

Parent Council Meeting – 15th September 2022

Present

Farrah Bett, Isla Williams, Richard Winfield, Danielle Smith, Lisa Nicol, Mark Hill, Toni Swain, Mya Meiklejohn, Jamie Vaughn-Sharp, Jane Stewart

Apologies

Laura Robertson, Rachel Walker

Agenda

1. FREG update

- 5 members in FREG and all are new to the group. The group is always looking for new members.
- £2,689.20 raised at summer fayre.
- First events for this new school year is Halloween discos on 27th October. There will be discos for P2-4 and P5-7 with a £2 entry fee. P1/Nursery – opportunity to have a wee Halloween disco/do some Halloween themed party games or have the theatre show that the school/nursery have used before.

Action – Mark going to find out if there is an option to look at stone the crows theatre show.

Action – Mark will send out a poll to P1 parents to find out if parents would prefer a show/disco or some wee Halloween party games.

- Other events planned are the Christmas Fayre (3rd December in the community centre), an Autumn art competition, the Cauliflower cards (Christmas design), a New Year's resolution run, a Beetle drive in February and a science competition around about science week.

2. Treasurers update

- Balance is £4,587. Nothing planned for spending apart from gambling licence which is £20. Suggestions for expenditure welcomed.
- Danielle has some suggestions for expenditure:
 - Playground resources
 - Nurture space
 - Cambus Clubs – resources for the cooking and gardening club
 - P5 working with University of Edinburgh and Learning Landscapes on a Sensory Project. Will be undertaking a sensory map of the school grounds and identifying areas that could be revitalised and made more interesting.
- As discussed, and agreed the following persons will be added to the parents council account (Number - 007328730): Farrah Amor Bett as Chair person and Isla Williams as Secretary. This is to continue the account having activate members to cross sign cheques.

3. Parent rep feedback

P1	When will the Stirling Observer be doing the P1 class photo?	Not sure when that will be. No response from Stirling Observer
	When will school photos take place and will sibling photos be allowed?	Whylers coming out on 27 th October and will do siblings and individuals and class photos for P1 (not P7 at this time).
	Are there any plans for reintroducing an after school club and breakfast club?	Stirling Council says they have no statutory duty to provide after school care but recognise there's a need for afterschool care. Council got meeting 16 th September about breakfast clubs but still as it stands not opening any more new breakfast clubs. Update: Council have lifted the freeze on breakfast clubs but these would be ran by school staff or by volunteers from the community. Reviewing staffing the school would not be able to run a club at this time. I do not have additional staffing budget so would have to alter core hours for my support staff. This would mean support staff would be unavailable later in the day to support children which is not a viable option.
P2	When will school photos take place?	Whylers coming out on 27 th October and will do siblings and individuals and class photo for P1 and P7
	When will children receive their reading books?	Both classes now receiving ReadWriteInc e-books.
	Could the classroom be refreshed with some paint?	Classroom painted last year. There is an issue with the P1/2 cupboards. Action – Mark to find out from the teacher if they are going to be used as chalkboard cupboards and if not ask if they could be brightened up.
P5	When will swimming lessons start?	Active Stirling catching up with P6 so no swimming for P5 this year. P6 start swimming at end of January
	Will there be a Halloween disco?	27 th October 2022
	When will the children get chrome books?	Chrome books used extensively in class and a small number sent home for those families that need them. If a chrome book needed at home then please contact the teacher.
P7	House Captains	Did presentation on improvements they'd like done in school so there may be some opportunity there for expenditure.

4. School update

- P1 transition very successful.
- In person assemblies started again and well received.
- Meet the Teacher event took place on 9th September and was very successful.

- Whole school shared learning event on 6th October event and will advertise in next newsletter. W
- Staffing update: Two staff members on sick leave and these vacancies being filled by 2 supply teachers. New janitor started this week. New support for learning teacher.
- Credit Union – no plans to re-engage with schools at the moment
- Head-teachers business meeting took place on 14th September and there's a consultation out on make-up of composition classes. Updated policy produced late November/December and feedback issues to school and community in March 2023
- School Improvement Plan – planning to send out a wee summary document to everyone. Looking at numeracy, reading and writing, play based learning, health and well-being
- Pupil leadership – opportunities for kids to be involved in decision making in the school
- Additional opportunity for skills development e.g. Cambus Clubs
- Continuing to revisit school values.
- School capacity – Council looking at options appraisal e.g. a new built or extension, Architects and council officials have been out looking at the school in terms of a new build or extension. They have identified the school needs 2 halls (currently only has 1 hall). Looking at pro and cons of extending to lower playground or to the pitch (seemed an option on to pitch would be preferred). An extension of 3 classrooms would be also be required. Also got 2 classrooms that could be changed to classrooms so potentially 5 new classrooms. There would also need to be work carried out on the existing school if there was an extension e.g. the flat roof leaks. No date for when options appraisal will be completed. Nursery would also be looked at as part of the options appraisal.

Action – Mark to contact Isabell Smitt to get an update on timeline for the Options Appraisal.

5. Nursery update

- Nursery is completely full. Offering play at home sessions as well as a home visit for transition
- Big focus on re-vamping the nursery garden.
- 3 members of staff going to undertake forest kindergarten training
- Claire Templeman going on training for developing language skills
- First stay and play session planned. First one on health & well-being and also going to have a grandparents stay and play session in October.

6. AOB

- There will be a Nativity Play this year and parents will be invited in to watch it. There will be 2 shows (14th Dec in the morning and 15th Dec in the afternoon) with exact timings dates will be confirmed in due course.

Actions

- **Action 1** – Mark going to find out if there is an option to look at stone the crows theatre show.

Update – looked into this and not a viable option available. P1 to have a party on Friday 28th Oct during school time. Nursery to hold a party during nursery hours.

- **Action 2** – Mark will send out a poll to P1 parents to find out if parents would prefer a show/disco or some wee Halloween party games.

Update –Mark spoke to staff team and a party during school hours was agreed on. It was felt that a disco with year 2 and 3 would be difficult for some of our P1's and bring issues re supervision for volunteers.

- **Action 3** – Mark to find out from the teacher if they are going to be used as chalkboard cupboards and if not ask if they could be brightened up.

Update – Cupboards are going to be covered with children's work / display material so will brighten up. Handles and catches to be replaced.

- **Action 4** – Mark to contact Isabell Smitt to get an update on timeline for the Options Appraisal.

Update – email sent awaiting update.

Next parent council meetings:

- 29th September 2022 - AGM
- 17th November 2022