

## **MINUTE OF MEETING OF LAIRDSLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL**

**LOCATION: VIA MS TEAMS**

**DATE: TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021**

**TIME: 6PM**

### **MATTERS ARISING / MINUTE OF LAST MEETING**

NR drafted a letter with the Parent Council's response to the pilot of traffic free schools. This was then circulated to all members for comment and submitted to the council. Awaiting response from council before further comment.

### **HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT**

#### **LAIRDSLAND EARLY YEARS CENTRE**

FD introduced Depute Head of Centre, Adele Loughran to speak at the meeting and provide an update on the position with the centre. Staff have been on site at the Early Years Centre for 3 weeks, but there are still some Health & Safety issues which are being addressed. Hope to have children on site within a fortnight. Have a core group of staff on site just now but will have all staff on site once the children are in. Hopeful that by August, it will be running a full capacity.

NR spoke about Lairdland having one Parent Council to include nursery representation, and all were in agreement that this would be the preferable option. Adele will look to recruit some parent members once the centre is up and running.

### **COMMUNICATION TO PARENTS INCLUDING DISCUSSION ABOUT CHILDREN'S PROGRESS.**

There has been no change to the guidance in terms of reporting to parents, and it remains that we should not try to recreate a Parent's Night. Instead a summary written report will be issued in June, but parents will be advised that they can phone the school and request a phone call from the teacher if they have a specific issue. Communication will go out this week to advise parents of this. It was agreed between the Head Teachers of the schools within our cluster group that there will be a transition type phone call offered to all P7 parents (similar to the settling in phone call that was offered previously to P1 parents).

A few questions were raised about the format that the report will take and it was explained that the summary report will be similar to a traditional report but with a more descriptive approach. It will provide progress and next steps in literacy, numeracy and health & wellbeing, as well as providing a teacher comment and a senior management comment. They will be as informative as possible.

### **ONGOING SCHOOL LIFE**

Teachers have been carrying out a variety of assessments. This year, we have been asked by the Scottish Government to use the bank of Scottish National Assessments (at stage 1, 4 & 7). We have also completed in-house assessments and this data is currently under review by senior management. FD provided some statistics regarding the current P7 levels, and looked at how the numbers have

changed since that year group were assessed in P4. Initial analysis of standardised data for some year groups shows that children have continued to make appropriate progress despite the closures over the last year~~s~~.

Reading Assessments (completed in Nov 2020 so only takes into consideration first lockdown) – no great change in the numbers of children within the 3 levels .

Numeracy (assessments completed in April so accounts for both lockdowns). Similar picture to that of reading – no great change in numbers of children within the levels.

Currently in the process of looking at this across other curricular areas and at every year group. NR asked how we would share these findings with the wider parent community. FD confirmed that she will be producing a standards and quality report which will be published in June and this will contain a summary of attainment although it will not provide exact numbers. ~~(CHECK THIS)~~

NR asked if perhaps there has been a greater impact of Covid on younger learners who are less independent with their learning. P1 assessments are still ongoing as teachers are doing this on a one to one basis and once we have that result the data will be analysed against previous years to judge the impact.

We have started to put in place some adapted school activities for the children. Eg P4s have been taking part in a virtual percussion programme and P7s have been enjoying bikeability.

P7s will be unable to enjoy a residential trip again this year but we will be offering a day of canoeing at school and a possible day trip to Ardentinny Outdoor Centre.

EA asked about the possibility of football training recommencing, but FD explained that because it is parent volunteers who have historically supported this, and the issue with bubbles, this cannot happen at present.

We are looking at alternative approaches to Health Week, sports day and P7 graduation.

Guidance has confirmed that transition visits can now take place for P1s and P7s so we will be looking at these over the coming weeks.

Once the number of new P1s has been confirmed (there has been a delay this year in placing request outcomes), we will be looking at class structure for next session.

#### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

FD - School Recovery Plan was focused on health and safety, hwb, transition and learning loss and most of our outcomes in these areas were achieved. EDC advice is that next session, we will revert back to an improvement plan approach but as per national guidance in the National Improvement Framework, the priorities should be addressing attainment in literacy and numeracy, closing the attainment gap (most/least disadvantaged children), improvement in hwb, employability skills/positive leavers destinations. Management team in the process of analysing all of our tracking information and standardised assessment data to identify areas for improvement. Teaching Staff also taking part in self evaluation activities on in-service day on Thursday to evaluate previous targets and next steps for improvement across key areas.

NR asked if the PEF is likely to change. FD advised our allocation is approx. £65K for this financial year.

EA, with regards to homework, asked if there was consistency across the school on short weeks? FD confirmed that yes there is normally a whole school approach to homework rather than by class.

## **CHAIRS REPORT**

### **PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT**

Pre-Covid there was great success surrounding the numbers of parents getting involved. There have been initial discussions regarding what this might look like moving forward but it is difficult to say as it depends on ongoing restrictions. Hoping this might change by June meeting.

### **ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

Question was asked by SMcE if there was any discussion as to when the class bubbles may be eased, and the children would be allowed to mix more freely. FD said that there has been no guidance to suggest any changes to this at the moment and likely that this will be in operation for the remainder of the session. It is still unclear as to what might be able to happen in the new term.

### **MEETING DATES FOR 2020/2021**

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021