

	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Longniddry Primary School Parent Council Meeting</u> <u>25th April 2018</u></p> <p><u>Present:</u> Alan McNeill (Chair), Jenny Sully (Nursery pm), Esther Hurrell (Nursery am), Gemma Luke (P1), Katie Medlam (P2), Suzanne Low (P2/3), Lynne Bowers (P4), Joan Fairfull (P6)</p> <p><u>In Attendance:</u> Sheona Skinner (Head Teacher), Stephanie MacFadyen (Deputy Head Teacher), Cllr Lachlan Bruce, Cllr Neil Gilbert, Veronica Brown (Clerk) and the Longniddry Pupil Voice Group</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Cllr Willie Innes, Cllr Fiona O'Donnell, Lynn Kemp, Joanne Chatwin, Claire Verri</p>	Action
1	<p><u>Matters Arising / Minutes of Last Meeting</u></p> <p>Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting on 21st February 2018.</p> <p>Sheona has reminded the pupils not to play on the ramps at the school again.</p> <p>Sheona said that parent information sessions about puberty, child safety and online interactions would start to run next session to the wider parent body as suggested. In these changing times it is important to share up to date safety information with all parents.</p> <p>Sheona has looked into having a photographer to come in to do family photos. There are a few options available, which will be decided on nearer Christmas time.</p> <p>Alan will email Colin Henderson, the Chair for ELAPCM about adding the Nursery Teachers and Early Years as an agenda item for a meeting soon.</p> <p>Proposed: Katie Secoded: Esther</p>	AM
2	<p><u>Rights Respecting Schools Silver Award presented by the Pupil Voice</u></p> <p>The Pupil Voice (who represents all the pupils in the school) came in to share a presentation on how the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Silver Award was achieved. Everyone has worked really hard to achieve this and learn about their individual rights. The pupils met with the Rights Respecting assessor as part of his visit.</p> <p>In order to achieve 'Gold' the children now need to be more aware of what is happening in the wider world and be more aware of global issues. They also have to share their work with other schools and the wider community. The children have also supported local and international charities eg raising money for mosquito nets for children in Africa, taking part in UNICEF soccer aid etc. Steph said that even the pupils in P1 could articulate and knew their rights. Huge thanks from Sheona, a great achievement!</p> <p>Alan thanked the Pupil Voice for all their hard work on behalf of the parent council.</p> <p><u>Head Teacher Update</u></p> <p>The class structures for 2018/19 are challenging because there is a large numbers for P1 starting in August. Classes will be finalised at the end of June and could also possibly be changed over the summer holidays and up to September if needed because spaces needs to be kept for catchment children moving in to the area.</p>	

	<p>For Nursery staffing, all parents have now been informed of the changes affecting of Nursery Teachers. Senior Early Years Practitioners have been appointed and will manage the daily running of Nurseries supported by senior management. There will also be Peripatetic Nursery Teachers appointed to offer curricular support.</p> <p>A Consultation has just been launched with regard to increasing Nursery hours. Early Learning and Childcare Service Model for 2020 – Consultation will remain open for response until 29 June 2018. Sheona urged the Parent Council members to respond to this as the model can look different in different settings.</p> <p>The school has finally got the Silver RR award after lots of hard work. Sheona is delighted with this achievement and the school is now ‘going for gold’. Sheona offered a huge thanks to Steph for all her hard work. Also huge thanks to the pupils who are great to work with and it was very encouraging to see how well they represented themselves. A great achievement!</p> <p>The budget for the Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) has been increased from last year. This additional funding to schools is targeted to help close the poverty-related attainment gap.</p> <p>The School Improvement Plan is a work in progress and will be shared at the next meeting.</p> <p>The camp at Loch Insh was again hugely successful. The feedback from the staff there was that they had asked especially to have the Longniddry group, which says a lot about how well thought of the school is.</p> <p>Busy term with lots of things planned, going for gold, sports etc, lots to be proud of. It has been a really productive year and planned developments have moved forward. Both pupils and staff have worked really well together to create a great atmosphere.</p>	
3	<p><u>Chair Update</u></p> <p>Huge thanks for all the hard work in preparation of achieving the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Silver Award. The Parent Council is supportive and happy to help with anything they can in order to achieve the Gold Award. Parents will be needed to come in and share on “How good is our school “. It is important to provide opportunities for parents to be genuinely involved in the life and work of the school. It was decided that this would be a standing item for the agenda for 2018/19.</p> <p>A representative from the Parent Council was suggested at the Parents Evening on 23rd May or at the Curriculum evening in September to highlight the importance of the work to new P1 parents and get them on board early. Joan also suggested taking the opportunity of a big audience to raise something about Parental Engagement, School Improvement Plan and Internet Safety to help give the focus. The members all agreed that this is a good idea.</p>	
4	<p><u>Treasurer Update</u></p> <p>The Parent Council Bank balance as of 1st April 2018 is £5289.08.</p> <p>Easy fundraising has raised £19. Joan suggested advertising this again to encourage more use of it.</p> <p>Lynn had suggested that the Parent Council would again pay for P7 Hoodies, Book bags and Gym bags, which was approved by the members.</p>	

5	<p><u>Future Fundraising Ideas</u></p> <p>A parent has organized a 'hit squad' to come in to the school on an in service day with a sto do up fencing, benches, repainting and replacing wood. Alan suggested publicising this at the school to encourage more volunteers in the future.</p> <p>Gemma asked about the timeframe for the painting. Sheona is still sourcing the materials, which can be expensive. The Parent Council members approved funds to be used for paint and material needed since it is quite a healthy bank balance.</p> <p>Sheona suggested that the Parent Council also could fund a party for the pupils as a thank you for their hard work in getting the Rights Respecting Schools Silver award. This way it is also publicised to all parents letting them know how much their hard work is recognised and appreciated. The Parent Council members all approved this.</p> <p>Alan said that there would be a wish lists box in the school soon for parents to leave feedback and suggestions for the Parent Council for next year.</p> <p>Joan asked if there would be a school disco. Sheona said that a DJ is needed for this and will email to parent body to find out if anyone knows a part time DJ. If so, a Halloween disco could be organised.</p>	SS
6	<p><u>Year Stage Issues</u></p> <p>Nursery pm – A question from a parent has been received on the schools thoughts on religion and Christianity? Sheona said that the school curriculum exposes the children to all the different world religions and Christianity is balanced in with the others. It is about diversity and teaching the pupils to respect others beliefs and the right to different faiths. Parents can at any time opt out of all religious services and activities. It is a tradition to go to the Church at the end of each term and usually the minister comes to the school assemblies. The aim is to celebrate and not to pray which might have been the case in the past. Also the Minister comes in to talk about lots of different things that aren't part of Christianity eg Fair Trade because the Church is part of the wider community.</p> <p>Nursery am – Parents are keen to find out who their P1 Teachers will be for 2018/19. Sheona said that it is still a work in progress because of the large number of P1 pupils. It is anticipated class lists will be issued for the New P1 Parents Meeting scheduled for May.</p> <p>P1 – A question about if it is possible for the Parent Council to invest in the Astro turf and securing some goals for football? Sheona said that the Astro turf doesn't belong to the school. It is a general-purpose area so not just school children use it. Joan said that if the school has stuff to bring out, it still couldn't be used when the school is closed, as it needs to be taken in again to avoid it being damaged out of school hours.</p> <p>Another question was if the pupils could participate in a beach clean or similar? Sheona said that yes this is already planned for June. Preston Lodge have set up a beach clean and litter pick challenge for P7's with the ELC Rangers. P7 got credits for a school trip when litter picking, which is a great idea. The plan is for the older pupils to do the beach area and the younger classes to focus on the park for example. This would be planned as part of our campaign for a plastic free school. This would tick Rights Respecting School boxes too.</p> <p>The parents have urged the heating in the school to be looked at again because it is too warm with pupils getting sore heads. Sheona said that she would speak to staff about this.</p>	

<p>P2 – Parents asked about open mornings where full time working parents only can make it occasionally? Sheona said that it was difficult to add extra evening events as this impacts on the teachers working time agreement. The individual folders are available at parent’s nights and Curriculum evenings. Gemma suggested having the open evenings so that the parents can see their children’s classrooms and folders while waiting to have a chat with the teachers? Sheona will look into this, as there are other rooms where a private chat can be held.</p>	SS
<p>The parents asked about confirmation in working days. Steph works Friday mornings and Miss Hicks does the rest of the week. An email will be issued to parents to confirm this.</p>	
<p>Parents asking about aprons for painting and gluing? Sheona said that the pupils have their own in every class however they might not use it.</p>	SS
<p>P2/3 – No issues raised.</p>	
<p>P3 – Parents have asked to have the daily mile back again. Sheona said that it is getting back into a routine again after the snow and holidays. The gates are locked because of safety issues so the Teachers need keys to go out to the park hence it needs a bit of organising.</p>	
<p>The Time Garden is out of action because it is not safe to use, which has been highlighted with maintenance. This is because of broken glass, a broken fence and slates falling down.</p>	
<p>P4 – A parent question about recommended age to cycle to school on their own in traffic? Sheona said that it is recommended to wait until the pupils have received their Bikeability Training which take place in P6&7. Cycle training starts from P5 and Sheona said that any child is allowed to cycle to school as long as their parents let them, regardless of age.</p>	
<p>P5 – No issues raised.</p>	
<p>P6 – Thanks very much to Steph and Miss Higgins for the camp at Loch Insh! And for adding photo updates online, which was much appreciated. A question has come in on when the trips gets decided, who goes and when? Sheona said that they usually go with a well structured packaged that is reasonable in price. Loch Insh and York are popular with the children. We try to offer a balance of an ‘activity’ trip and a more cultural/sight seeing one.</p>	
<p>Another question about the Library books where some have read all their books in their section? Sheona said that the school is well stocked for books and resources. Books are being replaced once and updated continually. Steph said that sometimes the pupils are asking directly about new books and they always try to accommodate when possible. There is flexibility across the classes too and often P4/5 are coming along to other areas. Sheona will get a wish list from the kids again and the Book Shop ladies are often keen to support with the purchase of new titles. Gemma mentioned the brand new sets of books being donated to school with mostly classics, which might not be what the kids want to read.</p>	
<p>P7 – The pupils are looking forward to the trip to York. Some parents wanted an outdoor trip as well? Sheona said that the York trip is mostly sight seeing as it is important to offer different opportunities. Outdoors trips this year have been a Lagoons day, watersports day and the outdoor Hockey festival.</p>	SS
<p>Parents are keen to find out which House and classes they will get when going to High School. Sheona said that it would be the same House as older siblings and that it is important to look at the dynamics to see who would fit best where. Preston Lodge is really helpful and changes can be made up till September. There will be at least one or two</p>	

	children that they know and get on with so will never be alone. Also there are often activity days when they are doing things across the classes.	
7	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>Cllr Gilbert asked if the school takes part in the final days activities for £75 per child per activity week? This is not something that is done at Longniddry. Trips and activities are usually spread out across the school year and linked to topics that are being studied in class</p> <p>Sheona suggested advertising to get as many as possible to attend the AGM and is happy to share the class compositions as an extra incentive to come along. A Chair, Vice Chair and Class representatives will be needed.</p>	
	<p><u>Dates of Next Meetings</u></p> <p>Parent Council AGM 20th June 2018, 7pm</p>	