

Parent Council meeting on 7th October 2020
via Teams

Sam welcomed everyone and all those on the parent council introduced themselves.

Treasurer's report

CURRENT FUNDS				FUNDS AVAILABLE
Assets	Bank Balance on 07/10/20	£3,547.57		
	Monies banked after statement date	£0.00		
	P7 2020 Yearbook	£435.00		
	Uncleared cheques	£1,496.25		
	Total	£5,478.82	Liabilities Cumulative	Remaining Balance
Liabilities	Uncashed Cheques		£0.00	£5,556.97
			£0.00	£5,556.97
			£0.00	£5,556.97
			£0.00	£5,556.97
	Less sinking fund	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£3,556.97
TOTAL LIABILITIES		£2,000.00		
	Balance available to spend			£3,478.82

Headteacher's report

Impact of Covid-19

Reflections, some quotes from the staff and pupils:

Staff experience

- Trying to do business as usual, but it's not business as usual!
- Exhausting and intense
- Constantly re-thinking how to approach things safely but still making it engaging
- Mentally tiring.....
- Great to be back
- Good to reconnect
- Highlight is being back with the kids
- Outdoor learning and digital learning are real positives
- Hoodies for P7 - it was a highlight when they arrived!
- It's also nice to be back

Pupil experience

- Love seeing friends
- Great to be back

- Like being outdoors
- Can be a bit much being in the same bubble all the time with no 'escape'
- Not quite Parsons Green

Learning & Teaching in the current pandemic:

- Priorities:

Health and Safety still taking up a lot of time, always a work in progress.

Digital Learning/provision. P6&7 receiving lessons around Microsoft teams at the moment.

Outdoor learning

Health and Wellbeing for the pupils and the staff.

literacy/numeracy catching the children where they are.

What might happen next?

- Expectations around school work for pupils self-isolating

If a child is off ill then they will not be expected to work.

If pupils are having to isolate, then work will be available.

Class pages on the website will have learning grids.

If teachers are well enough then they will be leading things if they are not the senior management will step in.

Self-isolation activities for a couple of weeks are on the website for each class. These will need to be refreshed over time as topics/learning progresses for each year group. If there is a class isolation then a whole class will be sent out more work. 6&7 Microsoft teams, are receiving lessons around it at the moment. The rest of the school leaning journals/email.

Edinburgh learns team is looking at renewing and refreshing learning grids and trying to make them digital light and not labour intensive for parents, as that is what parents fed back after lock down. This would be supplemented with sum dog and education city.

- **Where to find key information**

School or city of Edinburgh council website, if in any doubt please email Susan.

Facts for parent and cares on the Edinburgh council website.

School website will be our main source of info, and new things will go on then when finalised. For example Primary one enrolment week and updates of the handbook.

Communication if there is a COVID case:

Either class/cohort/school, depending on the situation, would be notified by text/email that there has been a positive COVID result.

Then those who need to isolate will be sent a separate email/text,

Then a 3rd update text/email to the original group contacted to say that all of the contacts needing contacted have been contacted, so if you have not been contacted you don't need to be.

There has been no evidence of in-school transmission of Covid-19 cases, which is reassuring.

A link to the Public Health Scotland dashboard, kindly shared by a parent, shows how many cases there are in different areas/neighbourhoods.

https://public.tableau.com/profile/phs.covid.19#!/vizhome/COVID-19DailyDashboard_15960160643010/Overview

Closing the gap

Edinburgh closing the gap work force, employed additional teaching staff about closing the gap, Parsons Green are sharing a teacher between Duddingston and Royal High primary schools. This was really helpful with the new P1s, teachers could have one on one time. (Not all nursery were able to give transition reports as they had been closed).

Meeting next week with cluster colleagues to work out what is best way to share the teacher. Closing the gap bit of work is really helpful

Q&A

There weren't many questions but those that were asked are answered within the minutes in the suitable sections.

Playground paint day

We would like to get the playground equipment painted before the winter. Could we do it over the October break, to give it time to dry etc?

It was decided:

It could be done during the October break

Max of two households (no children). This needs to be by invitation/rota and risk assessment to ensure it is safe.

Contact Parent Council or Susan if you are interested in helping out.

Sam sammyfraser@hotmail.com or Rachel kingrachelf@hotmail.com

Fundraising

What can we fundraise for? What does the school need?

Mrs Murray Cavanagh joined the meeting with a request from the school:

Renewing our digital strategy for the next few years, such a massive thing at the moment, how confident we want the children to be and how are we preparing them for that. The school is investing in the digital learning too this would just boost it.

Mostly around equipment:

1. An interactive white board for the nursery, to help embed these skills from nursery up £2900.
2. Programmable toys for coding bringing coding to life for the children and they love them. For a mixture of coding toys/robots for all the ages £2000
3. IPADS through the school, developing understanding of teams/Microsoft 365. 30 IPADS £9250

The PC asked what is the key priority?

Ms MC agreed to make a priority list, maybe in £2000 chunks so we can aim as a parent council/school community to raise that money. **Action Ms MC**

Carys, the treasurer, feels we could maybe spend £2500- £3000 now without risk.

Other fundraising

Sponsored spell: With the class that raises the most money getting to keep £25

A cookbook driven by P7

Nursery staff idea for fundraising:

What about a **collection of ideas for things to do with your children at home and putting together a book of ideas of fun things to do at home.**

Might bring in a little bit of money.

It could come from the nursery but it could have sections for older children too.

In terms of support from parent council, drumming up ideas for it.

Could be emailed not printed.

Cash Raffle

Carys will do the cash raffle still, which we usually do at the Christmas fair, once we have the license it is valid for a year, so we can do it another time too.

Tea Towels

Elspeth has very kindly volunteered to organise the creation and sale of the school tea towels for Christmas. The children are drawing their pictures for it at the moment.

Fundraising objective for this year.

We always try and support the school with their priorities but also the parent council likes to support another theme and the last two years it has been the hardship fund. It has always been important but feels more important now that we help those that need it. We usually have about £1000 in a pot, we maybe need more.

Very sensitive subject and hard to bring it up, people don't like to say and Susan doesn't like to assume. But Susan open to ideas so people know help is available. There is a clothing and footwear grant available (police welfare grant). John Watson trust, grants for technology for families.

It was suggested that it is put in the newsletter, PC might put something together for Susan.

Action Sam and Rachel

Could we pack up gift bags for people?

Food hampers a good idea.

Usually do a harvest festival, maybe we could still do this?

Susan was going to check foodbank in the local area for a harvest festival theme like previous years and donations that come in could be split between local foodbanks and families in the school community that need them. Action Susan

We did have a foodbank at the school before for families? People used to just pass by and take something and make it accessible, we would need to think how we could do this for families/pupils so they don't feel on show. Susan sure they can come up with an idea to make this work.

Supermarket vouchers purchased by the parent council at the beginning of lockdown really made a difference to families in the school community. Really did make a big difference and those that benefited were really, really grateful.

Fundraising ideas: send to Sam sammyfraser@hotmail.com or Rachel kingrachelf@hotmail.com

Any Other Business

Hot food on the school Menu

Hot food meant to be going back on the school menu starting after school holidays, should be coming up on parent pay ASAP. This is particularly to help some children to access a hot free meal.

Permission to empty a cupboard

The mice have eaten things in the parent council cupboard. Susan asked for permission to empty the cupboard?

Parent council said you have full permission and thank you and sorry.

Road Safety

Lorna thanked Susan for sorting it out, so much safer at the top of Paisley Drive. It has made a huge difference.

Robin could he be moved to the crossing at the main entrance now? As cars still going up and down that road?

Susan had asked Robin to move further down the hill to stop people doing 3 point turns up there. They have applied for a TTRO, makes it more legal. This will be in place for the foreseeable future.

Meadowfield closure: although not a bus route anymore, Staff need to park their cars, emergency access needed and proving trickier to close temporarily and would involve traffic lights.

Any yellow lines can be painted, if helpful.

Lady Nairn Loan has had traffic increase because of the road closure.

Email in Road Safety ideas

The people in the council are trying to do their best, but they don't know what they don't know so please send in any ideas to do with road safety. **Action All**

Newsletter

Enjoy the 'what's been happening' section of the newsletter

Maybe something in newsletter about why digital learning has become so important, to communicate to whole school community. **Action Susan**

Thank you to the wonderful teachers

Rachel asked for Susan to thank all the staff for keeping trying to make education engaging while things are changing and reshaping all the time.

We are really grateful to all the staff for all they are doing.

Future meetings

We have tried to give some different evenings so that everyone has a chance to attend. For now the meetings will be held on teams.

Tuesday 24th November

Thursday 21st January

Tuesday 16th March

Wednesday 19th May

Wednesday 16th June AGM