

## Parent Council Meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### Present

Farrah Bett, Isla Williams, Richard Winfield, Lisa Nicol, Mark Hill, Jane Stewart, Jane Stewart, Laura Robertson, Tracey Miller

### Apologies

Danielle Smith

## 1. Minutes from last meeting

Action - Danielle to look at what ParentPay charges are

Update: It is possible to link another bank account to the schools ParentPay system so if an 'event' was set up (e.g. FREG Beetle Drive) and monies was to be paid, this could be set up and requested via the schools ParentPay and linked to the appropriate bank account. There is a small fee taken by ParentPay which is 1.275% per transaction (this covers debit and credit cards, American Express as well as PayPoint)

## 2. FREG update

- £2600 raised at Christmas fayre
- Resolution run - this year only 14 entered so we took in £56. After deducting cost of medals and certificates the profit was just short of £19 so not sure if we will run it again next year.
- Family quiz night - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 6-8pm. 5 confirmed teams so far, hoping for a few more.
- Summer Fair - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 11am-2pm
- We found out last week that our application to the Stirling and Bridge of Allan Round Table small grants was successful – we secured £500 to be used for developing the playground.
- Keep Scotland Beautiful Spring Clean takes place between 17<sup>th</sup> March and 17<sup>th</sup> April. Keep Scotland Beautiful can provide all of the necessary equipment. Would be good for the school to be involved in this.

***Action: Mark to explore the possibility of taking part in the Keep Scotland Beautiful Spring Clean.***

## 3. Treasurers update

- Current balance is £4,759.22. Since the last meeting the Parent Council have spent £1,400 on the pupils nurture room.
- Pending: £1,300 on pupil trips, £20 on Gambling Licence and £36 to Farrah for Halloween.
- Incoming: £46.68 from easy fundraising.
- Remaining balance: £3,269.90

#### 4. Parent rep feedback

P1	Would be keen to hear plans for outdoor learning.	The school are keen that outdoor learning is interwoven into the curriculum. Volunteers welcomed but wouldn't want any volunteers with pre-school kids.
	Are any school trips planned?	Focus is planning on learner led learning so will see what the kids want to do and can plan school trips around that.
P2	World book day was very confusing. Some classes were told not to dress up due to the cost of living crisis, others were told to dress down and others were told to go in pjs. Some parents thought not dressing up (due to cost of living crisis) but buying the books was slightly contradictory.	<p>The school have received some mixed feedback from World Book day which they will learn from. As opposed to some previous years classes were given more autonomy in how they chose to mark this. Some classes encouraged children to come in cosy clothing for a cosy read and others did not. This caused some confusion which I appreciate was unhelpful.</p> <p>The school chose to step away from 'Book Day' dress up as previous feedback from staff and parents indicated this was an expense and could feel quite 'gimmicky'.</p> <p>Reflecting on this and with a mind to Book Week Scotland in November, the school will return to a more structured whole school approach which will support all classes to participate fully.</p>
	The parents would like to see more books coming home with their children rather than online.	It's a cost factor – the school has an online account for ReadWriteInc (RWI) so have access to more books online. Wouldn't have enough physical RWI books to be able to send individual books home. If there is a barrier to accessing the digital books e.g. no device to do so/poor internet connection then parents can let their class teacher know.
	Red nose red day – people unclear what is happening.	Some miss - communications. Email has been sent out to clarify this and let the school community know about the plans for red nose day.
P3	Lack of lollipop crossing person	<p>Mark to look into it. Also, does this fall under council budget cuts? Melissa is on the community council and has raised it.</p> <p><b>Action: Mark to speak to the Council about the lack of a lollipop man and what their plans are to address this and to find out when the crossing is due to be assessed.</b></p>
P4	The flavoured milk trial - unhealthy, full of sugar, whose idea was this? Was the trial successful?	The trial came from the council and it proved popular, with water and normal milk still available as well. Menu Planning, including the flavoured milk, has to follow the strict nutritional guidelines set out by the Healthy Eating in Schools National Guidance. Going forward they may put flavoured milk on the menu once a week as a treat.
	Are there any plans on changing the school menu at some point? Been same	It will be changing after the summer holidays although it has been highlighted it will just be going down to two options instead of three due to budget cuts.

	menu for most of the academic year and it's very repetitive.	
P7	Be good to get dates in diary for P7 show, church service, BBQ etc	Mark to look into this and get dates to parents before the Easter break.  <b>Action: Mark to get dates to P7 parents for events such as the P7 Show, the church service etc. He will aim to do this before Easter.</b>
	P7 at Dalguise and only update they've had is that they've arrived. Could someone put a message on seesaw or Facebook to say that everything is fine?	Mark confirmed the kids are having a great time and will put a message out via seesaw.

## 5. School update

- Creating a playground charter and have been doing this with the SLA's and through House meetings. This Charter illustrates what experiences and behaviours we want to see our children demonstrating in the playground. Our P6 Leaders of Learning have gathered the suggestions from our House Meetings and will, by the end of next week, have created our Playground Charter to share with our school community.
- Learning through Landscapes are coming back on 24 April. They will collaborate with children, staff and any willing parents and carers to create a roadmap for how we can best use our school grounds and resources moving forward.
- Mr Brown and Mrs Cook are working with a group of learners in our Digital Leaders team. They are looking at how we use technology and looking at online safety. Working towards the school achieving a Digital Schools Award this year and are making good progress.
- Sharing the Learning STEM session was really well attended and currently gathering feedback. Once gathered the school will share with the school community and consider any lessons learned. This will also help to inform what these 'sharing the learning' sessions look like in our 2023-23 academic year.
- Nurture rooms – 2<sup>nd</sup> room up and running and heavily used. Feedback very positive

## 6. Nursery update

- No one was present from the nursery to provide an update.

## 7. Children's Service Plan – consultation

- No comments from parents. General consensus amongst the parent council group was that there were some contradictions in the Plan e.g. focus on reducing poverty, improving mental well-being yet they are reducing meal options for school children, reducing lollipop crossings, school budgets etc.

## 8. School build update

- An 'Options Appraisal' is underway to consider a range of different possibilities. Possible options have been identified. The next part of the Options Appraisal is that several independent contractors are being asked to look at the buildability of each option.

- Stirling council Infrastructure and Education teams use the information gathered from the Optional Appraisal to inform a business case that is then presented to the Stirling Futures Board (SFB). The SFB then review and either sign off on the business case (and assign Capital Funding (e.g. money) to progress this project to the next stage or request additional information. At this point, with the information re buildability and costs, the board can progress preferred options to elected members.
- The timing of this will be confirmed for taking the project through governance and approvals in due course now that capital funding has been allocated. Elected members consider the business case for approval. At the budget setting meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023, the elected members allocated a capital budget of £413K for 2023/24 and indicative future year budget allocations would be made in higher amounts. This initial budget agreed shows their commitment to the project and will allow design to be progressed.
- There will be full community involvement during the design process - capturing the views and wishes of staff, pupils, parents and community members. This would involve a process of community workshops and design workshops, looking initially at what the strategic vision and objectives are, then seeking input on layout and design of the build and externals
- This coming financial year the project will be fully scoped and then whatever design is finally agreed on will progress with the school and the community at the heart of decision making.
- Based on most recent information from the housing developer in terms of build plans the date that which the Council will need some mitigation in place to accommodate the extended school roll is August 2025

## 9. AOB

- P7 BBQ – no plans for it. Other schools have done it where parent council organised it and it's a parent/carers event with pupils and no staff. Council not keen to do with teachers and have alcohol present.

***Action: Jane going to let P7 parents know if they want a BBQ this needs to be organised by parents or the Parent Council.***

- Farrah asked if the P7 school show team could do a short preview at the school summer fair.
- ***Action: Mark to check with Mr Brown if the P7's could do a short preview of the show at the summer fair.***

## ***List of Actions***

- ***Action 1: Mark to explore the possibility of taking part in the Keep Scotland Beautiful Spring Clean.***
- ***Action 2: Mark to speak to the Council about the lack of a lollipop man and what their plans are to address this and to find out when the crossing is due to be assessed.***

- ***Action 3: Mark to get dates to P7 parents for events such as the P7 Show, the church service etc. He will aim to do this before Easter.***
- ***Action 4: Jane going to let P7 parents know if they want a BBQ this needs to be organised by parents or the Parent Council.***
- ***Action 5: Mark to check with Mr Brown if the P7's could do a short preview of the show at the summer fair.***

**Next meeting: 11 May 2023**

**Please note we will revert back to using zoom as there have been a number of problems with using Skype.**