



Supporting young people to grow in a vibrant and inclusive learning community

Minutes for Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 3rd March 2021

Attendees:

Jo Legge, (head teacher), Gillian Rigbye, Suzie Fletcher, Katie Welsh, Tricia Hilferty and Laura Bullen

Apologies

Carol Robertson, Keisha McCreath and Gillian Heavie.

Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were approved by Suzie Fletcher and Gillian Rigby

Chairperson's Report

Gillian advised that the Easy Fundraising page has now been set up and has 7 supporters. Gillian will prepare an email explaining more about this to be sent to parents as well as the school reminding parents regularly about this fundraising method.

- ❖ Gillian to prepare email.
- ❖ School to remind parents regularly of Easy Fundraising

Gillian has also approached BeGreen to enquire if they will help with funding for the path.

The parent council have also organised a village quiz/scavenger hunt for the P4-7 pupils with Gillian and Suzie meeting with Miss Ellison to discuss this. Gillian has also approached local residents who have agreed to display pictures by the P1-3 pupils.

Treasurer's Report

The balance is currently £4385.72, this still includes £1800 from BeGreen as well as £500-£600 ring-fenced for books for the school. Carol now has copies of invoices from the school in respect of books and sports equipment.

Head Teacher's Report.

The staff are delighted to have the nursery and P1-3 pupils back in school and that it is fantastic that the P4-7s will return to school on the 15th March when the focus will be

helping the children reconnect with school life and reconstructing and building on where their learning is. The feedback from P1/2/3 has been positive and that the children have made good phonics progress. Mrs Legge also pointed out that children have developed a lot of skills through these times. She also confirmed that next week will have more of an outdoor focus.

Mrs Legge thanked Gillian and family for laying the path as well as Suzie and Gillian for arranging the scavenger hunt.

With respect to the BeGreen funding secured by the parent council Mrs Legge informed members that the price of the original robot had doubled, however, Mrs Hay from West Barns had identified a less costly alternative – the school were hoping to re-route the funding to pay for a charging unit and accessories – this was agreed by all present. In relation to the washing machine the school is still waiting for the council to feedback regarding installation of the wiring. Mrs Legge is also meeting with a council representative to discuss the playground markings. Finally it was discussed that the sensory garden needs quite a lot of work which, once able, parent helpers could help in the meantime it was agreed the funding could go towards putting fruit and veg into the planters.

The school is now also looking for funding (£290) to further enhance the forest Schools provision – this would be used to purchase hammocks, a Kelly kettle and a wheeled crate to transport equipment to the woods. Advice has been taken from the Outdoor Education department with regards to suitable equipment. Suzie suggested that it may be worth applying to the East Lothian Educational Trust for funding but all agreed that if this was not successful they are happy to support this.

Parents Evenings are to be held via Google Meets – this will involve a system with parents booking their own slots. Parents who have issues with connectivity may be offered a telephone appointment.

School Improvement Plan – Staff are to continue working in trios (alongside Stenton) as they found this valuable last year – the next round will be after the Easter break.

Fundraising

It is difficult to fundraise under the current circumstances, however Katie has suggested selling squares with a hamper as a prize – it was agreed that Asda and the Co-op should be approached for donations.

Another possible suggestion was for parents to auction off skills/crafts – possible in conjunction with the flower show.

At the moment a summer fair or barbecue cannot be planned but if circumstances allow, this will be done at the last minute.

AOB

Gillian has received an email regarding Digital Participation which the school may be able to tap into for support, this includes a support fund for refurbishing devices to increase digital connectivity. Mrs Legge also advised that more money is being made available to local authorities. It was suggested that a survey/audit be carried out to find out if people need help with digital engagement.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 28th April via Google Meet.