



## **PINKIE PARENTS MEETING**

**Pinkie St Peters School**

**Monday, 3rd October 2016**

**Present:** Kirsty Sivell (Clerk) Susan Harkins (Deputy Chair) Suzanne Douglas, Clare Morley (Treasurer) Cllr Andy Forrest, Cllr Stuart Currie, Shirley Bailey, Gail McAulay, Suzanne Gunn, Wendy Barber, Stephen Dishon, Morgan Scott

**Staff in Attendance:** Sarah Ogden (Head Teacher) Helen Gordon (Deputy Head Teacher)

**Apologies:** Louise Scott

**Minutes taken by -** Kirsty Sivell

### **1. Head Teachers Report**

#### **1.1 Building Work**

From October (approx) from october there will be more building work happening. The roof, the windows and doors in the gym hall are being replaced and the wall is being fully insulated and repaired. Due to this ths school have decided to down scale the usual christmas show and make this more low key so that it can be performed in the dining hall. There will still be a christmas show and parents will be invited but it will be slightly more low key than usual.

#### **1.2 Orienteering**

All teachers are being trained on orienteering. The school has been given sets of waterproofs from outdoor education and are hoping to get more sets of wellies shortly so

that classes can go out whatever the weather and do activities outside. The school is planning to create a drying room so that everything can be put in there and dried and stored away for everyone to use. Mr Hogden is also going to put some equipment in there for the classes to use.

### **1.3 Balance Bikes**

The balance bikes are being used in the nursery and parents are being encouraged to get involved with this. The nursery will be doing this in groups of 10 initially.

### **1.4 Walk to school week**

It was walk to school week is this week. Billy took the decision to lock the side gate as he had witnessed some children running through the gates and nearly onto the road, oblivious to any traffic. HT agreed that the side gate needs to remain open so decided to go to the gate and make sure the children were crossing the road safely at the crossing. This road safety message needs to be reinforced with the children, SH agreed that something should be put on facebook - **ACTION**

### **1.5 Staffing**

Mr Fraser's (P4) wife is due to give birth, He will be absent from Wednesday for a week. Helen will be covering his class.

### **1.6 Twitter**

It is the P1 curriculum afternoon tomorrow and the P1's in nursery are going to trial twitter on behalf of the rest of the school. The school plan to buy 5 cheap tablets so that they can take a photo and tweet it during the school day to see how it works before they roll this out to the rest of the school. Some discussion took place about the privacy implications of this to ensure that the posts would be secure on the school website.

### **1.7 Girls Group**

Mrs Archibald has started up a P6 & P7 girls group on a Thursday afternoon for one hour to try to help relations amongst the older girls in school. There have been a number of fallouts and dramas in school hours usually linked to the use of social media outwith school. This has been running for 2 weeks and has gone really well.

### **1.8 Tea & Toast**

A reminder that tea and toast is on a Wednesday morning from 9.00-10.30 in the nurture room and is free to anyone looking to drop in and have a cup of tea and a chat. A discussion took place about this as it appears that many parents don't know about this and what it is for. A reminder will be put on facebook to publicise this again- **ACTION**

### **1.9 Library**

Every class has been assigned a community responsibility. Mrs Sampson's P7 class will be taking ownership of the new library. The books are now out of boxes and are on the shelves. SH has been in contact with the Foyle Foundation who donate funds for primary

school libraries. The school need to apply for this - HT will start the application process for this - **ACTION**

## **2. Fundraising**

### **2.1 Halloween Disco**

The halloween disco is being held on Thursday 3rd November and will be held in the dining hall.

### **2.3 Dyslexia Support Programme**

SD asked about a computer programme for dyslexic children, HT confirmed there was an existing programme. SD and HT will discuss this separately.

### **2.4 Parent Council Funds & School wish list**

SD & SH had a meeting with the school to discuss what the parent council could help fund as the balance is quite high at the moment.

The school wish list:

- 6x cameras for the nursery (fisher price) approx £200 - agreed
- The P7 playground buddies have asked for funds to purchase new playground equipment. It has been suggested that this could be a mini project where they receive a budget and have to source the equipment and purchase it themselves, estimate £500 - agreed
- The school is in need of a new getoblaster/sound system as the old one is not fit for purpose. Estimate is £400 - agreed
- The parent coucil had earmarked £600 for the new science lab but it needs a bit more than this, approx £1300 to kit it out properly - agreed
- The school use an online programme called accelerated reading for P5-P7 and this has really inspired the children to read. The programme tracks their progress and when they have finished a book they do a quiz. It costs approx £2000 for just P5-P7's as it is a cost per head. The programme is personalised to the child and it can link in at home so the parents can see how their children are doing. The school do not have the budget to purchase the accelerated maths programme and would like to trial this. This would be an additional cost of £2000. Cllr Stuart Currie questioned why the council were not funding this from the area partnership funds? Some discussion took place about making a bid for some funds from the area partnership. SH will email Stuart Baxter about this and update at the next meeting - **ACTION**

