

Parent Council Meeting – 25th February 2021

Present

Isla Williams, Katrina McKnight, Robert Beveridge, Richard Winfield, Farrah Bett, Mark Hill, Danielle Smith, Claire Templeman, Fiona Moran, Lorraine Chambers, Lorna Parry, Jane Stewart, Isla Williams, Richard Winfield, Tracey Miller

Apologies

Lisa Nicol, Ashley Mcllwraith

1. Actions from last minutes

All actions up to date.

2. Parent rep feedback

Nursery, P3 & P4	Nothing to report
P1	Could there be more equipment put in the playground and it brightened up? MH is planning the development of the playground at this time. More information will follow but this will involve partnerships with Learning Through Landscapes and the wider community. House Captains will also support this development
P2	<p>Some of the parents are not happy there is tinned fruit on the lunch menu instead of fresh fruit. MH confirmed the kitchen have been using a surplus of tinned fruit and fresh fruit will reappear back on menu. There was an issue with fresh fruit delivery which has been resolved. At the moment they're still operating the grab bags for lunch so it's not possible to have soup etc. on the menu for health and safety reasons. All food served meets strict nutritional guidelines set by the Scottish Government.</p> <p>Some parents wanted to know why the school couldn't do more outdoor learning and if possible could they get advance warning when this happens so they can make sure children have the adequate footwear/waterproofs with them. MH confirmed the school already work with Under the Trees to provide outdoor learning opportunities and also look at other ad hoc opportunities for outdoor learning. The school usually provide advance warning of any outdoor learning. MH confirmed staff members are going to be getting additional outdoor training from Learning Through Landscapes and this should increase their confidence to deliver outdoor learning. This will begin in the summer term and continue through into the 2021/22 academic year. Living through Landscapes are also going to be undertaking an audit of the school grounds to see how they could be improved and made more engaging.</p> <p>One parent wanted to know if it is possible to keep the same teacher next year for continuity based on the fact some children have missed a lot of face-to-face learning because of lockdowns. MH confirmed this is not possible due to need and make-up of composite classes, various staff changes that are happening next year etc.</p>
P5	Already discussed with the school last week.

P6	<p>Could more google meets be undertaken with the teacher?</p> <p>MH reported that is finding the balance for families and the teaching staff who are creating, sourcing, planning and updating materials. In addition they are providing feedback, supporting learning and providing support for children/relatives in their own home circumstances.</p>
P7	<p>Some parents felt there wasn't enough home learning and a lot of parents are also worried about the transition to High School.</p> <p>MH confirmed that e-Sgoil have adapted their offering and have not got a daily offering so he could see if this could be sent out to parents. In relation to transition the High School are already working on plans for this and plan to have a digital transition but if the situation changes and they're allowed to they will run a face-to-face transition.</p>

3. Treasurers update

- Current balance in the bank as of 14th January 2021 is £5,336.47.
- There is £20 outgoing for the gambling licence (required for FREG events/raffles).
- Katrina and Richard now on the account and can sign cheques
- There were a couple of requests for funding and the school are going to put together a wish list of item.
 - Suggestions included picnic tables, some sort of covered area(s) to provide shade/cover from the elements, mural(s) in the playground and some signs on the daily mile track showing distances. The Learning through Landscapes audit of the playground should also highlight opportunities.

Action: MH and DS to put together a wish list for expenditure and price.

4. FREG update

Due to lockdown the Resolution Run was postponed as was the shopping vouchers raffle. FREG hope to run both of them later on in the year once Covid restrictions ease.

5. Nursery update

The nursery are currently operating smaller bubbles for the children – one group are in the garden/main room and the other group are in the discovery room/cloakroom area and making use of the school grounds and woods

CT highlighted there has been a lot of vandalism recently in the nursery garden (beer bottles, cigarette ends and the mud kitchen was damaged). There is CCTV but it is not always pointed on the garden. LC suggesting putting a sign up saying there is CCTV in the grounds as this might deter the vandals. IW suggested putting a post on Facebook (Cambusbarron Village) to highlight the problem so people are aware of it.

Action: CT to put up a sign saying there is CCTV in the nursery grounds and to post something on the Cambusbarron Village Facebook page to highlight the problems with vandalism.

FB raised the issue of dog fouling outside the nursery grounds and asked if that could be raised with the community police officer.

Action: MH/CT to look into the issue of dog fouling.

6. School update

There are 26 P1's enrolled for starting after the Summer so there will need to be two classes again (P1 and P1/2). The projected school roll will be 205 pupils so there will be a drop from the current 10 classes to 9 classes. The school will formalise what the classes will look like in April/May and will feedback to parent council. MH confirmed that composite classes are based on date of birth, gender balance and additional support needs. More information will be shared when classes are announced.

P4-7 children will be returning back to school on the 15th March. As with the P1-3 classes the school will quickly establish whereabouts the children are in their learning with regards to reading, writing and numeracy. This will be done through observation, discussions and on-going assessments. The school team also have data from tracking remote engagement and the ongoing feedback from remote learning. They are in a strong place to start from. MH reports they will use this information to identify areas of strength, gaps in knowledge and next steps in learning. If children need any extra learning this can be done in small support groups or with the SLA team. MH confirmed the school have received £6,500 from Scottish Government to spend between now and summer and this will be used to support those children that need extra help with learning or health and wellbeing. Teachers already know what families may need extra help and are well placed to hit the ground running when children return.

MH reported that they know our families really well. They know those who are finding this time more challenging and already have a clear idea of where staff may need to focus emotional support or learning support when the children return. The school team will be very responsive to this.

7. Parent Council Chairs Meeting – feedback

FB highlighted this was a useful meeting and has shared her notes and the minutes with the Parents Council. There was a lot of discussion about live sessions with kids and it was acknowledged that more kids would want these live sessions. Discussed transition and that it's high on the priority of schools.

8. Usborne books

KM confirmed a person in village is an Usborne Books rep and would like to do a virtual sale if possible for the school as part of World Book Day.

Action: KM to forward the details of the Usborne Books rep on to MH and DS.

9. AOB

The next meeting will take place on 13th May 2021 at 1900hrs

Zoom joining code: 530 – 622 – 7988

There is no password required – Richard Winfield will allow you access.

Actions

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Action: CT to put up a sign saying there is CCTV in the nursery grounds and to post something on the Cambusbarron Village Facebook page to highlight the problems with vandalism.

Action: MH/CT to look into the issue of dog fouling.

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