 **4th February 2021**

**PC Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** David Bhella, Joanne Simpson, Karen Douglas, Gail Wilson, Suzanne Morris,

Sasha Bruce, Gayle McMillan, Councillor Robert Brown, Susanne Donachie, Aishah Ali, Catrina Miller, Louise Bradshaw, Chris McVey, Sarah McColl, Lisa Kelly, Pamela Armstrong

**Staff**: Jen Innes, Jillian Ring, Julie Kirkland, Ashley Combe, Zoe Gray, Jodie Collins, Maureen Waddell, Vari Cairns, Catriona Zabiega, Sinead Scambler.

**Apologies** : Jill Hamilton, Karen Mackay, Marion McAllister, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Jayne Swanson, Kim Wilson, Rachel Wylie,

* **Welcome**

David Bhella welcomed everyone to the parent council meeting.

* **Minutes from last meeting**: accepted and agreed with PC members with the following action points still outstanding:
* **Jayne Swanson-** Processes document to be produced covering all PC procedures **– on-going**
* Compile a list of all PC members who are also PVG members – **on-going**
* **David Bhella –** School travel plan to be collated - **on-going**
* **Jill Ring –** Put together some advertising for the Eco uniform still being available.
* **Karen Douglas / Angela Paton – Complete.**
* **Correspondence**

David confirmed that the parent council had received no correspondence.

* **Head Teacher Report**

A belated Happy New Year to everyone. I hope that you have all managed to settle into a routine with home learning and things are as good as they can be in the circumstances.

**Thank You**

An enormous ‘thank you’ to the Parent Council for supporting our ‘Donate a Device’ initiative – a special ‘thank you’ to Karen (and Leah!) for running backwards and forwards between the school and Control Panel. I know she has anew best friend for life there.

We have had 25 devices donated altogether and so far helped 10 families (some of these families have been supplied with 2 devices as multiple children in the house). We are continuing to contact families to issue the remaining devices either when requested or identified through pupil engagement phone calls.

**Acknowledge recent announcement**

We are delighted to be planning to welcome back our Primary 1 to 3 children from Monday 22nd February.

More information will be sent out to parents and carers very soon.

**Google Meets Tomorrow**

Our morning Google Meets will be cancelled on the morning of Friday 5th February to allow members of staff to pay their respects to someone from our wider family. We thank you for your understanding.

**Staffing News**

We are delighted to welcome Hannah Black back to Calderwood following an absence and to also let parents and carers know that our Primary 1 teacher, Paula Macleod, is expecting a baby. Congratulations!

**Infant Registration**

We have registered 49 new Primary 1 pupils, although we are expecting those numbers to change with placing requests and deferrals. We will keep you updated as we move forward. We have started planning our induction programme and will liaise with the transition sub-group to look at how the Parent Council can support this.

**Book Shop, Food Bags, Resources Shop (Pick Up Station)**

At the front of the school we have set up a ‘Pick-Up Station’ with books, food bags, nappies, sanitary products and school resources (jotters, pencils, rubbers, etc.). We are encouraging parents and carers to come along any time and collect what they need.

**Big Blether**

Following feedback from parents, we have decided to trial a ‘Big Blether’ for pupils – essentially a social Google Meet at lunchtime where they can chat to their friends whilst they eat lunch. The sessions will be supervised by a member of support staff or SLT, but they will not lead the sessions.

**Feedback**

We received a great response to our parental feedback form about learning. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and we plan to make some changes based on what you have told us. This has been detailed in the feedback leaflet and accompanying letter to parents and carers.

**Engagement**

We are closely monitoring engagement in home learning. So far, it has been very high (see table).

**Week beginning 11th January:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **93%** | **Engagement** |  |  |
| **79%** | **Good/very good engagement** | | |

**Week beginning 18th January:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **96%** | **Engagement** |  |  |
| **80%** | **Good/very good engagement** | | |

**Week beginning 25th January**

**97% Engagement**

**86% Good/very good engagement**

We will continue to monitor this and contact families to identify and address any barriers to home learning.

Suzanne Morris asked if the school needed any donations handed in and Jen thanked Suzanne for the offer but advised that the school was well stocked at present.

Sarah McColl advised that she had been at a meeting at Stonelaw High School and they also have possible I.T devices that they can help with so it is worth checking if families have siblings in high school. Jen thanked Sarah for this information and advised that they will pass this information on to any families involved. Catriona Zabiega advised that both her boys go to Stonelaw and they have been a fantastic support.

* **Subgroups**

**Campaign/Communications subgroup** – David advised that he is still waiting on travel survey data coming back from South Lanarkshire Council and when he received this we will move forward.

**Events subgroup –** Jen was wondering about coming up with some sort of virtual event (doesn’t need to be for fundraising) to engage parents/carers sociably. Maybe a family event / quiz. Sarah McColl advised that she loved the winter wonderland walk and we could maybe look at something like that. Other schools are doing on-line markets so we could possibly do this and maybe ask parents to donate through parent pay. St Columbkille’s recently raised a huge amount of money but using parent pay.

Jill Ring advised that Miss Gray is still recording her steps for winter wonderland so it may be easy to just change the walk. Could we possibly look at replicating beat the street with something like a spring/summer walk and look to challenge another school. It was also suggested that kids could decorate things to put in their windows at home and we could set up a scavenger hunt to find them. Karen Douglas advised that she would take all these points and pass them on to the events group to discuss.

**Garden subgroup** – Julie confirmed that she was still waiting on quotes from the garden designer and will chase this up.

**Induction / Uniform subgroup –** Jillian Ring advised that group has been in touch over e-mail and plan to get together virtually next Thursday regarding planning the induction process going forward.

**Funding / School Liaison subgroup –** Group has still to meet but nothing urgent to discuss at present.

* **Treasurers Report**

Gail updated meeting on our current income /expenditure. Gail advised that £120 had been spent on wiping the devices that had been donated. If anyone has any questions they can contact Gail directly.

* **Any other business**

Karen Douglas raised the concern regarding the current P7 year missing out on so much and asked if we could look at possibly funding leavers hoodies. It was discussed that we could maybe have a rainbow theme and give the kids a choice of colour of hoodie and they could wear them the last few weeks of term. All the colours together would make a great picture. Buddy time was also raised and asked I it was possible to get the P7s and their buddies to send a letter/card to see how they are getting on. Could we also look at running a competition to design a leavers badge? It was agreed that we could discuss this and gets cost and look to agree any funding required at the next PC meeting.

Jen advised she will hopefully know more at the next meeting regarding the restrictions going forward but advised that the staff had discussed different ideas to try and make things as special as possible for the P7 leavers.

**Meeting closed.**

**Next meeting: 4th March 2021**