



**PINKIE PARENTS
MONDAY, 13 JANUARY 2020 AT 7PM
PINKIE ST PETERS SCHOOL**

Present: Suzanne Douglas (Chair)
Stephanie Ng (Clerk)
Clare Morley
Morgan Scott
Sharon Moore
Gaynor Ross
Wendy Barber
Cllr Katie Mackie
Cllr Andy Forrest
Nick Trussler (QIO)

Staff in Attendance: Colette Bonnar (Head Teacher)
Rachel Snowdon (Deputy Head Teacher)

Apologies: Cllr John Williamson
Cllr Stuart Currie
Louise Scott
Suzanne Falconer
Suzanne Gunn (Treasurer)
Pamela Grant (Deputy Chair)

1. Welcome and Apologies

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

2. Quality Improvement Officer Introduction

2.1 Nick Trussler introduced himself and explained his role as a quality improvement officer.

2.2 He works daily in schools in Musselburgh, North Berwick and Haddington and helps them improve the quality of their teaching and learning so that they can be the best that they can be.

2.3 Nick and his team have links with Education Scotland, National Government and South East Improvement Collaborative so can point staff in the right direction for further support if needed.

2.4 They support schools through inspection and also review schools on behalf of the authority. The reviews take three days and then they challenge and support the school to further improve.

2.5 By the end of April 2020 all schools in the area will have been either inspected by Education Scotland or reviewed by the authority. Inspections are done roughly every 8 to 9 years and Pinkie St Peter's was last inspected in 2017.

2.6 Nick will be visiting Pinkie St Peter's about once a month, on average, and will be spending time in the classrooms and out in the playground talking to both teachers and children. He will also be looking at the School Improvement Plan and attainment data to see where support is needed.

2.7 As parents, we can focus more on going from 'involvement' to 'engagement' and looking at ways we can add value and contribute to the school. Many teachers have sign up sheets if parents do wish to volunteer.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 The school will be introducing a colour-coded band system for lunches to help ensure that all children get their desired choice. It is still being decided how best to monitor this with the sorting, discarding, cleaning etc of the bands.

3.2 The gates at Linkfield Road should always be unlocked as it is an open access point for the public. However, they still should be closed.

3.3 The cost of the playground paint is approximately £800, and Suzanne Gunn will organise the payment for this. (**Action: Suzanne**)

4. Communication

4.1 In April, Suzanne Douglas will step down as Chair of Pinkie Parents. Therefore, someone is needed to take over the running of the Facebook page, writing the newsletter and looking at other ways to communicate with parents.

5. Head Teacher's Report

5.1 Mrs Bonnar provided her report, updating the meeting on a number of issues.

Attainment

5.2 Pinkie is one of the pilot schools to introduce a new tracking and monitoring system of the children's progress. Two of the teachers, along with the deposes have had training in this new system and will be working alongside Mrs Bonnar. They will then lead others in how to work it. This system will allow constant tracking of the whole curriculum which will help with forward planning and providing the best support for the children.

5.3 A nurture corridor has been set up and is doing well. The running of it is shared between two teachers who just came back from maternity leave. All the teachers will undertake nurture training.

Behaviour, Improving Relationships and Promoting a Positive Ethos

5.4 A newsletter has been sent out which includes the school rules, values and vision.

5.5 Children will be receiving homework to do together as a family on "How good is our school" and will include questions and feedback. This will be given to the oldest child in the family.

5.6 The talk on "All behaviour is communication" by Sarah Baratt the Educational Psychologist was very well attended. She is keen to do more sessions and a suggestion box will be set up so parents can say what they are interested in. There is also the possibility of setting up discussion groups.

Curriculum

5.7 Open learning lessons with a focus on literacy will take place in January, with the timings sent home to parents soon.

5.8 There will be a training session for staff on 'Big Writing' on the 15th January.

Personal Achievement

5.9 Pupils wider achievements will be celebrated during assembly, as well as in the newsletter and on Twitter. The school is keen to celebrate any achievement out of the school.

5.10 Pupils from P5, P6 and P7 will have a chance to visit Murrayfield to watch an England vs Scotland rugby match on Saturday 8th February. There's a limited amount of tickets available so names will be drawn out of a hat. Staff will be attending at a ratio of 1:6.

Health and Safety

5.11 Colette Bonnar has done a suitability questionnaire on the toilets and has got in touch with the QIO for buildings. The toilets need to be upgraded and some people will be coming down to have a look at them to see what can be done. The teachers are also ensuring the toilets are being patrolled more frequently.

Leadership

5.12 The P7 Christmas craft morning was really well supported and made almost £1000. This is a fantastic amount and means the P7 are well on their way to raising what they need for their end of year activities.

5.13 The P3's made over £300 at their Christmas Fair and will pay back the loan lent to them by Pinkie Parents. However, Pinkie parents are willing to help out by reducing the amount they pay back depending on what they wish to spend the money on. Colette will speak to the P3 teacher to determine this. **(Action: Colette)**

5.14 A junior leadership team / pupil council will be starting up to get more student involvement in school issues such as fundraising.

Newsletter

5.15 The newsletter will be coming out soon and will include dates for the following term such as Comic Relief and World Book Day.

5.16 From now on, a Christmas newsletter will be issued with the dates of all Christmas performances and activities with the classes involved.

5.17 The newsletters will be clear about whether the nursery is involved in activities with the school or not.

Pinkie Sessions

5.18 This was a brilliant evening and the children got so much out of it. There were performances by the choir, piano recitals, solo singing, and a couple of rock bands. Musselburgh's local band 'Stellar' also performed.

5.19 Another Pinkie Sessions event will take place at Easter time.

Playground

5.20 Susan Humble, the loose parts play specialist will be visiting the playground to help with the preparation in setting it up for 'Loose Parts Play'. Training will also take place for the teachers and support staff.

Paired Reading Program

5.21 Queen Margaret University will be doing a paired reading programme with some P6's and P7's for 12 weeks. This will be done by trainee teachers and will end in a graduation ceremony at QMU.

Resources

5.22 In order to help the school become paperless an email address needs to be provided to receive electronic copies of letters and any other communication.

Staffing

5.23 Kasia from the nursery will be commencing maternity leave in March, so there will be an advert going out for for a new Senior Early Years Practitioner.

5.24 New ASN auxiliaries have started.

5.25 Two students will starting soon in classes P7a and P4a, and they will be introduced to the parents.

Nursery

5.26 Colette has been to see the nursery plans with the Care Inspectorate and will go again to see the rooms and data.

5.27 The building of the new nursery will commence in July 2020 and will hopefully be finished February / march 2021.

5.28 Colette Bonnar expressed her thanks for the books given to the children at Christmas and the hard work that into all the wrapping.

6. Treasurer's Update

6.1 The opening balance is £6,031.64.

6.2 £500 has come out to pay for the books given to the children at Christmas.

6.3 £13 has come out to pay for the wrapping paper for the Christmas books.

6.4 £100 has come out for the P3 Christmas market.

6.5 This leaves a closing balance of £5,418.64, with a cheque for loose parts still to come out.

7. Fundraising Update

7.1 The fundraising meetings will hopefully be up and running again soon.

7.2 The next scheduled event is the Edinburgh marathon stall on the 24th May.

7.2a The current gazebo used for the stall is no longer allowed due to health and safety, so a gazebo may need to be hired from the event. Colette Bonnar will see if it is possible to get the pitch for free, in return for the marathon using the school fields. (**Action: Colette**)

7.3 The children will be asked for any fundraising ideas, with the possibility of partnering with them.

8. PEF/SIP Subgroup Update

8.1 Emails will be sent to parents to arrange meetings and get the groups back up and running. (**Action: Pamela**).

9. Next Meeting

9.1 The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 24th February.