



**PINKIE PARENTS
MONDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7PM
PINKIE ST PETERS SCHOOL**

Present:

Suzanne Douglas (Chair)
Pamela Grant (Deputy Chair)
Suzanne Gunn (Treasurer)
Stephanie Ng (Clerk)
Morgan Scott
Wendy Barber
Sharon Moore
Gaynor Ross
Cllr Andy Forrest

Staff in Attendance:

Colette Bonnar (Head Teacher)
Scarlett Palmer (Deputy Head Teacher)

Apologies:

Cllr John Williamson
Cllr Katie Mackie
Cllr Stuart Currie
Rebecca Pollard
Kerry Donaldson
Marie Hartley

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Suzanne welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies above, were noted.

2. Matters Arising

2.1 All children should now have received homework, which is optional to complete. It was agreed that better communication was still needed with parents regarding homework intentions, particularly with reading books. Homework will look different from child to child as it is dependent on what they are doing in class.

3. Quality Improvement Officer Introduction

3.1 The new QIO was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting, but arrangements would be made so that they could attend another meeting as soon as possible.

4. Head Teacher's Report

4.1 Nick Trussler, the QIO had been into the school to say what he is going to offer the school, particularly with attainment. In the last three years (2016-2019):
P1 literacy has gradually improved in attainment over time;
P1 numeracy has remained consistent in attainment;
P4 literacy and reading has improved over time with writing remaining consistent;
P4 numeracy has improved significantly and this has been sustained in the last two years;
P7 literacy has improved over time with a significant improvement in writing;
P7 numeracy has improved in attainment but is lacking in consistency year to year.

This is a good picture and shows that everything is moving in the right direction and it was noted that starting up RWI has definitely helped with this. Nick will return to the school in December and will come into the classes. He will be looking at targeting certain areas within the school improvement plan to look at areas that need improvement.

Behaviour, Improving Relationships and Promoting a Positive Ethos

4.2 Sarah Barratt, the school's educational psychologist has been invited to the school to host a session on "All behaviour is communication". This will take place on Wednesday 4th December 6-7pm, and is open to everyone. A message has been sent out to parents. She will also return in the new year to host another session.

Curriculum and Professional Learning

4.3 Staff undertook professional learning with digital literacy with the development officers from the council. This was a very helpful session and they have been booked to come back.

4.4 One of the teachers has undertaken a play course, which looks at taking play into primary 2 and beyond. Her knowledge is then shared with the rest of the staff at staff meetings.

4.5 Some of the staff have done coaching training and “nurtured nurturers” has been introduced. This is where Mrs Snowdon with support staff, give teachers time to talk and help with supporting them and looking at targets etc. This has been very welcome.

Health and Safety

4.6 The facilities management team came into school to look around the building as some of the walls and toilets have not been properly maintained. The cleaning team has also been in and the main focus was on the toilets. The issue was raised about lack of soap in the toilets, which is mainly due to the children playing with it. It was suggested to change the type of hand wash used, and also to look at ways to make sure that the toilets are effectively monitored.

4.7 The gates at link field road are broken, and therefore can't be locked at certain times like they are supposed to be. Colette will look into this. **(Action Colette)**.

Areas of Responsibility Across the School

4.8 Helen Gordon has been looking at playground development. Susan Humble, who specialises in Loose Parts Play, will come into the school on Tuesday 19th November to do an evaluation of the playground. Helen Gordon and Mrs Clark also visited Campie school to see how they used their equipment and what sort of things we will need to get started, and how to go about doing it properly. There is the possibility of involving the community, including volunteers from RBOS, universities and Edinburgh College to set it up.

4.9 Homework has been sent home to some children to design what to paint on the playground, while others designed this within their class.

It was agreed by vote that the money set aside for several years for playground improvements will now be used towards the playground group which consists of staff, parents and pupils, and run by Helen Gordon.

Pinkie parents will contribute approx £800 for the paint for this project. Suzanne Douglas will check the exact amount **(action Suzanne)**.

4.10 It was stated that Pinkie Parents will no longer contribute an annual £500 for playground equipment as Helen Gordon made it aware that this was not lasting the year.

Leadership

4.11 Primary 3 wrote beautiful letters to Pinkie Parents asking for a donation of £100 to buy decorations and presents for their Christmas fair. The donation was agreed by vote, and P3 will try and pay it back afterwards.

Primary 6 Transition

4.12 The teacher from p6b has set up a shadowing partnership with someone in the high school, as part of her probationary training. Her class will be able to visit the grammar school and do some work with the designated teacher, and he will also come into her class here at the primary school. Currently it is just P6b who will take part, but more classes will take part in the future. This will enable future transitions to go smoother, and allow the primary school classes to benefit from some of the wonderful facilities the grammar school has to offer.

Wider Achievements

4.13 Principal teachers and deutes from the cluster schools (now called Associated school groups), have met a few times to develop and create a way to celebrate wider achievements. This includes achievements from school, home and the community. "Go the extra mile" has therefore been created, and will most likely launch in January. Letters have been sent to the community to cafes and shops etc so they can notice children who are displaying certain values and who go above and beyond. Google classroom will also be used for the children to write their achievements, such as chores. This will then be celebrated within the school, and also amongst the associated school groups.

4.14 The minister from St Andrews church and the Youth Development Worker from St Peters Church has been into the school asking what they can offer, and how they can help within the school. This may come in the form of lunch clubs and reading etc. Visits will also be made to St.Peter's church.

Pinkie Sessions

4.15 Local band "Stellar" will be doing a gig at the school with a support act consisting of children from the music after school club and choir. This was suggested as a way to celebrate what the children have achieved in music. Letters will be sent out to parents of those involved, and teachers will also be here to support them. This will take place on the 12th December, 6-8pm in the school hall. Tickets will be £3 and all profit will be split between the band and the school. Suzanne Douglas will advertise this event on Facebook (**action Suzanne**). The Courier will also be invited, and PC Smith will be made aware of the event.

It is still to be decided on the ages of those able to attend, and whether older children can attend without their parents.

Resources

4.16 Communication is now predominantly done by email, unless a paper copy is requested. If no email address is given, a paper copy will be issued.

Staffing

4.17 One new ASN auxiliary started at the school on the 18th November, with another one to start as soon as the PVG check has been completed.

Nursery

4.18 Nursery development plans are ongoing, and a meeting with the landscapers has taken place. The old surgery will be demolished about January time, with building of the new nursery to commence in July, with the aim for it to be finished about February 2021.

4.19 The nursery model will be changing throughout the whole of East Lothian. The council have chosen the 48 hour model for Pinkie St Peter's nursery. This will take place from August 2020. Any questions about this should be sent to childcareinfo@eastlothian.gov.uk.

5. Treasurer's Report

5.1 Suzanne provided an update, with the opening balance being £6,311.14

5.2 A cheque of £51.60 has gone out for the litter pickers.

5.3 Payment of £589.77 for the P7 hoodies has been cleared. The hoodies should be in school before the Christmas holidays.

It was queried why the hoodies were not being ordered at the end of P6, and this is due to the number of new builds in the area. If a new P7 was to join the school in August their name would not be included.

This will be looked into again next year with maybe the option of not including all names in P7, but just the Child's own.

5.4 £230 was paid to Starz for the Halloween disco.

5.5 £554.70 came in from the Halloween Disco.

5.6 £37.17 has come in from Easy Fundraising. With a further outstanding amount of £54.04 to still go in.

5.7 This leaves the current balance at £6,031.64

6. Fundraising Update

6.1 The Halloween disco was a great event and the children all really enjoyed themselves.

6.2 The Halloween disco made £305.10 profit, which is down from last year. Some of this is due to the cost of Starz increasing by £30, and the cost of refreshments increasing.

6.3 It was stated that for health and safety reasons children are unable to turn up on the night without having handed in a permission slip as the school have strict adult to child ratios to adhere to.

6.4 Improvements in communication and permission slips will be looked into for next year.

6.5 The fundraising group will be looked into starting up again on Friday mornings.

6.6 There will be no fundraising events by Pinkie Parents for the rest of the year.

7. PEF/SIP Update

7.1 Emails have been sent to try and arrange meetings.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 It was stated that classes at Pinkie are based on ages, which has always been the case and will continue to do so unless that policy changes.

8.2 The lunch time arrangements have changed from houses going in together to ages going in together. This was done to stop the confusion of the younger classes who were unsure of what house they were in.

The issue was raised that children were not getting their chosen lunch at lunch time. Colette will speak to Jill in the kitchen (**action colette**) about other ways this can be done.

Children who have packed lunches go into the dinner hall at the same time as their class.

8.3 Suzanne is looking for someone to take over the social media and Facebook page.