

Cornhill Parent Council

Wednesday 15th of May 2024, 6pm

Present : Heather Mackintosh, Diane Rough, Lyndsey Spiers, Monika Krakowska, Mark Evans, Helen Young, John Edmond, Vicky Low, Carole Jamieson, Sian Edwards, Becky Bennet, Ugo Iheukwumeze, Theodora Ouyenagorom, Amit Rijal and Yan Ikela Pandey Kandel.

<p>1. Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Diane welcomed everyone and said how lovely it was that so many people had turned up.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>Hazel Cameron and Jade Rennie.</p>	
<p>3. Head Teachers Report</p> <p>A positive start to the term, three members of staff are back from maternity leave. Next year is looking OK for staffing levels, although with current probationers and long term contracts up for renewal and some long term sick PASs we are not certain yet.</p> <p>RADs is still fantastic for the school, Bradley is back full time, Lee is coming back and Angus is here on a Thursday.</p> <p>School Photos were today, Heather asked if they were worried about using tempest. everyone agreed that they were very happy with them.</p> <p>There has been an IT upgrade with new white boards in all classrooms, they are wonderful, but the wifi needs upgraded to cope. The council is also upgrading to the new version of Windows for all teachers.</p> <p>The Health Fair is next week and 20 outside partners are coming in, this involves lots of work. Parents will enter through the hall and then go to individual classes before coming back to the hall.</p> <p>The school is taking part in the Big Sing, with over 3000 p4s going to Duthie Park to sing.</p> <p>The school is currently involved in art projects with the community centre and the hospital.</p> <p>The school is busy with lots of trips including Drum Castle, Duthie Park, Macduff Aquarium, Lathallan School, P7 trip and transitions.</p>	
<p>4. Pupil Equity Funding</p> <p>Mr Evans explained that the government gives money to children living in poverty to try and close the attainment gap. We get a very significant amount of money, more than 5 times the school budget, Mr Evans does have to be able to explain</p>	

<p>why he spends the money. Mr Evans shared a draft of this, please see attached. The most money is spent on a Bernadoes Worker, this person has been in post for 4 years and knows the children and parents and how best to help them. Since he has taken up the post attendance has risen and it has been quite a while since a child was excluded from the school.</p> <p>The school also spends money on Adventure Aberdeen, this breaks up a very long day for children sitting in classrooms, helps them concentrate and is therefore invaluable.</p> <p>Money spent on Visible learning is for staff training.</p> <p>Phil Badham teaches visible learning.</p> <p>INCAS, measures attainment.</p> <p>GI is assessment for learning difficulties.</p> <p>Aberdeen City Council is going to buy Sumdog, so we will not have to pay for this in future.</p> <p>Except for the panto, which the school very heavily subsidised, the school has not asked parents to pay for a school trip since covid.</p> <p>Cornhill has been chosen by the Scottish Government to give a sample of what has proven to be effective, this is a 90 min meeting and Mr Evans is looking forward to it, and hoping it has a positive impact.</p>	
<p>5. School Travel Plan</p> <p>Mrs Bennett came to talk about the school's travel plan which promotes healthy and sustainable travel.</p> <p>She handed out a draft of the information she has, and talked us through it.</p> <p>As a school we have done a 'hands up' on children walking to school since 2008, so have historical data for comparisons.</p> <p>The number of children travelling to school by car and taxi has gone down, a few children take a bus, but the majority, 76%, walk.</p> <p>Our school is in the middle of lots of houses, so is quite easy for most children to get to.</p> <p>What can the school do to get that number up?</p> <p>The school has been conducting focus groups amongst the children to see what they don't like about walking to school. Some main points were dog mess, broken glass, and intimidation by dogs and drunk people around the shops.</p> <p>It was noted that there are no bins in the area, especially the field with the community gym that the children like playing in.</p> <p>It was also noted that children are intimidated by dogs, even ones on a lead. Mr Evans says this is an ongoing issue, and he will add it to the newsletter.</p> <p>What can be done about traffic? Can we start a park and stride. or a walking bus? This involves lots of paperwork and is ran by parents. We need to think of some way to change this, especially talking to parents of small children, who are more likely to drive to school.</p> <p>Staff do drive, but this is because they live quite a distance away.</p> <p>Heather to invite our counsellors and some older children to the next meeting.</p>	<p>ME</p> <p>HM</p>
<p>6. Treasurer's Report</p> <p>£5,572.11 in the bank</p> <p>Vicky's neighbour is happy to audit the books, and will do so soon, then Diane will</p>	

sign them off.
 A new sound system is around £5,000, so with money from the summer fair and summer disco we will have enough to cover this.
 Vicky made up a spreadsheet, see attached, where she gave a summary of what the parent council had paid for this academic year and what we had raised money from.

7. AGM

Position	Chair	Treasurer	Secretary
Nominated	Diane Rough	Vicky Low	Heather Mackintosh
Nominee 1	Lyndsey Spiers	John Edmond	Lyndsey Spiers
Nominee 2	Carole Jamieson	Diane Rough	John Edmond

Diane read out the constitution and everyone agreed that they were still happy with it. Heather to update, please see attached.

HM

6 – Fundraising

It was agreed that next year we will hold:
 The three discos we normally hold, halloween, valentines and summer.
 The Christmas fair is very popular and the children love making Christmas items and selling them.
 The school normally holds the summer fair every 2 years, in its place we will host a bingo.

Heather pencilled in some dates, avoiding school holidays, Mark to check the school diary and then put in lets for:

Halloween disco - Wednesday the 30th of October 2024
 Christmas Fair - Thursday the 14th of November 2024
 Valentines Disco - Wednesday the 19th of February 2025
 Bingo - Wednesday the 14th of May 2025
 Summer Disco - Wednesday the 11th of June 2025

ME

7. AOCB

Heather mentioned that some schools have a Whats App group for each class that feeds in parents councils and she was wondering if we could set one up, as this might attract new members. Each class would have to set it up themselves, the school is not allowed to ask parents to join these groups.

Heather to attend the p1 induction meeting to explain what the parent council does and hopefully attract new members. A lot of people attend meetings and

HM

give there email address, but never reply to the GDPR email that we need to store email addresses. It was decided that Heather would take a copy of this to the meeting, and ask parents to sign up there.

A massive Thank You to John Edmond, who is attending his last parent council meeting, with his wife Leighann they have been a big part of the parent council for nearly a decade and we appreciate everything they have done for us.

Diane said how lovely it was to see so many people attending the meeting, and she hoped that everyone would come back.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday the 11th of September 2024

Wednesday the 13th of November 2024

Wednesday the 5th of February 2025

AGM Wednesday the 21st of May 2025