

Easter Carmuir's Primary School

PARENT COUNCIL



Thursday 08 November 2018

Attendance

School: Mr McLaren, Mrs Guthrie, Mrs Arundel

Parent Council: Dan Rous, Lesley Ramsay, Justine Jones, Caroline McLean, Katrina Anderson, Kirstene Bauld, Vikki Fleming.

Visitor: Erich Du Toit (Chaplain), Associate Minister, Camelon Parish Church

1. Welcome & Apologies

Dan thanked everyone for attending, it's been a busy few months. There are more helpers on board and even more in the wings. It's great to now have nursery parents on board.

2. Chair Report and approval of previous minutes.

Lesley has sent on the Accounts. Previous minutes approved.

3. Coffee & Chat feedback

Coffee & Chat. Comments were sent to Mr McLaren. Feedback was around sharing of information and requiring more notice of when the helpers are required as it's mainly parents who work, they want 2 weeks notice. They expressed that they do want to help and it's good to hear that more people want to be involved. Also feedback around DOJO – the communications appear to be a bit scattered.

It was suggested that on a Friday, put out the weekly information so parents can plan ahead / buy what is required at weekends.

Next Coffee & Chat will be discussions around homework.

4. Headteacher Update

All newcomers are being shown around the school by a parent helper. The school still do their formal tour but the helpers are there as a friendly face and to show them where to wait for their child etc.

The new class structure has had very positive feedback which is great.

Regarding behaviours: ASN – Mr McLaren spoke to Parent Council to let them understand where the behaviours are coming from. Behaviours also to be discussed at next Coffee & Chat.

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Mr McLaren recently spoke to parents who had concerns regarding behaviours and they understood better after the discussion, what ASN behaviours are. Still need to maintain an amount of discretion with these discussions.

Mr McLaren would expect any parents with concerns to approach their child's teacher in the first instance, he doesn't mind getting involved but parents need to follow the correct escalation route.

Mr McLaren would like to attend the Coffee & Chat if there is going to be a discussion on behaviours.

Lesley asked what the school policy on bullying was. Mr McLaren advised he wasn't aware of any bullying allegations and again re-iterated the escalation procedure for any parents who have concerns. It's important for a positive message to go out to parents and children that there are people to speak to.

On another note the emotion works is proving to be working well, it's helping.

Mrs Arundel talked about the nursery and how the staff have all gelled really well. The staff have kids at the centre of everything and are working hard in keeping them engaged. The interactive learning diary is working well. She also said in relation to new children starting, there are now home visits taking place, which is good.

It is the job of the Parent Council to help with parent relationships. There has been lots of change in such a short period of time. It is fabulous that every child's needs are being met.

Christmas Show – Mrs Arundel said the nursery won't be on stage this year with the whole school watching. Parents of nursery children will be invited in separately for a singalong and a communication will go out regarding this. It was felt this was the best decision for the children and everyone agreed.

Regarding P1 numbers – they will know more in Jan / Feb time once numbers have been confirmed.

5. Events update:

Halloween disco went amazingly well. The ticket system done well, allowing quick entry for the children. There were 73 older children, 55 infants and 12 helpers. There was a £183 profit made!

For events, Justine now has 21 helpers and it's also good to now have a male helper involved – thanks to Scott for quietly and efficiently dealing with a few children at the disco, this prevented anything further kicking off. There was also a few teenagers outside the school so it was suggested for the next event, the shutters should be down. This needs to be checked against Fire Regulations.

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Christmas Fayre:

There will be a meeting next week to get views.

The question was asked if anywhere is out of bounds – only the GP room. The nursery can be used as long as everything is put back in place. The kettle in the nursery can also be used. Justine is to liaise with Mrs Easton and Mrs McCafferty. Budget for the fayre was confirmed to be £200. Last year budget was £180. The grotto is a big change for this year and the school have a santa suit for use.

A parent had emailed the school about holding a culture night. Mrs G advised the school could support this by allowing the event to be held at the school but the parent would have to take the lead and organise it all. ECPS are a multi-cultural school so it wasn't felt by the school that a culture night was something that was required at this time.

Pudsey PJ Party:

Justine emailed the BBC to ask for the school to be mentioned in their fundraising efforts. Need to let the BBC know how much funds were raised.

Christmas Celidh:

P5, P6 & P7: 13 Dec.

P1 & P2 : 19 Dec.

P3 & P4: 18 Dec.

Nursery: 12 Dec.

Helpers will be needed for P1 onwards.

Panto:

Helpers required also. To be there 10.30am Alhambra Theatre, Sleeping Beauty. The school will be seated at the front.

Golden Café:

£64.80 is profit so far.

6. Treasurers Update

Parent Council are happy to support purchasing a cooker for nursery – Mrs Arundel to advise on what is needed.

Still waiting on word about the Admin payment. The person who usually deals with it is on maternity leave.

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Spend so far:	
Golden Café (cups and bowls)	£64.80
Open evening	£107.00
Popcorn machine & accessories	£167.48
First aid box & gel packs	£23.89
Halloween disco	£154.64
TOTAL	£517.81
What we've made:	
Halloween disco	£338.00
Golden Café (first 8 week block)	£126.50
CURRENT BALANCE TOTAL:	
	£1142.66
Current Balance Golden Café:	
(including what was carried forward from last year)	£217.32

Looking at a potential further spend of £450.00 by Easter time.

7. Playground Development

Parent Council to engage with children on the playground requirements. At the front is early years play, still lots to do in the nursery. On-going work in the old P1 playground. Pupil Council to work with Parent Council to develop the plans. P5 onwards could give ideas and it would be good for them to see them implemented. Dan to take the lead on this. Mrs Guthrie will let him know when the next Pupil Council is scheduled for. Looking at the mini trim trail to be done.

8. AOB

N/A