**Parent****Council**

**Thursday 28th June 2016**

**7 pm, School Staff Room**

**Attendees:** Margaret Ferguson (MF), Nicola Cameron (NC), Robin Critchard (RC), Annmarie Graham (AMG), Lesley Robertson (LR), Carrie Heddle (CH)

**Apologies:** Carrie Heddle (CH), Heather Baxter (HB), Alison Green (AG), Alec Reid (AR), Anna Conniff (AC), Hazel Willox (HW)

1. **Welcome and apologies**

RC welcomed everyone to the meeting, and proposed this meeting progress via the action points from the last meeting.

1. **Previous minutes**

The previous minutes were approved.

1. **Previous action points**

RC suggested that meeting topics should focus on previous action points where appropriate:

**Action MF** has been in touch with the council to see if the graphics department can provide assistance with the school motto and is awaiting a response.

**Action MF** the query regarding the monkey bars plus options for springy things replacements that was taken back to the pupil council has not seen any progress. However, it was reported that some items in the playground and the agility trail will be painted yellow to aid a visually impaired pupil who is joining after the summer.

**Action AR** was to put together an email to arrange a meeting with key stakeholders (Parent Council, Fishermoss Football, Jean from KDP, football officer at Aberdeenshire Council etc.). NOTE: Alex did not provide an update to this action item prior to the meeting and since the meeting has confirmed his intention to stand down from the Parent Council. This action is therefore currently without an action owner.

**Action** **RC** shared the details of an email that had been received confirming that the PSA and Parent Council should remain as two separate entities.

**Action RC** shared a response from Joanna Stewart with the group on the subject of car parking around the school and asked for suggestions as a consequence of what had been outlined as possible courses of action that the school and the Parent Council could use to address the issue. These included:

1. A banner which the children could design and for which funding could be sought;
2. Creation of a parking policy - doubts were raised as to how effective this would be and whether it would be quickly forgotten;
3. A communique from the Parent Council - **Action AMG** to draft for next meeting;
4. Line painting to be carried out in Bourtree car park - NOTE: This was a matter that Alec Reid was originally going to raise with PDCC for but for which a new action owner is required;
5. Use of the Junior Road Safety Group;
6. Creation of Park Smart leaflets.

**Action MF** confirmed that there had been a follow up regarding not every child is getting what they asked for at school lunches due to pupils being allowed to change their minds and this was deemed to be no longer an issue.

1. **Head Teacher’s report**

Thanks was given to all those who attended the Quality Improvement Visit meeting. The visit identified that the school is benefiting from strong leadership and quotes from the report were provided regarding the other strengths of the school.
Aspects for improvements were also shared with the group including reference to a new indicator called ‘Family Learning’ although it was unclear at present what this will entail.
In respect of classes for the next session, MF was pleased with the parental support received regarding the proposed changes. It was confirmed that there will be 12 classes and 2 Hillside Primary classes (totalling 16 and 17 respectively). All composite classes were confirmed as being full.
Lunch arrangements were explained and details of these will go out to parents in a newsletter to be issued before the upcoming summer holidays.
A flyer was also being created to explain composite classes with a view to alleviating any concerns. This same information was also proposed as being shared with the children.
Staffing - Mrs Willox is retiring and the PSA did a presentation to her. There is a full staff complement for August and non-class contact time for science will be 3 days a week. It was also confirmed that Mrs Rennie will go on maternity leave after the summer.
Building improvements - a ‘rabbit run’ from the staff room to the infants was now in place and one partition had gone up with although others were still to be fitted. Non-slip flooring was planned to be installed during the summer along with plans to replace some of the older, tired carpeting.
Thanks was given to parents for their assistance during the sports day when it turned wet. However, there was one strong complaint regarding a grandparent who had taken a child home to change without informing a staff member. There will be a reminder to parents that a child should not be removed from school without informing a staff member,
Feedback from the second sports day had prompted a change to when flat races will be held. Sport day in future will be confined to potted sports and the family picnic.

1. **AOB**

A notice of proposal documenty will be shared by email and and a NPFS pack will be put together and circulated to all members - **action RC**

Funding for the engraving of a shield (£90) was agreed.

**Date of next meeting**: Thursday 8th September at 7pm