 **3rd November 2022**

**PC Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Elaine Miller, Joanne Simpson, Karen Douglas, Louise Bradshaw, Susanne Donachie, Clare Garcia, Pamela Armstrong, Jen Petronzio, Fiona Lyall, Aoife Williamson, Emma McIntyre, Kelly Anderson, Gayle McMillan, Carolyn Sampson, Ashley Miles, Saj Anwar, Gail Wilson.

**Staff**: Jen Innes, Jill Ring, Julie Kirkland, Maureen Waddell, Gary Mowat, Nicola Allison, Courtney Keary.

**Apologies:** Aishah Ali, Niki Taylor, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Jayne Swanson, Laura Connor, Monica Paul-Sharma, Elena Papageorgiou, Chris McVey.

* **Welcome**

Elaine welcomed everyone to the parent council meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

* **Minutes from last meeting**: Approved, following action points still outstanding:
* **Jayne Swanson-** Processes document to be produced covering all PC procedures **– complete**
* **Joanne Simpson** - Compile a list of all PC members who are also PVG members – **on-going**
* **Joanne Simpson –** Cost kiddie cut out road safety parking signs.
* **PC –** Organise volunteers to remove old furniture at the front of the school to the dump.
* **Correspondence**

Elaine advised that there were lots of people contact PC regarding stalls at the Christmas Fair and for volunteering for one the day.

Letter has also been received from Costco regarding P7 requesting donations from them for their community café. School will advise what is needed for this and the parent council will then submit this to Costco.

Parent has raised a concern regarding the old furniture at the front of the school. PC will see if they can get some volunteers together to remove items and take the to the dump.

Councillor Brown has asked us to highlight that he Chairs the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Sports Council and they have a provision for a representative of the primary schools to be on the executive committee. The sports council does a lot of work with primary schools, mostly though the Active Schools Co-ordinators. They usually meet every 6 weeks in Eastfield Lifestyles. Its main business is grants to support sport coaching and travel to national/international events together with the annual awards event in the town hall. They also keep an overview of sports facilities in the area and advocate for sports, helping to build capacity. If anyone is interested in volunteering for this, then please let us know and Councillor Brown will be more than happy to discuss further.

A parent who has a sister who is helping Ukraine families is asking if it is possible for children to make up a small bag with maybe a letter and a soft toy etc. Jen advised that they had also been approached but are concerned regarding the potential cost at the moment so plan to look at it in the new year and possibly look to do a bag per class as it is a great cause. Jen advised that she would respond to the parent to advise them of this.

* **Head Teacher Report – Jen Innes**

**Thank you!**

* Thank you very much to our Parent Council for running the brilliant Halloween discos for our P2-7 pupils – a great time was had by everyone; a DJ disaster was averted, and it was a welcome return to a fun event!
* Thank you also for providing the treats for our Primary 1 Halloween party the following day
* Thank you to Louise and her helpers for running the Eco Uniform stall at Parents’ Evening – the hall was bustling at times, and it was good to see engagement from parents and carers in the initiative

**Great News!**

* We are absolutely over-the-moon with our **gold Reading Schools award**. To put this into context, only 29 schools in Scotland have been awarded gold, so this is a fantastic achievement. Thank you to everyone involved in going for the Award (especially Mrs Kirkland, Miss Scambler, Miss Cairns and Miss Keary) for your faith in what we are doing and the fact that it merited going for Gold on the first go! Thank you to all our staff, pupils and parents for fostering a reading culture in our community – we look forward to lots more ideas and innovations in the future!
* **Love Autism** - We had our last Love Autism event for parents and carers last Friday. These events have been very well-attended and the feedback from parents and family members has been hugely positive, so much so that we are looking to carry on with an ASD support network for parents and carers in the future. Thank you very much to all our parents and carers for their support, Anne Love for her input and Mrs Ring for organising the events.

**School Improvement Plan and Standards and Quality Report**

* Our staff working parties have started work on various aspects of school improvement, including writing, equalities and diversity, planning and homework. All groups are taking forward different priorities identified through our School Improvement Plan.

**The School Year/School Events**

* SLC COP1 event: Our representative group had a brilliant time with Ms McGuire at SLC’s inaugural COP event, and picked up plenty of tips and ideas to take forward the sustainability agenda at Calderwood
* Our Eco pupil leadership groups have launched a pen recycling initiative which they have promoted throughout the school and with parents and carers. We are looking for all your old pens, and there are big prizes to be won for the schools with the largest collection of pens for recycling
* We were delighted to welcome council leader Joe Fagan and Councillor Robert Brown to the school to promote our P7 community café leadership initiative which launches next Friday – we are looking forward to welcoming lots of our community members into the school for food and entertainment
* P7 Transition events are underway, with Aileen Lynch, the S1 DHT at Stonelaw, coming into school next week to speak to P7 pupils
* Primary 7 are enjoying their History from the Homefront workshops, bringing their learning about World War 2 to life – we even had visitors eating their lunch in the canteen in full WW2 military uniform!
* Some of our Primary 5 pupils will be engaging in Young Leaders of Learning training next week – this is an initiative led by the West Partnership and encourages pupils to take an active role in school improvement. The eventual plan will be to link us to another South Lanarkshire school to support each other and share good practice and ideas
* The school vaccination team will be back next Tuesday (8th November) to catch up with any pupils that they missed the first time around
* Both Room 10 and Room 11 visited Sky Academy last week, and had a brilliant time taking on roles to write, produce and film their own news items
* Next week Rooms 12 and 13 will be visiting New Lanark as part of their Victorians topic, and Primary 4 will be visiting Kelvingrove to learn more about the Egyptians. All of Primary 5 to 7 will also have their cinema visit next week.
* The week beginning 14th November is Book Week Scotland and Anti-Bullying Week. We will be engaging in lots of different activities, including ‘Odd Socks Day’ and the launch of our Book Bug bags with face-to-face ‘A Book, A Brew and a Bite’ events for P1-3 parents and carers
* The Christmas tree will be put up on Friday 2nd December for the School Fayre
* The Christmas Concerts will be on Wednesday 14th December (P2-4) and Thursday 15th December (P5-7). We plan to have two performances of each at 1.30pm and 6.00pm – tickets will go on sale over the next few weeks
* The Primary 1 Nativity will take place on Friday 16th December, again with two performances during the day
* Christmas parties will take place for each class from 19th December, and we are looking at our plans for our Christmas Service – more details to come soon

**School News**

* We are enjoying our new ICT provision and getting used to our new cloud-based system, but glad to have access to new and updated devices
* We are trying very hard to tidy and clear the school – we are conscious that we have a lot of stuff and not very much storage
* We are clearing the stage and trying to keep areas as tidy as possible – we have stuff everywhere, for example, we are wanting to clear the Lockerbie bags from upstairs in the faraway cupboard so that it can be used for the Parent Council storage. Our plea is that we don’t hold onto anything that isn’t used or useful
* As discussed at the last Parent Council meeting, we have put a table in the Parents’ Room to make this a working space for pupils. We have over 100 pupils engaging in interventions, and we need to utilise every possible space in the school. Parents will still have access to this room when required, we are just trying to make the most of the limited space that we have.

**Homework**

* We consulted with pupils and parents during Parents’ Evening, and we will now consult with staff and let you know the results
* We have set up a homework working party to take this area forward

**Cost of the School Day**

* We have taken some concerns about the cost of the Halloween Disco and the Christmas Cards – we are very conscious of the cost of living crisis and have always prioritised reducing the cost of the school day for families, so we are keen to look at future events to see if we can reduce possible costs for parents and carers

A general discussion took place regarding cost of the school day and the PC agreed to do a donation to Save the Children for Christmas Jumper Day to try and reduce costs from parents as much as possible just now.

Clare mentioned that it might be a good idea to provide a list of events coming up so that parents can budget and note what is funded and what needs to be costed.

Concern was raised over the short notice of the requirements regarding outdoor classroom day and the school apologised for this as there has been a mix up over the letter and parents should have had more notice.

* **Subgroups**

**Reading subgroup –** Now achieved Gold Reading Schools award which is fantastic. Trophy to come. Plans are in place for book week Scotland and the boookbug bags for a Book, Brew & A Bite. Library been re-launched with a ribbon cutting ceremony so huge thanks to Louise and Susanne. Now need to look at ways to involve more parents.

**Community Engagement subgroup** – There has been no improvement with traffic safety. Staff will do their best to help with this but it is not always possible to have someone there. Joanne will cost the purchase of Kiddie Cut Out Road Safety Signes to try and help alleviate some of the issues we are still experiencing. Community Café is now starting with P7s running this on a Friday afternoon. It was agreed that we could do some more advertising of this and put a leaflet out with the Christmas fair leaflet which is just about to be hand delivered locally. Jen or Jill will e-mail the poster to Emma for Community Café. If anyone knows any traders interested in setting up at the Christmas fair, then please contact EMma. David has been spoke to regarding the possibility of getting some funding from School Travel Plan for re-painting lines and the Kiddie Cut outs.

**Sustainability subgroup** – Some Halloween costumes were left over so we will keep some of these to use next year. The group has discussed putting together Eco Fashion workshops with kids during the day and making their own tie dye t-shirts with vegetables. The group will be looking at re-branding the Eco uniform and hop0efully get the kids to design this. Look at making an on-line ordering form for Eco uniform to make it easier and Mrs Waddell offered to help with this. Niki is looking at figures regarding the cost to the environment on buying new clothes all the time. The group is also looking to tie in with the school on important Eco dates.

**Events subgroup –** Christmas fair coming up. We will need the parent room for the 18th November for donation day. Tables are being ordered tomorrow and will be delivered on Friday. The lets are in, and we can use all the classrooms on the ground floor. There is a meeting on Monday night at the Burnside Hotel to firm up details for the fair. We are still looking for a volunteer for Santa on the day.

* **Treasurers Report**

We have spent roughly £1000 in the last month with Disco, Zoom account and bus invoices. If anyone has any questions regarding the accounts, then please contact Gail directly to discuss.

* **Any other business**

Susanne asked if the P7 boys are getting a football team this year. Mrs Waddell advised that it is due to start after Christmas.

Due to the Christmas fair being on 3rd December we are not having a PC meeting in December.

* **Next meeting Thursday 2nd February 2023**

**Meeting closed.**