

Longniddry Primary School Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 7th September 2016

Present: Ross Boyce (Chair) Alan McNeill (Vice Chair) Joanne Chatwin (P2 Rep)

Claire Verri (P4 Rep) Joan Fairfull (P5 Rep) Stephanie MacFadyen (Staff Rep)

Sheona Skinner (Head teacher) Cllr Willie Innes, Cllr Peter McKenzie

Apologies: Lynn Kemp (Treasurer) Jim Duffy (P7 Rep) Katie Barron (Clerk)

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| 1 | <p><u>Actions from Last Meeting:</u> Minutes from the last meeting in April were approved. Noticeboard in playground to be updated by Joan Fairfull to include photos of new PC members. PC email distribution list to be updated by Clerk to include Claire Verri as P4 Class Rep. Sheona Skinner to go ahead and order sandpit cover and look again at costings for bike racks in playground. Ross to put together survey monkey with regard to parental engagement</p> | JF KB SS RB |
| 2 | <p><u>Head Teacher Report:</u> Happy and settled start back to the new school term. Current school roll is 242 children.</p> <p>There continue to be staffing vacancies across the school. Mrs Morgan has taken up her seconded position as Acting HT at Athelstaneford. Her 2 days class teaching commitment have been covered by Mrs Arlene Williams who joined us on transfer from Stenton PS. Nursery and P5 vacancies have been advertised and it is hopeful that these posts will be filled by October. Mrs Wotton and Ms Maclaren are teaching in P5 and Miss Allan is covering in the Nursery. Mr O'Malley has returned to cover the remainder of Mrs Boog's maternity leave in P6. No decision has been taken as yet about DHT post as the priority for the school is to fill teaching posts first. Budget can be used to cover other staff from class to take forward any development work.</p> <p>School budgets continue to be on track but tight. No big areas of spending planned for this session as yet.</p> <p>School development plan for 2016/17 will have a focus on Health & Well Being. HWB group have worked hard on School Vision, Values & Aims and this will continue to be a focus for assemblies, circle times and the HWB pupil group led by Mrs MacFadyen. We also continue to focus on the UNICEF Rights and Responsibilities. HWB Group will be working on a leaflet to share with parents regarding school vision, values and aims.</p> | |

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| 3 | <p><u>Chair's Report:</u> Discussion regarding format of the 'Autumn Fayre'</p> <p>Previous attempts to gain ideas from parent body were unsuccessful. Decision take to 're brand' as Longniddry Winter Wonderland and move event to Saturday 19th November. Discussion took place regarding format of the event and the need for the focus to include all classes in running stalls not just P7's. Suggestion that this might encourage more parental help if children are able to run a stall. Need to advertise the event for the wider community and ensure posters are clear and contain key information. Any ideas suggestions to be emailed to Ross in advance of next meeting.</p> | All |
| 4 | <p><u>Year Stage Issues for Discussion:</u></p> <p>Nursery am – clarification about the vacant teacher post and curriculum evening plans for the nursery parents. <i>SS has previously explained the position re the appointment of a teacher and has issued an email regarding curriculum evening. Plan is to offer nursery parents/carers an 'open morning/afternoon' session before the October holidays and new class teacher will offer a 'Meet the Teacher' once in post.</i></p> <p>Nursery pm – no rep present but SS to email to all parents/carers asking for someone to join the group to represent the afternoon nursery.</p> <p>Primary 1 – clarification requested about the use of the sand pit at the start and the end of the day. <i>SS indicated that the children know this is 'out of use' at the start/end of the day and there are cones around the sand pit when it is not in use. Parents are allowing younger children to use it at pick up/drop off time which has caused confusion. This will not be an issue when cover is purchased.</i></p> <p>Primary 1/2 - no rep present SS to email parents/carers to ask for volunteers and teachers to highlight vacancy at curriculum evening</p> <p>Primary 2 – access to Education City queried. <i>SS explained that this is used by staff to set homework tasks for pupils and every child will be given log on details. Teachers can set specific homework to suit the needs/abilities of a group or an indiv. There is not access to every area as it is dependent on our subscription. This has been paid for by Parent Council.</i></p> <p>Primary 3 – no issues raised</p> | <p>SS</p> <p>SS</p> <p>SS</p> |

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| | <p>Primary 4 – email received from parent regarding access to Outdoor Learning opportunities on offer from ELC. <i>SS explained that P6 have already booked outdoor climbing however there are logistical problems such as hire/cost of mini buses and staffing to supervise as often only small groups can be taken at a time for some activities. Suggestion that parents/carers who are keen might be willing to support such activities.</i></p> <p>Primary 5 – clarification about the planning and staffing for the class requested. <i>SS explained that both supply teachers have met and worked collaboratively to plan on a short term basis for the class following a handover from Miss Hart. They are in regular communication about which aspect of the curriculum they are teaching and leave each other detailed daily plans and notes. The new teacher once appointed will pick up from where they have left off. No homework has been set for any class until after the September weekend.</i></p> <p>Primary 6 – clarification requested about the wearing of hoodies in school. <i>SS clarified that children have been asked not to wear any hoodies with logos to school as part of their uniform however if this is their outdoor wear this is acceptable. SS is keen to keep the uniform standards.</i></p> <p>Primary 7 – cost of hoodies for P7 leavers was raised. These are costing £18. <i>SS suggested that the PC might like to ‘gift’ hoodies to all the P7’s next year and a book bag to the P1’s. This was well received by PC members</i></p> <p>Concern was raised again by parents and children about the P4 toilets. <i>Following a previous meeting Cllr McKenzie took forward concerns raised and made contact with ELC and property maintenance visited school to ensure all doors/locks were functioning. The issue continues however that they are not refurbished to the same standard as the other toilets in the school. Plans had been in place for this work to take place in the autumn term of 2012 following SS’s appointment as HT however this did not happen due to budget. Cllr Innes expressed concern regarding this and asked SS to make contact with him so he was able to follow this up.</i></p> | |
| 5 | <p><u>AOB:</u> SS shared information that had come into school from Support from The Start Group offering a Family ‘Munch & Crunch’ session at Prestonpans Infants on Tuesday 27th Sept. SS will put up poster in Nursery for info. SS encouraged parents/carers to engage with excellent provision offered by Sfs.</p> <p>Following successful Health Week in June school are considering having a ‘Fruity Friday’ and setting up a healthy tuck shop. Roots and Fruits have</p> | |

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| | emailed PC with details of support they can provide. | |
| | <u>Next Meeting:</u> 5 th October 2016 7pm Music Room | |