



**PINKIE PARENTS  
MONDAY, 26 APRIL 2021 AT 7.25 PM  
VIA SKYPE**

**Present:**

Pamela Grant (Chair)  
Gaynor Ross (Vice Chair)  
Wendy Barber (Treasurer)  
Stephanie Ng (Clerk)  
Suzanne Douglas  
Suzanne Falconer  
Claire Somerville  
Doug Broadley  
Suzanne Gilhooley  
Stephen Dishon  
Victoria Dishon

**Staff in Attendance:**

Colette Bonnar (Head Teacher)  
Helen Gordon (Depute Head Teacher)

**Apologies:**

Cllr Andy Forrest  
Cllr Katie Mackie  
Cllr John Williamson

## **1. Welcome and Apologies**

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

## **2. Matters Arising From Previous Meeting**

2.1 There is no longer a pressing need for devices as children have returned to in-school learning. However, it is the school's hope that every child at Pinkie will have a device, and this was in their plan even before COVID-19 hit. Unfortunately, there is still a county-wide delay in getting these devices to the schools.

2.2 The school is working on a simplified version of the PEF (pupil equity funding) for the school website with Amanda Hamilton, however a huge part of that was the provision of the devices which has been delayed. The school is also looking into other ways to distribute the PEF and hopefully widen their audience, and reach those who would benefit from it.

2.3 Pamela has set up a fundraising meeting on Thursday 29th April, which will take place by video call.

2.4 Mrs Colette Bonnar has attended a virtual walk-through of the new high school at Wallyford. Work has already started on it, but there is no completion date yet.

## **3. Head Teacher's Report**

3.1 Mrs Colette Bonnar gave her report and updated the meeting on a number of issues.

### **COVID-19 Update**

3.2 The school is following the COVID-19 guidelines, and it has recently been updated.

3.3 PE is now allowed indoors as long as it doesn't include contact, however if the weather is good it is still encouraged for PE to be done outside. Contact sport should be allowed indoors again from approximately the 17th May.

3.4 Windows will be open as much as possible to allow ventilation, but will be closed if it becomes too cold.

3.5 Soft start in the mornings is still going well and has reduced the number of parents and carers gathering outside the school in the mornings.

3.6 Parents and carers are encouraged to wear face coverings on school grounds, and there are signs around to remind people of this.

3.7 There was one case of COVID-19 during the Easter Holidays, meaning some members of staff and a few children had to self-isolate.

### **Attainment**

3.8 Primary 1 - 3 parent consultations have taken place over the phone and the feedback from that has been positive. The P4's - P7's will have their parent consultations soon and the dates are in the newsletter which has been sent out.

3.9 Reporting back to parents is taking on a new format throughout the whole local authority area. This is done by using an online tracking system that looks at the child's literacy, numeracy and health and well being and if they are on track to achieve their level. These reports will be sent out during the last week of term, but there will still be time to raise any queries parents may have.

### **School Improvement Plan**

3.10 This is the time of year where the school looks back over the year and evaluates what they have done. Levels weren't reported on last year, which leaves a gap from 2018 to now.

3.11 There is a head teacher's development day on 28th April, where the latest data and trends over the years will be looked at, and the school will see the best way to move forward.

3.12 They will also talk about the parent SIP subgroup, as the school very much wants parents involved. It would be great to talk to parents about the data and make sure it is being understood, and also why the school is doing what it is doing.

### **Health and Safety**

3.13 Unfortunately there have been some cases of vandalism at the school, which has been reported to both the local authority and the police. There has been damage to the daffodils; about £300 worth of milk vandalised; and people jumping over into the secret garden.

3.14 Mrs Colette Bonnar will find out if it is possible to put anti-climb paint onto the roof. **(Action: Colette)**

3.15 Anti-climb paint is going to be put on top of the storage containers so they can store tyres up above.

3.16 Mrs Colette Bonnar will ask the janitor to clean the gym doors, as it is noted that they are covered in something which looks like milk or paint. **(Action: Colette)**.

3.17 No smoking signs have been put up to remind people not to smoke at or around the school.

### **New Nursery Building**

3.18 There is no exact start date as yet for the building of the new nursery, but it will be underway by the summer.

## **Professional Learning**

3.19 The school, as well as the local authority, are doing something called “Showing Racism the Red Card” and thinking about equality and diversity. This will hopefully feed back into the SIP.

3.20 Mrs Colette Bonnar attended a training session on poverty with someone from NHS Lothian and they talked about doing a parental awareness session with the school.

3.21 On Wednesday 26th April there will be a training session for all the staff at Pinkie. They will be doing a culture and values session as well as looking at health and wellbeing.

3.22 There are staff meetings every Friday morning, which the support staff are also invited to as it helps everyone have the same shared vision.

## **Curriculum**

3.23 Teachers are sharing on Twitter hashtags such as #PinkiePlays and #PinkieCounts, and also sharing at whole staff meetings about the work and development that is going on.

## **Staffing**

3.24 Miss Christy is expecting a baby and is now working from home in-line with the current guidelines. Miss Christy is on screen in the classroom with support staff and Miss Kinnaird present in the classroom. She will be working until the end of the school year.

3.25 There is a new student in primary 6. The staff have embraced having students as it is important to help the next generation of teachers, and the school needs probationers for the next school year.

3.26 There is no news yet about the return of Mr Shields. A message was sent to those in P4/5 informing them that Miss McGinn will be teaching in his place just now.

## **Newsletter**

3.27 The newsletter has been sent out with important dates. The school will always stay in regular contact and update parents/carers as things change and more is allowed to happen.

## **P7 Leaving Events**

3.28 The school is waiting to hear from the Quality Improvement Officer who is looking at the current guidelines and seeing what the schools in East Lothian are allowed to do for their P7 leaving events.

## **Transition**

3.29 The school is going to be sending out a google form to do with transitions across the school (nursery-P1, P7-S1 as well as all the years in-between), to see what works well.

## **Outdoor Classroom**

3.30 Miss Palmer and Miss Cornes are working on this and more information will follow.

## **Sports Day**

3.31 Mr Dougal is doing a lot of background work on this, and the school will inform parents/carers in due course. Parents/carers won't be allowed to spectate this year, but something will go ahead.

## **4. Treasurer's Update**

4.1 The balance, incomings and expenditures were covered in the AGM.

4.2 The following class funding agreements were agreed for the period October 2020 - April 2021:

- ◆ Class funding applications agreed at meeting on 5th October - 1A, 2A, 2B, 3C, 6A, 6B (£600 but only £500 paid)
- ◆ Class funding applications agreed following on from email of 25th November - 3A, 3B, 5A, 4/5, 5B (£500 not yet paid)
- ◆ Nursery funding applications agreed following on from April email - £186 (not yet paid)

4.3 Wendy Barber and Marie Hartley are the two current signatories at the moment and Suzanne Douglas agreed to be the third.

4.4 There's enough money in the bank to give the class funding to those classes who haven't yet asked for it and who applies for it before the end of this school year.

4.5 A decision will be made at the first meeting of the new school year about whether to carry on with the individual class funding, or to maybe stop it for a while and instead contribute £500 towards playground equipment.

4.6 Pinkie Parents will look at the annual commitments and see which are most beneficial. It may be that they reduce the amount spent on Christmas treats, or that they may only part-fund the P7 hoodies.

## **5. SIP (School Improvement Plan) and PEF (Pupil Equity Fund) Subgroup Update**

5.1 Many parents/carers are unsure of what the SIP and PEF are, and so education needs to take place before the subgroups are started up.

5.2 Videos have been done to explain what the groups are, and these will be uploaded/sent out.

5.3 The parent council is supposed to be consulted on the SIP and PEF, and so the subgroups are important as it allows the parent body to really get involved in what is going on at the school, and to partnership with them.

5.4 The parents/carers need to know what the expectations of them are, and how much of their time and commitment will be needed. The meetings that have taken place in the past took about an hour and were held in the evening.

5.5 Pamela will look into how to get more people involved in these subgroups. **(Action: Pamela).**

## **6. Fundraising**

6.1 Pamela has set up a fundraising meeting for Thursday 29th April. If anyone has any ideas but cannot make the meeting then please let Pamela know.

6.2 Ideas for the future include the possibility of a Christmas Fair, if guidelines allow, and again doing Christmas cards which worked so well last year. If Pinkie Parents go ahead with the Christmas cards they will look into starting the whole process earlier.

6.3 Fundraising is not going to be a priority for many people at the moment, so Pinkie Parents need to be mindful of that.

6.4 Information about the fundraising meeting, as well as the subgroup meetings are on the Pinkie Parents Facebook page, but Mrs Colette Bonnar can also send out group texts to everyone.

6.5 There was a suggestion of starting a Pinkie Parents newsletter or making a leaflet to go into school bags to let more people know what the parent council are doing, and how to get involved. This would be especially beneficial to new P1 parents.

6.6 The JLT (Junior Leadership Team) and house captains could maybe help promote Pinkie Parents by talking about the benefits they receive from them.

6.7 The nursery to P1 transition will take place virtually again this year and will include video introductions from the P1 teachers. It was suggested that Pinkie Parents may also like to make a video to introduce themselves to the new P1 parents and let them know what they do. **(Action: Pamela and Gaynor)**

6.8 It was agreed that donating money online, rather than handing over cash was preferable.

## **7. Last Year's P7 Fundraising**

7.1 The total amount raised by last year's P7's was £790.62, and there were 49 pupils, which equals £16.10 per child.

7.2 21 children didn't respond to the google form which was sent out to ask what their preferred voucher would be, despite four reminders within a month being sent out. Pamela will put up a post on the Facebook page to hopefully get in touch with those 21. **(Action: Pamela)**

7.3 Some of the places the children chose didn't have the option to get a voucher for the amount of £16.10, so an initial £10 voucher of the child's choice was given to them.

7.4 The remaining £6 per child will be sent out in the form of an Amazon voucher.

7.5 If any of the vouchers are not collected, then Mrs Colette Bonnar will let Pinkie Parents know, to see what will be done with them.

## **8. Any other Business**

8.1 Google classroom has been introduced to the nursery this year and includes the child's Personal Learning Plan. The school has asked East Lothian Council to facilitate access for the parents of the nursery children, but this has not happened yet. The Google classrooms were originally set up to show parents their child's progress when they came into nursery, but that hasn't been able to happen due to the current COVID guidelines. In the meantime, nursery will phone parents about once a month to update them. If it happens that parents aren't allowed in the nursery long term, then the nursery could potentially print off the PLP for the parents.

8.2 Mrs Samson, Mr Dove and Miss Palmer are planning P7 fundraising events with the P7's, and a specific letter for P7 parents will be coming out detailing this.

**9. Next Meeting Date**

9.1 The next meeting is Monday 31st May.