

Meeting Minutes - Parent Council meeting (Online)

5pm 1st May 2024



Attendees – Ian Harvey, Jillian Hailstones, Lee Sillars, Douglas Ross, Lorna King, Amber McKenzie, Debbie Innes, Philippa Lind, Robin Silson, Evonne Custer, Jenny Nicolson, Jill Duncan, Sarah-Louise Getty, Claire Cullen

Apologies – Laura Murray, Melissa, Dave Smith

Agenda items

- Teacher Absence

IH – currently teachers absent in P2/6/7, teacher P3b recently returned.

Sometimes absence seems short then rolls on which makes difficult to plan ahead.

Supply teachers on this list often have other temporary contracts or can only work couple of days of the week therefore limited long term availability.

Mrs Brockbank is currently covering as supply teacher for various classes. Other class teachers in the same year group support the supply teachers.

P7 absence expected to end week beginning 6/5/24. P2/P6 unsure.

- Health and wellbeing

Meeting with Miss Plumb to be arranged with HWB champions, been in contact with Claire.

Miss Plumb currently reviewing schools HWB action plan for this session and identified a couple of areas which we could support with developing guidance on approaches to diversity and developing positive playtimes.

-Walk to school IH

Going well, will need new P6 road safety officers.

Target traffic and one way system – will do small groups (2-3 meetings), likely 2nd last Friday of term (Prom same night but this is during the day), 10.30-12.30.

If PTA members can help - need 5-6 people, otherwise will ask other parents

Travel plan attached to minutes (shared from JH)

School update

Plan is for 4 new classrooms and additional gym hall, completion 12-18 months.

Comunication IH

Continuing to try and streamline, using school app for calendar, termly updates and key dates.

Group call email for consent for trips etc and urgent messages

Council keen on parent portal and school continuing to get parents signed up

Improvement planning IH

IH currently interim headteacher for Bridgend also for the next 12 months.

Can help with staff absence by supporting between the two sites

Mobile phones in school

JN/JD - what is the rules on phones?

IH – P5 upwards allowed to bring a phone into school but must sign an agreement after discussion.

Sign the AAL agreement and use the 'anywhere anytime network' which is filtered by the council, no social media. Can use phone during the school day only if teacher says okay for research purposes or eg. Fun 31

Kids that don't have phones have access to ipads/laptops in school. All P6/7 will have a school owned device each.

40% children who could have phones don't, could this be clearer to parents so not feeling pressured into getting phones.

Current statement no mention of option to not have a phone, wording could change to be more supportive of parents who choose not to give their child a mobile phone ie. Not being disadvantaged still have access to other devices.

IH to update statement and bring back to PTA

AM – discussed advances in artificial intelligence, coding courses offered from pupils age 6. A PC member has a family connection who works in this field and keen to offer teaching to school pupils.

Portacabin toilets IH

Aware have been some issues with soap, toilet/basin in 1 cubicle

Generally, staff very good at reporting issues but as they are rented the maintenance is separate.

After school clubs

How is it chosen who gets to provide after school clubs particularly as more space to be available once new hall available (jets have 2 days currently). Other clubs would like the opportunity to have access also.

IH – the ones that are currently there get asked by the local authority near end of lease if they would like to continue and school only asked if they have any objections. If don't want to continue then would be open to other clubs/classes.

IH will explore further re. options for clubs that would like to put themselves forward for access to the new hall

Teacher run after school clubs JH/IH

- Good feedback, trying to give reasonable spread of options
- This is not compulsory for teachers to do after school clubs as can do their additional hours in 'working time agreement' in other ways
- Next block of classes will run at the same time i.e for the different year groups

PTA members to get feedback from parents about the clubs in each year group

Other business

JH – Linlithgow gazette have contacted to ask if we would like to put in a P7 photo

Could teachers attend meetings in the future. IH – not requirement but would act as 'community engagement time'.

IH will speak to teachers to see if they would like resources for their classrooms. They do have a budget for core resources they need but PTA could support with extra eg. Outdoor space/ipads.

Update on P1 garden by Amber – require more resources from staff/parents eg. Seeds/pots etc.

School fayre – 7th June

Need volunteers, 11am-1pm

Lack of engagement of PTA – to be discussed by Lee and Doug

Meetings submitted by Claire Cullen

12/05/2024