

MINUTES

Woodside Primary Parent Council
Wednesday 10th September 2020: 7pm
Zoom Meeting

Attending Claire Thom, Louise McRobbie, Elizabeth Fletcher, Jaclyn Robertson, Julie Lamont, Lucy Colligan, Lynn Daly, Sarah McCready, Charlotte Officer, Eileen McKellar, Michelle McQuade, Anne Marie Canale, Gillian Henderson, Lori Thom, Jen Beattie, Angela McLennan, Nicola Bell, Gareth Thomson, Barry Naismith, Carol White, Kathleen Faloon, Cllr John Ross and Elaine Renwick.

Apologies: Rhona McRae, Jonathan Simpson, Tracy Hardy, Kristina McKean, Max Kennedy

Introduction and Welcome:

Julie welcomed everyone to the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting 4th March 2020 were approved.

GDPR – A welcome pack will get sent out to the new members and an email will be sent out to all members on the parent council email distribution list to ask that they reply giving permission for the parent council to hold their email addresses on file for the purposes of informing them of parent council events, requesting assistance at events, providing information about the parent council and to notify them of parent council meetings. **Claire to send out welcome packs and GDPR information.**

Treasurer's report – See treasurer's report emailed out 10th September. Bank balance is currently £1693.74, based on expenditure from previous years this leaves us approximately £1400 short if there is no fundraising carried out. Usual expenditure for this term would be £50 per teacher, Gambling License and Twinkl account. Will need to consider what fundraising we can do.

Angela ran through usual expenditure for year based on previous years – she has left discos and panto snacks out of the projection on the assumption that they won't be taking place this year.

This is Angela's last year as treasurer – **Angela to contact Max Kennedy who expressed interest in the treasurer's role at the last meeting.**

Headteacher's update:

- All kids settling in well and the alterations to school day in terms of gates and altered times that have put in place seems to be working well - focused on bringing in the children as safely as possible. Roll at 472 children this year. Gates were allocated alphabetically to try to manage the numbers at each gate. The Mercedes gate is particularly busy so part of the car park has been opened for parents to stand in when waiting to collect their children. Trying to encourage parents to drop children and go, not to stand and chat. Gate arrangement will continue for the foreseeable future.
- No senior management at gates now as so much to cover – support staff now on the gates. Feedback from parents at meeting good for arrangements.
- Trying to keep the kids in class bubbles as much as possible. There are zones for each class in the playground and kids eat lunch [now 1hr 40mins] in their classes either in the dining hall [school dinners] or gym hall [packed lunches].
- Now have allocated seating on buses – sit next to a sibling or a class mate. This is to ensure if a case of COVID occurs that all essential information can be given the 'Test and Protect' as without allocated seating there is no way of telling who is sitting nearby any particular child on a bus. Allocated seating on buses will probably continue even after restrictions are lifted to aid with behaviour issues.
- Parental questionnaire has had 92 responses which is good.
- Kids been questioned too – like the zones but they are a bit boring, - probably going to start rotating the zones so children get to play in different parts of the playground. Was waiting on all children becoming more familiar with the zones. Lunchtime is popular as quieter and sitting in class groups. No assemblies very popular!
- In terms of schooling teachers are spending time finding out if the children are ready to learn and where they are with their learning. Working on reconnecting and building relationships. The focus going forward will be on numeracy, literacy and health and wellbeing. Children were asked what

other subject they would like for the teachers non class contact time – science was the most popular so science and a little ICT being included too.

- No homework at the moment, Google classrooms being set up and homework will eventually be given via this. Teachers ready to post work via google classroom at any time if required.
- Eileen McKellar will be starting a pupil voice group within the school.
- Propose to have 4 dress down days a year to try to raise funds for the school instead of a sponsored event. Pay £1 for each dress down day via parent pay.
- Propose to liaise with Julie and Claire to draw up a school calendar of events to enable us to spread the cost across the year to help with 'cost of the school day'. **Julie, Claire and Elaine to draw up calendar.**
- Asking for suggestions on how we can still make our pre loved uniforms available to those who want it. Only 1 request for uniform into parent council email address. Suggestion of sending home a letter with tick boxes next to uniform items and sizes – seems more feasible than trying to run a stall just now due to restrictions.
- Lockerbie Manor to refund deposits to parents – south Lanarkshire council dealing with processing this.

Puddle around drain at Laburnum lea gate raised as an issue. It is worse than it has ever been – concern about what will happen in cold weather – passed to Cllr Ross to see if he can address issue. **Claire to email Cllr Ross regarding puddle.**

Query about when children get their milk at school – milk is available at lunchtime. If parents have paid for milk on parent pay children will be given a token that they can exchange for milk in the dining hall at lunch time. If in gym hall for packed lunch just need to pop along to the dining room.

Query raised about parent nights/school reports – HT conference next week which will be looking at reporting to parents. It is already under discussion within the school.

Twinkl and other resources

Eileen McKellar – asking on behalf of the teachers if we would consider funding a school subscription to Twinkl again. [Twinkl is a website for teachers with resources such as worksheets, powerpoints, certificates etc]. Also asking if we would consider funding items for the children to play with in the playground to help with the boredom in the zones. Query raised by parent council about asking for donations of items – too difficult with all the restrictions and quarantining rules [these rules etc are from south Lanarkshire and Scottish government]. Teachers not expecting the £50 we would normally give out in August to assist with setting up of classes but would greatly appreciate Twinkl. Suggestion from parent council that that the £50 we normally give to teachers in August still be given to them but to spend on outdoor equipment for their class. (parent council could assist with purchase if we can source it more cheaply).

It was agreed by the parent council to fund the twinkl subscription. We will also fund the outdoor play equipment for classes but might need to wait until we have more funds in account.

School Photos

These had to be cancelled as there can be no visitors into schools. We will review this as restrictions etc change.

Bags2School

The October collection was cancelled due to the difficulties in having the bags of clothes in school and getting them brought into school. Future collections will be considered as circumstances change. We should remind the wider parent body that there is a textile bin in Tesco car park that brings in funds for the school that can still be used.

Christmas Cards

SLC Print room still intend to offer this service this year and will send out details in the next couple of weeks. Elaine said the school are still keen to do the Christmas cards. Lori Thom offered to help with the Christmas cards and said her work were still matching percentages of funds raised based on the number of people organising the fundraising event. Questions raised over best way to collect money for Christmas cards as don't want to handle cash – BACS or setting up a paypal account are possibilities. **Elaine to check if we could use the**

parent pay system – possible that if we used it money would go straight to the school rather than to our parent council bank account. Claire to liaise with Elaine and the print room to organise Christmas cards.

P7 Hoodies/events

As Lockerbie cancelled it was suggested that the P7 hoodies be purchased and given to the children before Christmas this year rather than at Easter time. School supportive of idea. **Parent council agreed to fund the cost of the hoodies [minus £5 per child paid by the families].** Suggested that we look at alternative suppliers as our current supplier quite expensive. **Claire to ask Woodhead PTA.**

From Claire: Woodhead PTA got their leavers hoodies from Scotcrest for £12 for children's sizes and £13 for adult sizes. They look similar to what we have had in the past with school crest of the front and all the P7 names in the numbers [21 this year] on the reverse and the option of each child's name on the hoodie in large print too – would need to ensure we got parental permission for this if we opt for it and for the printing of the names in the 21. Have passed prices and details to Lynn.

Parental Assistance

School are missing all the parental assistance normally in the schools however, they are not allowed visitors within the school. May be able to help within the playground. Looking for suggestions of ways we could provide assistance.

Can utilise parentpay to contact parents e.g. for a newsletter, questionnaire or hints and tips. Can also use School Twitter account – contact Elaine to use this. Also suggested that we update information on the website – **looking for volunteers to do this and to put together a parent council newsletter.** A parent council facebook page was suggested – Elaine happy for parent council to set up a facebook page provided posts are screened by parent council admin.

AOCB

Any fundraising suggestions that we could do under current restrictions – email the parent council email address.

John Ross – the council have a space for people grant for £2 million – looking into options for spending this and looking into promoting active travel – cycle and walking routes.

50% of projects have had to be carried forward this year due to coronavirus. There is information available on the south Lanarkshire facebook page, twitter account, website and SL view.

Any other queries – email John Ross.

Music Tuition – query as to what was happening with this. Lessons starting up again via google classroom.

Date of next meeting: start November 2020 – will email date out in due course