

Banchory-Devenick School Parent Council meeting

07/11/23 6.30pm

Attendees:

Mabel Pui Mun McLean
Darryl Anderson
Emily Bamford
Karen Downie
Sarah Cacela
Alan Stevenson
Kelvin Ngala

Apologies:

Annick & Mark Shaw
Caroline Saint
Sarah Stephen

1. **Minutes from AGM.**

Proposed by Alan, seconded by Emily.

2. **Matters arising.**

- School wrap around care – Mabel to chase up Aberdeenshire Council. If no luck with the council, there is the possibility of exploring a private avenue.
- Football coaching – Sarah C. has been in touch with RGU but has not received a response. There was a suggestion that Judy M. in her new role may be able to help us source a coach. Karen has let Active Schools know which clubs we are interested in, so also hoping to hear back from them.

3. **Chairperson/ Treasurer's report.**

- Three committee members are required to continue the PC. Mabel will stay on as Treasurer and is happy to Co-Chair. Alan has been acting Co-Chair since the AGM but now wishes to pass on the role. Darryl volunteered to take on Co-Chair. Proposed by Alan, seconded by Emily. Thanks to Alan for all his work and Darryl for volunteering!
- Since the pandemic, the PC and school's aims have been to bring the community back together. Social events and fundraisers have been well attended and supported by a wide group of parents. Grant applications have raised a significant amount of money.
- Autumn Fair was a huge success – many thanks to Sarah C. for driving this and to Karen for being willing to be soaked! There was a fantastic turnout and the final total raised was £1157.12.
- Halloween Disco was greatly enjoyed by the kids and raised £105 – many thanks to volunteers Jen R., Shelly, Mangala, Gemma, Cameron and Alison for running the event.
- Although the Summer Fair has been a big fundraiser in previous years, it was felt that it was a lot of work and that most of the money was made through the raffle. This year we could hold a Summer Fair 'light' with less work – focus on the aspects that are profitable with less work (e.g. hog roast) and fun for the kids (e.g. inflatables). Ardoe may be able to support/provide space/inflatables. A small committee will be put together after the Christmas holidays to organise this.

4. **Headteacher's report.**

- Please see attachment.

- Karen is keen for the kids to attend a virtual pantomime this Christmas – Darryl and Alan will investigate possible options. Darryl mentioned the possibility of accessing APA charity tickets for the in-person panto. [*Update – the children will enjoy a virtual panto on Monday 18th December.*]
- The following funding requests were approved: £52.85 for the nativity play script, music and performance rights; £75 Amazon vouchers per class for Christmas crafts etc.
- Discussion of a stop motion animation workshop for the children. Karen had found a provider which was very expensive – would the Aberdeen Science Centre be able to provide something similar? Alternatively, Alan could teach Karen how to use an App which allows the user to make stop motion animations, if the app is school-friendly. Jim McLean will be able to help source something suitable.

5. **Christmas**

- £150 has already been ringfenced for booking Santa. The books to be handed out are already in school so need to be sorted out at the beginning of December. Mabel to catch up with Sarah S. to establish what food, present for Santa, etc, needed.

6. **Future social events/fundraisers**

- Mad March disco Spring 2024, Summer Fair June 2024, Ceilidh Winter 2024. To be discussed at next meeting in January.

7. **New students**

- Numbers for next year currently looking positive. Karen has been contacted by several interested prospective families.

8. **AOB**

- Lynn Ross (new admin) started 8/11
- Email going out to parents re: volunteering for clubs
- Reminder to families about easy fundraising ahead of Christmas shopping
- Thanks to the parents who took part in the Rights Respecting Schools conversation
- Some parents have spoken to the school about setting up a monthly donation to the PC. An email will also go out to parents about this

9. **Next meeting: Tuesday, 23rd January 2024 at 6.30pm (in person and online)**