Newton Families Together

Term 2 meeting

Tuesday 26th October

Virtual meeting by Google meet

730pm-830pm

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| 1930 | Welcome & Apologies | GC |  |
| 1935 | Approval minutes from last meeting held on 26/4/21 | GC |  |
| 1940 | Action points from last meeting | GC/EO | Reps for P1 and Nursery  Garden Group |
| 1945 | School 25th Anniversary (1996-2021) – this was started in June with P7 opening the Time Capsule.  Our school was opened 25 years ago in August. As you may be aware at the millenium all children who were at Newton at the time put something into time capsules which was to be opened this year. In June our P7 children were given a letter by former HT Elizabeth Mitchell and they held a Q&A session with her. The children then opened the Time Capsule and P7 children spent a lot of time going through and discussing what they had discovered.  In consultation with Miss Guthrie, who was a pupil at the time we have been discussing what happens now. ALEX  We are keen to continue this tradition and we would like to fill the time capsule again for the children of the next generation to open in 25 years’ time when the school will be 50!  We had also thought about speaking with the fundraising team who may like to organise a family ceilidh or something similar to celebrate our anniversary if parents, staff and children think this is appropriate. This could be held in the school or a local venue if preferred. | LK |  |
| 1955 | Young Leaders of Learning and ‘We Count’ (pupil council) focus on – Learning Teaching and Assessment linked to our School Improvement Plan  8 children from P6 worked with Stirling Council and Education Scotland by taking part with 4 other schools across Stirling to become Young Leaders of Learning. The focus on this was to look at Learning and Teaching and to think about what this looks like for them in our school and hear about how other children learn.  The focus for the morning was  ‘what makes a good young leader’  ‘What skills does a young leader need’  ‘What makes for good feedback’  We have been partnered with St Mary’s and DPS and we will be organising visits to ‘shine a light’ on two areas we are really proud of and to also speak about two areas we’d like to further develop.  The children will be working to plan a visit from our partner schools  This will involve   * the children organising a school tour * Some time to talk to groups of children, staff and parents * The children won’t be involved in observing in classes but they will prepare and plan questions they’d like to be asked about our school. * The children will then be asked to share and will receive feedback based on the visit, information and what they observed.   This links well into the work of our ‘We Count’ pupil council who met last week for the first time.  The children will also be focusing on Learning and Teaching with the focus on our SIP group to support STEM through play based challenges and Literacy (reading and writing)  I met P193 and P4-7 separately  P1-3  we had a discussion about an excellent lesson, resources in our classroom and open area and what makes a brilliant teacher.  **What makes a brilliant teacher? – Children shared that:**  ‘the teacher explains’ ‘she tells you how to do something’ ‘the teacher checks your work and talks to you to help you if you’re not sure’ ‘The teacher gives you clues without telling you the answer’ ‘she reads to you’  An excellent lesson – in every classroom – child friendly version  **What do you have in your class to help you learn and what would you like to help you? – Children shared that:**  ‘we have lots of books in the classroom’ ‘we have different books to help us learn too about maths’ ‘I would like more books about maths’ ‘We have pirates to help us count’ ‘we have number squares and number lines’ ‘I would like more information books’ ‘I like to make things by following instructions’ ‘I would like more Lego in the open area – we have it in our classroom but not in the open area.’ ‘I think P2 would love Knex – we were all about Knex last year’ ‘I really like our school kitchen to play with in the home corner’  Tell me about your class libraries and reading for enjoyment at Newton.  Across P4-7 the class libraries do not have a great range of books and these could improve. Books are out of date and not interesting. E.g. there may be one Lego book or one Minecraft book that everyone wants and you have to wait ages for. There are not enough non-fiction books either.  Children like Board Games but there are pieces missing in many of them and they need sorting. Children would like proper Scrabble to help with spelling rules as Junior Scrabble already gives you the words.  Some children feel they don’t like going into the open areas as there isn’t a lot to do and if the wifi is poor and you don’t get a signal.  Children would like Lego and Lego boards/bases to build on, Lego with instructions to follow and to be able to use their own imagination to make different things. Children would like Knex and magnetic Knex as these are really good for challenges. Games such as ‘Bop-it’ rubix cubes, puzzles and play-dough (which they all agreed they loved – but not when it is stale)  I have shared with the children that each open area has money to spend and that teachers consulted with children to ensure the correct resources will be purchased for them. We are also going to ask for help from parents and redistribute the library books from the library. | LK |  |
| 2000 | Parents Evening  This will be virutal – the same format as March and information will come to parents this week. | LK |  |
| 2005 | WIFI  LK spoken to Stirling Council. – The connectivity continues to be a real problem. The contract to upgrade has been changed since lockdown and the new contract has been agreed. The priorities are McLaren and Balfron LC first. Dunblane are third and DHS are in front of us though this should help us. Ideally all schools will have their own fibre. Once this is in place we then need to ensure that the wifi is upgraded to meet the needs of the school. This will take time, yes it is very frustrating but it is being worked on as a matter of priority.  There is a new technology It manager for education in place and will begin full time with SC hopefully throughout Nov.  Halloween  Non uniform day – no fundraiser  Lollipop person Perth road  Walking to school audit  Living Streets – Do we want to get involved to do a community survery. The HUSS is collated and sent to Scottish Government. Most children walk.  P5 boys toilets – P5-7Boys toilets.  ?? | GC  KN  LH  A H-P  RB/FE |  |
| 2015 | Mrs Moore, Music Teacher | KM |  |
| 2025 | AOCB and future meeting date | GC |  |