



PRESENT: M Fraser, L Service, M Slater, M McNeil, J Boyd, E Windle, G Sutherland, J Johnson, L MacKinnon, V Anderson, L Cowie, D Wallace, G McPetrie, K Lennox

APOLOGIES: J Currie, L McCauley, F Thomson, S Smithers, V Stewart, K Warren

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by email, in advance of the meeting.

Planning Ahead for 2018/2019

Meetings:

Tuesday 10 September, 6.00 pm
 Tuesday 10 September, 7.00 pm (AGM)
 Tuesday 29 October, 6.30 pm
 Tuesday 14 January, 6.30 pm
 Tuesday 10 March, 6.30 pm
 Tuesday 12 May, 6.30 pm
 Tuesday 16 June, 6.30 pm

Events:

Saturday 5 October – Ladies Afternoon
 Saturday 7 March – Race Night
 Saturday 23 May – Fun Day

(Ladies afternoon and race night pending Bowling Club availability).

ACTION DW

Other possible plans include a family event (ceilidh or bingo) and two free cinema events in the year.

KL reported that some parents had mentioned that the children enjoy the discos and they would be willing to arrange/supervise this.

Committee Roles for 2019/2020

E Windle has expressed an interest in the Secretary role, and will be put forward for nomination at the AGM.

D Wallace will take over as fundraising leader, from L MacKinnon, and has begun planning ahead.

L MacKinnon and G McPetrie were thanked for their contributions in their current roles, and over many years in Louise’s case.

Fundraising Update

LM reported that the Fun Day raised £2264.

DW discussed plans, with potential dates noted above.

DW has enquired about a bar for the Ladies Afternoon, and will apply for the temporary licence for this. Tickets will be priced at £15 and will include savoury afternoon tea, glass of fizz and entertainment.

ACTION DW

Treasurer’s Report

Recent spend included:

£210 on plates, cups and storage boxes for these.

£2841 to the school for items including chick and egg project, buses, forest schools, sports day medals, equipment for new reward system.

LC met with staff regarding grants available, teachers to feed back to LS with suggestions.

We end the year with £6400, of which £2000 remains ring-fenced for the ongoing playground project.

LC reminded of the importance of highlighting items paid for by the School Council, to ensure parents know how the money is being spent/to encourage support with fundraising.

LS suggested a display board where School Council could inform of this, including photographs. It was suggested that a display could be made ahead of parents’ evenings/sharing assemblies, when most parents are present.

Head Teacher's Report

Lynn Service shared a presentation, outlining key activities from this term, updating on the School Vision, Values and Aims and summarising the School Improvement Plan. (Slides attached separately).

The following topics were discussed, during the presentation:

Backpack Project:

LS will contact Susan Cantley to progress this, with a view to some pupils leading the communication/organisation involved. LS spoke positively about the assembly visit, and parents reported that the children had been enthusiastic about it also.

ACTION LS

Use of Digital Technologies across the Curriculum:

LS will request advice from Banchory Primary's Principal Teacher on this.

2+1 Languages:

French will be used in the classrooms on a daily basis.

The +1 language is not taught as a subject but can include aspects of a language that is linked to a history/geography topic – where possible, parents with other languages could support this.

Maths Week:

30 September – 4 October 2019

Parents will be invited to volunteer to talk about how they use Maths in the real world.

On a more regular basis, parent volunteers will be sought for an ongoing maths project.

Committees/Groups:

Beginning next session, LS plans to have all children involved in a committee/group, this will require adult volunteers to lead the groups (for example charities, Health & Wellbeing, Web Club, Eco Schools...)

Outdoor Learning:

LS intends to put together a programme of experiences, to ensure progression across the year groups and to minimise repetition. KL suggested that this could be done by year group, rather than class, to ensure that some children do not miss out, when different composite classes are formed each year.

Funding:

SC agreed to fund pupil badges, for the various committees, which will be ready for August. Completing the Heinemann Active Maths scheme will cost around £2000. While School Council are happy to fund this, KL suggested that there may be sponsorship available for STEM subjects, from Oil & Gas Companies. This has been successful at Harlaw Academy. Parents are encouraged to talk to other families employed by such companies, to apply for funding, the usual route is via parents in the workplace.

ACTION ALL

In order for the resources to be in place for August, it was suggested that funds be released for this, and funding applied for retrospectively.

KL also reported that, following the P4 University visit, there is funding available. They are very keen to give to primaries, particularly for collegiate/cluster resources. (Eg science kits that could rotate around Drumoak, Durriss and Crathes). LS reported that there are resources in school, but not complete sets of things and will discuss needs with staff.

ACTION LS

Correspondence

Land for Banchory Academy

Alice Foster, Crathes Parent Council Chair, shared that David Smart (Factor of Leys Estate) would be willing to discuss some alternative suggestions for identifying land for a new academy. JC has replied that this would most likely be of interest and that we will await a date for this.

#ilovemyschool Campaign

Aberdeenshire Council is inviting people across the authority to recognise some of the good work going on in schools, by sharing positive experiences (with consent), using the #ilovemyschool hashtag. Tag @Aberdeenshire on Twitter and @AberdeenshireCouncil on Facebook, some of the best examples will be shared. (E-mail giving full details, attached). Time is tight for this but we suggested that pupils could be asked about their highlights from the year, and they could be written on post it notes which could be displayed at the celebration evening. School Council could then photograph these/select some examples to share. We noted that we don't have our own Twitter/public Facebook, for doing this.

Parking/Road Safety

Vehicles have continued to be observed parking in the drop off zone, disabled spaces and yellow marked turning areas.

LS to enquire about who to contact/cost involved in improving the markings. JC is already discussing signage.

ACTION LS

It has been noted that the bottom drop off space, nearest the nursery, is a no parking area at all times (not just drop off) because it is the access for an emergency vehicle.

Park Smart Campaign information shared (see Aberdeenshire Council Website for further info).

AOCB

P7 Gifts

LM passed on feedback from P7 parents about the keyrings. Decision was to go ahead with the gift, removing the 'acorns' verse, adding the pupils' names and '2019 Leavers'. GM to feed back to LM.

ACTION GM

End of Term Celebration

As last year, it is requested that sports clubs associated with the school hold their own end of year celebrations/awards events, to reduce the length of the school event.

It was noted that P7 presentations are normally at this event, and not at Church on the last day, because more parents are able to be present. LS to discuss with staff.

P7 Activities

Some felt that cycling proficiency in the final term of P7 was too much, requested that it be changed to P6. LS suggested moving to the beginning of the school year, and running alternate years, for both P6 & P7 – this would be useful for P6/7 composite classes as the whole class would be involved.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 10 September, 6.00 pm (Followed by AGM at 7.00 pm)