

Tipperty Parent Group Meeting

Wednesday 4th November 2020

Attended: Sue Harrison, Leah Longley, Lucy Hewitt, Andrea Elrick-Stewart, Councillor Davidson, Miss Buchan, Mrs Dew, Mrs Irvine, Mr Thornley (PGDE Student).

Apologies: Nicola Gillies, McKessick family, Yeoman family.

Chairperson's report – Nothing significant to report this time other than to say that the defibrillator has been updated and Mrs Park has agreed to monitor this until the end of this school year. There is no requirement for numbering on the outside of the defibrillator box as the Scottish Ambulance service know where it is. The children held a Grand Opening for the Outdoor Courtyard Area this week.

Treasurers report- Current funds sit at £125.14. We are waiting on a refund for the tree stump chairs. This money will be paid back into the bank and then used to pay for some replacements which Andrea and Miss Buchan are sourcing. We are awaiting the extra £1000 of Tesco money, with Nicola and Andrea still out of pocket in the meantime. There will be £607 left to spend when the refund is received for the seats and the remaining Tesco money is paid in.

Headteacher's report- It has been great to welcome everyone back to school for term 2. It has been pleasing to see the children continue to demonstrate flexibility and resilience in light of the ever changing Covid-19 situation.

Across the school this term we are continuing to work on the Emotion Works programme, aimed at developing the children's ability to describe their feelings and emotions. It is hoped that the work on this particular curricular area will continue to impact learning across the curriculum.

We continue to make good use of the outdoor space in planning learning and teaching. The courtyard area is now available for all teachers to access as appropriate. This term in P5-7 we are delighted that Mr Thornley, PGDE student will be teaching the class level 1 bikeability, as he is a qualified bikeability instructor.

The Online fundraising quiz has been arranged for Friday 27th November at 6.30pm. The children are currently developing the questions and experimenting with the use of Kahoot to respond to quiz answers. We suggest that each family pays £5 to enter by electronic banking, and the winning family will be awarded a small prize. An additional device such as a phone or Ipad will be required to respond to the quiz answers.

As discussed at the previous Tipperty Parents Group meeting, raffle tickets have been distributed to those families who requested this week, after a period of quarantine. We appreciate your efforts in supporting the school in these challenging times.

Finally in the coming weeks we shall be exploring new methods of parental communication, following the decision by the authority to withdraw the use of the Seesaw platform as of the 20th November due to concerns about GDPR and data security. Although this will come as a great disappointment to staff, parents and children alike, we remain confident that we will be able to find other electronic means of communication that meet our school's needs. I am currently part of a short-life working group in the authority to explore alternatives for Seesaw. I will communicate any updates as they are received.

Christmas plans- In place of the usual Christmas party and gift giving from Santa, the Parents Group is organising a new opportunity for the children this Christmas in collaboration with the Ellon Round Table. Which will see Santa visit the School on his float... More information to follow!

The School is also organising a Christmas Raffle. The funds raised from this will go into the school account which is a separate account to the Parent Group. It was decided that the school will source prizes from the raffle proceeds, rather than asking for raffle donations this year.

A question was asked about Christmas Parties and Christmas Show. There will be no Christmas Parties this year due to the current risk assessments however the school will look for other ideas in order to make things festive for the children. There will be no Christmas show for parents to attend, however the school is hoping to prepare something to share electronically with parents in the last week of term.

Future fundraising opportunities- You will see from the Treasurer's report that the Parents Group funds are running low. We are now on the look out for some good fundraising ideas which can be achieved under the current social distancing guidelines. A list of ideas will be collated and sent out to parents. If you have any ideas, we would love to hear them. All funds raised are used for the benefit of your children to enhance learning opportunities and experiences.

Parent Items- Nothing has been brought forward.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 13th January 2021 at 7pm.