

Parent Council Meeting Tuesday 24th November 2020 7pm

On Teams

Present- Susan Cochrane, Jen McGowan, Nicki MacDonald, Sam Rutherford, Rachel King, Emma Bartlett, Carys MacDonald, Claire Hagget, Sam G, Adam Craddock(student).

Apologies- Donna, Vicki, Bryony, Gillian and Simon, Lorna

Rachel, co-chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting

1.Actions from previous minutes:

- **Painting playground equipment.** Still need some volunteers, but will push painting back till the spring.
- **Thank you** to everyone who donated to the **foodbank**. Two huge car loads went to City Mission who operate out of Craigentinny.
- **Financial support.** Since having the financial support links in the newsletter, people have come forward for support. It was suggested that the links might move up the newsletter in January, to make them more visible. The school is creating a booklet about financial support, it is being put together. Susan said it would be helpful to get some parents to read it over. **Action Sam, Claire and Rachel.** Susan will put the booklet on the website too. **Action Susan to put on the Website.**
- **Thank you to Claire and Arabella** for putting the second hand clothing out, and helping P1&2 getting some of the uniform. Thank you to staff for helping too. Claire is hoping to do it again, just keeping an eye on the weather. **Action Claire**

2.Treasurer's report

- We currently have £4304.13 in the bank with £1,931.25 of monies due to us, giving us a **balance of £6,235.38.**
- Money from Edinburgh council has come in
- £45 from easy fundraising.
- Would be good to push easy fundraising
A school text for Easy Fundraising was suggested **Action Susan**
Send Susan easy fundraising link for newsletter **Action Carys**
- **Cash raffle**, Carys struggling to get a licence, it would only be valid till end of the calendar year, the council aren't getting back to her. Rules are, if you are having a cash raffle you have to have people at an actual event to draw the raffle. The Christmas cash raffle won't happen. But Carys will try and organise for next year if we have a summer fair or if we can do it virtually. Carys will let us know if she hears back. **Action Carys**

3.Headteacher's report

Please see attached report.

There were a few questions around the report that Susan answered:

- **Can we have a temporary road closure of Meadowfield Drive?**

Road traffic department looked at all the schools in Edinburgh. Susan asked for pick up/drop off time Meadowfield drive to be closed. We can't have a temporary road closure, it could be done, but the council don't have the money to do it, for example we don't have existing traffic lights. Therefore Meadowfield Drive is not closed, because it would have to be permanent and this can cause other problems for example an Ambulance couldn't get in at Paisley Drive at the moment, so the road being permanently closed would affect access. One way traffic system was a popular choice in the survey.

It was commented that only a very small amount of people replied to the survey. Also the local community would need to be consulted. Claire to help look at the survey, local community too.

Action for Rachel and Sam to set up a subgroup to look at this.

Susan is not in charge of the lollipop people, but can recommend.

- **Digital Strategy**

(please see more details in the Headteacher's report)

Part of a bigger drive across the city, a forced move due to the pandemic.

Large amount of PEF budget has been committed to this.

There is a worldwide shortage of IPADS at the moment, so 30 are on order but might not arrive till January.

Support from the parent council for the digital strategy would be amazing.

Taking away some barriers for some children to their learning. This has been fantastic:

Book creator used by some as their jotters

Speech to Text also used.

- **Susan was asked why it was specifically IPADS?**

Edinburgh Council has a clear digital strategy and it is with Apple. Other local authorities have chosen others, for example Chrome. The head teacher's strategy group have come to the conclusion that it is IPDAS. Mostly to do with cyber security. This same question has been raised by head teachers in this local authority too.

- **Parent Pay Fundraising**

See Headteacher's report for more details.

The wording for this was approved.

Action Susan to put in the newsletter.

4.Fundraising

- **Just giving page**

Questions was asked, could we have a 'just giving' page?

We are not set up as a charity as the PC, so we can't do it.

It was suggested it might be easier to highlight easy fundraising.

- **Tea Towels**

Thanks to Elspeth and all the teachers for getting the tea towels done, amazing. They should arrive early December. Distribution to be sorted.

- **Suggested a monthly raffle**

Portobello High does this successfully apparently.

Anything with a cash prize will require a license, just £40.

Need to investigate. Action Carys and Rachel

Action Susan to ask Ruth McKay

- **Whatsapp bingo game suggested,**

Action Carys check if we would need a license for this

Wait till 2021

- **Festival of Kindness**

Fundraising for Social Bite.

Launching it this Thursday, Action Jen will send more info out

AOB

- **School Facebook page**

Sam and Rachel to see who is in charge of school Facebook page. Sam Goudie volunteered to help with the Facebook page. Action Sam and Rachel

- **Nativity**

P1&2 usually do this. Yes they are going to do it in some form. Can't sing inside, outside you have to face forward and might not be able to hear the recording outside.

Teachers opted to learn a different bit of the story each and learn sign along to go with it.

- **Community feel for Christmas**

School will be doing things on the same day to try and give a sense of community, this includes:

Snowflake making day

Window display about a different song

Santa run

Christmas movies in their classrooms in pjs.

Lots of craft and sewing materials have been bought for the school and trying to make it as special as possible,

P7 doing a time capsule

A huge thank you from Susan to all the parents for the wonderful effort you are putting in with your children, the children are doing so well and it makes the school's job so much easier.