



ABOYNE PRIMARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 12th September 2017, ABOYNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRESENT	Jenny Blair (Chairperson), Fiona Walmsley, Becki Redmond (minute), Claire Wallace, Lucy Wisely, Corri O'Shea, Nicola Ewen, Angela Fletcher, Abigail Turley, Aoife Mcardle	
APOLOGIES	Amanda Whitfield, Valerie Stoddart, Julie Reid, Shaeron Smith,	
AGENDA		ACTION
1.0	Approval of Previous Minutes Approved.	
2.0a	<p>Welcome and Update from Chair (Jenny Blair)</p> <p>Welcomed us all back after the summer holidays and thanked all for attending.</p> <p>Main reason to meet this evening was to sort out roles of the new Parent Council and to discuss this coming year with an aim to get a newsletter out shortly.</p>	
2.0b	<p>School Update – sent from Valerie Stoddart</p> <p>Classes: This session, due to an increase in pupil numbers, we are sitting at 13 classes. The current school role is 316 and the Nursery has been capped at 40/40 for the present moment in time, with no two year olds, although this may well change.</p> <p>Staffing: Amanda Whitfield remains off and Deborah Masson the QIO is in close touch with her regarding her return to work which we hope will be soon, but we do not have a definitive date yet. I am keeping in touch with her as well and the staff sent flowers which were much appreciated.</p> <p>One of our long standing teachers Miss Fiona Ross is sadly unable to return to work and HR are helping her and her family to work through paperwork for early retirement due to ill health but this is a long drawn out process. Currently her vacancy is being covered by a Probationer post.</p> <p>In terms of staffing, this session we have started with almost a full complement of staff. The Cluster Permanent Supply teacher is covering P4 to allow myself and Ms Sharp out for the duration of Mrs Whitfield's absence and up until the October holidays. This will be reviewed after that point.</p> <p>We have been allocated 3 Probationer teachers: Mr Strachan, Mrs Stutter and Miss Wattie. We also have 2 NQTs (Newly Qualified Teachers) Miss Berry and Miss Sharp.</p> <p>2 new members of staff joined our SfL team – Mr Turley and Ms Semple and we await confirmation of a third member to the team, subject to references.</p>	



We also have 4 work placement students from the Academy with us this week. Welcome to all.

Nursery Staffing: Last Thursday I interviewed candidates for the 3 full time Early Years posts and 1 part time lunchtime cover post. We had an overwhelming response to the advert – 40 people applied and 10 were invited to interview. Again, the successful candidates will take up post after October, subject to successful references. This is an exciting time ahead and an opportunity for us to build a strong team. As we are classed as an Enhanced Provision Nursery, we were given permission to advertise for an extra post to allow us to meet the 1:8 staff to pupil ratio in our new building.

As you may be aware, we have had a few teething problems but nothing which has not been able to be sorted out.

Grounds: I have been in touch with the Grounds Team and asked them to tidy up the rather lethal looking stumps at the front of the school. To that end they will pay for a team to come in the October holidays and take out all the hazardous roots and the horrible shrubby bits at the front of the school, then put down bark. Longer term I would like to get some new seats or tables or low play logs to smarten up this area. Suggestions welcomed.

Notice Boards: 2 notice boards are sitting in the front office ready to be erected where previously discussed. I did check with the architect if one could go on the cladded side of the new build but he said no. Can you please confirm where they are to go and we can talk to the janitors about getting them put in place.

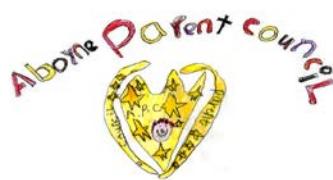
Note from Chair – school were advised where we had previously agreed they would go and were advised to seek confirmation from AW on her return.

Assemblies: We have planned out all the assemblies for the year and Monday saw the first of our “sharing the learning with each other” assemblies which were very successful. Due to numbers we have split the assemblies into 2 sessions but will come together occasionally for end of term whole school services in the church and on some other occasions. This is working well.

School calendar/ Newsletter: This was very successful last year and I have sent this current term’s copy out to parents. As new items are put in the diary, it will be updated and sent out to parents. I am trying to ensure a weekly newsletter goes out to all parents. Please let me know if there are any items you wish shared in them.

Parents Nights: Our settling in Parents Nights will be held shortly and information inviting parents to these will be sent out due course.

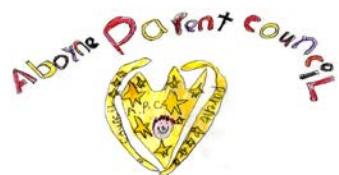
Was noted by PC that the frequent Newsletters were good flow of communication out from the school and this was appreciated.



AGENDA		ACTION
2.0c	<p>Fundraising</p> <p>BR has taken on the role of Fundraising Coordinator from FW. Thanks to FW for taking the lead over the previous few years.</p> <p>BR is arranging a fundraising 'get together' of interested parents on Monday 25th September at The Boat Inn to try and encourage other parents who may not wish to be on the parent council to get involved in helping with the fundraising side. From this there will be a plan of events for the year drawn up, with an aim to have something out to all parents before October Holidays.</p> <p>Cauliflower Christmas Cards are happening again this year, FW has taken the lead on organizing this through school. The Art Teacher Mrs Smith, will be doing it with the classes she teaches and other class teachers have been encouraged to take part if they wish. Design and order form will be coming out early October, to be returned before the holidays.</p> <p>Bags2School – we are looking at getting a donations bin for the playground rather than having collection dates in the hope that this will mean all year round donations and more funds raised. BR to get details from FW for this.</p> <p>New2You Sale at the end of last school year had a relatively good turn out and had good number of sellers. It raised a total of £332.68, which is equally divided between Aboyne and Kincardine O'Neil Parent Councils, so £166.34 to each school.</p> <p>It was agreed that this years focus on raising funds should be for playground improvements now that the nursery extension was complete. The school also need to be asked if there are items they are looking to put on their wish list.</p>	<p>BR</p> <p>FW</p> <p>BR</p> <p>BR</p>
2.0d	<p>Finance</p> <p>Update to follow from Julie.</p> <p>JR "Balance as of last meeting was £9220.64. As per last minute the following is still outstanding: sound system (£2,600), headphones (£140), mats (£200), class incidentals (£840) and class trips (£2,600 based on 13 classes). Allowing £1000 for floats etc. that leaves approx £1,840 available to spend."</p> <p>Prior agreement to fund 8 walkie talkies was also highlighted, these have now been purchased, final price to follow but in region of £800.</p>	



AGENDA		ACTION
2.0e	<p>Annual Spending Commitments (Jenny Blair) It was agreed that the £60 for each class would be sorted by the end of September. £200 for each class for trips was highlighted again – need to ensure new staff in school are made aware of this. We have committed funds to Welcome Mats and the Sound System from last years wish list – the Sound System is now arriving in parts and Mr Redmond is bringing this together, should be all here within the week.</p>	JB
2.0f	<p>Class Reps (Lucy Wisely) LW says class reps set up and running. Still looking for reps for P5 and all Nursery classes.</p>	
2.0g	<p>School Website No update at this time.</p>	
2.0h	<p>Parking and Traffic (Jenny Blair) The Police are now concerned about the parking outside of the school and were seen at the start of term speaking to people who had parked cars dangerously along Bridgeview Road. Jenny spoke with the Policeman and their feeling is that the school should be taking the lead. Was discussion as to whether the travel person from the Council came that Cllr Blackett had organized – BR to follow up. Was also asked if there was any progress on the path along the edge of the school garden? Further discussion lead to agreement that representatives of all the interested groups need to be round the table – Police, Council, School, Parent Council, Parents and locl Councillors – JB to organize. Was suggested that a reminder to all parents be sent out about parking and the voluntary one way system.</p>	BR AW JB VS
2.0i	<p>Parent Council Roles Chairperson: Jeny Blair (final year as per constitution) Vice Chair: Volunteer sought Secretary: Angela Fletcher Treasurer: Julie Reid Fundraising Coordinator: Becki Redmond Teacher Rep: Fiona Walmsley Class Rep Coordinator: Lucy Wisely Social Co-ordinator: Nicola Ewen & Corri O'Shea Ordinary Members: Jemma Moig, Shaeron Smith, Claire Wallace, Abigail Turley Stepped Down: Nicola Gardyne and Cheryl Robertson – note of thanks was given for their contribution whilst on the Parent Council.</p>	
3.0	<p>AOCB Both school ovens are broken – was a discussion as to whether these could be funded by the PC. It was felt that really these were an essential item to the school and in the first instance would ask the school to ask for</p>	



	replacements from the Council. An alternative suggestion was to look for sponsorship or donations of 2 ovens from local businesses.	
4.0	Date of Next Meeting Date: Tuesday 7 th November 2017 Time: 6.30pm Location: Aboyne Primary School	