not all parents have registered for Parentportal. The plan is to switch to Parentportal fully after the October holidays.
* Kirsty noted that she had received a query about the willow at the school. June noted that she and her husband have planted lots of new willow, which needs two years for growth.
* It was noted that the Halloween disco will take place on Thursday 26th October.
* Alison to send a blurb about the parent council to June ahead of the next meeting on 9th October.