

# MINUTE OF MEETING OF LAIRDSLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

**LOCATION: VIA MS TEAMS**

**DATE: TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2023**

**TIME: 6.00PM**

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

The minute of the last meeting was agreed and there was discussion regarding the following action points:

**Bollards** – NR contacted Thomas McMenamin who said that the bollards had been passed by the Head of Education and the emergency services, and that whilst they were not removable, the emergency services are able to get access. FD reported that at least one bollard does in fact appear to be removable. This has been seen by staff and confirmed by a resident at the Marina.

**Dangerous parking** – As of 26/01/23, the double yellow lines had still not been reinstated. Thomas McMenamin was going to chase this up. FD spoke to parking wardens who took photographs for this purpose. FD confirmed that whilst the wardens have been present a lot more recently and this definitely helps, they tend to be there in the mornings and it is the afternoons that are more of a problem.

**\*\* ACTION POINT \*\*** NR will contact Thomas again to chase this up.

## **HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT**

**Family Learning Update** – Around 30 plus families were supported in the run up to Christmas with food packages and/or age appropriate toy packages. This has been a result of Miss Quail's excellent relationship with both the local foodbank and Babes in the Wood. Some families were grateful to be identified for support but opted not to take their donations which have now been used to restock our general foodbank and toy bank. We also have a large stock of clothing, including uniform, that is used to support a number of families.

**School Catering Consultation** – Survey link went to all parents in January allowing parents to give feedback and input on various aspects such as menu choices etc. A new menu will be implemented in the coming weeks.

AS asked if the school was still segregated for eating lunch with those having packed lunch eating in their classrooms and those choosing a school dinner eating in the dining hall? FD is going to remind all children that they can eat their packed lunch in the dining hall if this allows them to be with their friendship group.

**P1 registration** – the P1 registration date has now closed and we have been given approximate numbers so have started the transition process (led by Mrs Duffy). Largest cohort of children is

coming from our own EYC (approx. 20) and another 20 plus are coming from other nurseries. The placing request process has still to be finalised so we won't have confirmed numbers until the end of April or later.

**School events – parent engagement** – our open evening was a huge success – it was well attended and there was lots of positive feedback. Staff and children alike were delighted to get this event up and running again. We have parents evening coming up and a Spring service at St David's Church on last day of term. Our Friday coffee morning hosted by Miss Quail has a small regular group of parents who attend. The link SLT has been a useful addition to the coffee morning and we are opening this up to EYC parents as well – next SLT one takes place on 21<sup>st</sup> April. The PTA have organised a Spring Fayre for this weekend.

**Planning for next session** – We will have a 12 class structure again next year, with a mixture of straight stage and composite stage classes. Lots of new families have moved into the new housing at Tom Johnson house and the Beatrice Meadows Estate (beside Caulders) and to date we have been able to accommodate all catchment pupils. We will begin to look at groupings in May for planning purposes and will take into consideration academic groups and peer groups. The secondary transition programme under way and the S1 year head from Lenzie Academy been down for a visit recently and another one is planned to include S3 pupils/mentors.

**Pupil wellbeing and support** – As well as targeted intervention groups for literacy and numeracy across all stages, there are a number of wellbeing supports across all stages. We have two Seasons for Growth groups running this term, one for the lower school and one for the upper school. These are led by Mrs Duffy and Miss Quail respectively. We have referred some children for targeted support from the School Nursing Service for various reasons and they provide different supports, for example, LIAM (anxiety management). We also have a school counselling service available via Lifelink and this is being well utilised and has been offered to a number of children age 10+. We offer other wellbeing groups including lego therapy, friendship and resilience groups etc. These are all supported by school staff.

**School Improvement** – All staff have been engaging in Improving our Schools Programme including webinars and professional reading to further develop their skills and knowledge e.g. looking at key features of effective practice and the factors that have the biggest impact on raising attainment/progress. We will continue this next session as this is a 2 year programme we are on. Our Parent Survey will be sent out next term to take on board parent views. NR said that he would be happy to help with the wording of questions and asked if it would be possible to have the feedback from this survey before the end of term. FD will try to make this a priority. A pupil consultation has already been under way over the session using a document called HGIOURS led by Pupil Council and Mrs Jones. PEF Funding has been utilised this session for a mixture of staffing and resources. Next session staff have identified the need for further laptops and to refresh our resources for the teaching of maths.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

NR requested that any topics for discussion should be brought to the agenda in advance.

The question was raised as to whether the ongoing staffing problem at the EYC impacts the school at all if staff are required to be pulled from school to nursery. FD confirmed that this has not happened recently.

**MEETING DATES FOR 2022/23 (6pm on Teams):**

**23<sup>rd</sup> May**

Please note the change in date for the next parent council meeting. The original date of 2<sup>nd</sup> May is an in service day so the decision was taken to combine the May and June meetings and just have one final meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. An email was sent to all parent council members advising of this change on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.