

**MINUTES of Carmondean Parent Council Meeting held on Wednesday,
6th March, 2019**

Present: Gordon Chree - Chair
Mrs. Brunt - Parent
Mrs. Scott - Parent
Mrs. Sneddon - Parent
Gillian Millar - HT
Matt Shanks - DHT
Claire Pringle - Acting PT
Aileen Jamieson - Class Teacher
Fiona Harding - PSW (Minutes)

INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

Gordon thanked everyone for their attendance - no apologies had been received.

PLAYGROUND

The resurfacing of the outer playground is now complete apart from it requiring a final sweep. One item on the work still remains outstanding - access to a manhole was covered over by accident so workmen need to rectify this. However, apart from the access limitations to the school whilst the work was being undertaken, HT informed meeting that due to an inordinate amount of planning, the school had functioned as normal.

Question from PSA re playground - they have raised a fairly large amount of money which they have suggested could be used for games painting now that resurfacing has been done - would this be an option or does payment for this have to come from Council? HT to discuss with class teachers Emma Rafferty and Zoe Donaldson who respectively run the Playground Mentor and Pupil Council groups to see how the children are going to take this forward and be more involved. Research is already in the pipeline. GC asked about a clean up around the general area of the school i.e. underpasses, paths, edges etc. Each stage is usually involved in an annual Spring clean organised by our Eco Committee.

HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

Achievements - We have introduced, following consultation with parents, Shared Starts and Finishes, with the focus being on mental calculation. Feedback received has been extremely positive and both Mrs Brunt and Mrs Scott had welcomed the opportunity to visit their child's classes as these sessions had been worthwhile experiences for both children and parents. On completion of this, school to then have an evaluation by the staff.

We have also introduced Families Connect run by Save the Children along similar lines to the PEEPS programme - CP informed meeting that we have managed to recruit 7 parents to join us on a Thursday afternoon. We are now in week 5 and training is delivered by CP for the first hour on a different focus each week and the children join in for the second hour.

Senior Citizens Link - We held a very successful Scots Afternoon for our senior citizens within the community and have now established a link between Pentland View Court (independent living complex for the elderly) and our nursery children. Parent Laura Sneddon has been involved in this and children have been paired up with residents. Such is the rapport that two of our parents are now visiting residents independently as well.

Residential Programme - That time of year again with the first one next week when P5 visit Lendrick Muir, then P6 to Dalguise the following week.

PSA Spring Disco - Again organised and run very successfully for another year.

Euroquiz - MS had accompanied our team to the annual event at Howden Park Centre last Friday. 21 schools involved with CPS scoring an impressive 27/40 involving some very tricky questions.

Upcoming Events -

- Each stage to perform their own assembly to which parents are invited - some of these have already taken place.
- P6/7 Show will take place at the end of term.
- P7 Transition Coffee Morning next week to meet with P7 parents.
- PSA Easter Egg Hunt
- Continuation of Residential Programme
- Sport events/festivals and Sports Day in the last term.

Class Outings - P1 visited Dynamic Earth today and P5's trip to Bannockburn scheduled for next Tuesday. P3s will also visit Edinburgh Castle.

Results of Parental Survey - MS shared findings with PC. Of the 12 Interventions for Equity, the top three highest scorers identified as -

Social and emotional well-being - 97%.

Early identification of difficulties and initiating appropriate intervention - 93%.

Promoting healthy lifestyles - 62%.

SMT will move forward with these results.

Homework - HT to release a staff member to join a Cluster Working Group, starting next week, to examine feedback from recent homework questionnaire. Working Party to take the results forward and agree on a Cluster approach to homework.

Nursery - At recent Parent's Evening we looked at new Care Standards which were split into different headings, e.g. -

I am fully involved in all decisions about my child's care and support.

My child experiences a high quality environment.

I have confidence in the people who support and care for my child.

My child experiences high quality care and support that is right for them.

CP showed the meeting pie chart evidence of the feedback on these statements and was extremely pleased to report that the majority of the results focussed on excellent.

GC and GB asked about future Nursery provision. From August provision will be from 8 a.m until 6 p.m. offering either 4 mornings/4 afternoons or two full days thus enhancing greater parent flexibility.

A.O.B.

Gillian Brunt mentioned that a large tree has been recently blown over in the vicinity of the church affecting pedestrian access to the school. MS advised that the Council be contacted in the first instance for advice.

Chair has been approached by Peel Primary PC with a view to working with them on areas of common interest.

Finally GC stated that due to lack of time, he will serve until the end of the session when he wishes to hand over the reins to someone else.

