

Tipperty Parent Group Meeting

9th November 2021 – Via video link

Attendees: Sarah McKerrow (Chair), Clare Anne Buchan (Head Teacher), Andrea Elrick-Stewart, Mrs Hewitt, Cllr Davidson, Cllr McAllister, Mrs Irvine, Pamela Watt (Secretary), Mrs Dew

Apologies: Mrs Yeoman

Item	Notes	Actions
1	Welcome – Mrs McKerrow thanked everyone for attending the meeting this evening.	-
2	Minutes of last meeting – The minutes from the last meeting were approved by the group.	-
3	Chairperson's Report – Mrs McKerrow advised that her update is primarily covered in items listed separately on the agenda.	-
4	<p>Head Teacher Report – The children have now settled back into school for term 2 and are hopefully looking forward to a busy term ahead. This term the whole school are working on a Jack and the Beanstalk drama and song project. The children will have opportunities to sing and participate in scripted drama. We plan to share this performance with you on Google Classroom by the end of term. We also hope to use the outdoor area to share some highlights of the show with you in December (weather dependent).</p> <p>As part of work on 1+2 languages, the P5-7 class have been learning Mandarin on a live Teams link this term. This is an exciting new opportunity to use technology to introduce the children to new curricular areas with specialist teachers from outwith the school. It is hoped that the children will enjoy learning about a different culture as well as learning some basic vocabulary in Mandarin. Our observations so far would be that this is both an interesting and challenging opportunity.</p> <p>We are delighted that Mrs McLeish will be working with us once more this term, covering the topic areas of RME and PE on a Wednesday over the next 4 weeks.</p> <p>The children will be continuing to work in their working groups this term. The Eco group are currently promoting crisp recycling and are collecting used stamps. The Health Group are promoting "Fruitable Friday" and the Rotakids have been working on promoting the Poppy Appeal. The older class continue to provide good support for the younger children by buddying as part of a rota system each lunchtime. The Gardening Group have planted winter vegetables and have collected seeds for planting next year. Further details of the work of these Working groups can be found in the school newsletter that was issued today.</p> <p>On Thursday the whole school will be taking part in the 2-minute silence outside at the flagpole. We would be delighted if any family members would like to join us outside the school at 10.45am on this date. The P7s will recite the poem "In Flanders Field" prior to the whole school observing the silence at 11am. We would like to thank all families for once more supporting the Poppy Appeal.</p>	-

<p>5</p>	<p>Treasurer's Report – The Parent Group accounts have now been independently audited. A copy of this will be sent out with the minutes. Mrs McKerrow to forward to the school.</p> <p>Mrs McKerrow advised that she has been in contact with Aberdeenshire Council regarding the annual Parent Council funding payment. They have advised that the previous two years payments were lodged in the old bank account and provided a remittance advice to support this. As this bank account was closed it is still unclear what happened to these payments. Mrs McKerrow will follow this up and update at the next meeting. Cllr Davidson advised she is happy to help to try and resolve this matter. This year's annual payment should be paid in early December.</p>	<p>Mrs McKerrow (Chair)</p> <p>Mrs McKerrow (Chair)</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Parent Survey – Mrs McKerrow thanked the parents that responded to the short survey in relation to the parent council meetings, funding and school raffle. A summary of the results was provided:</p> <p>Virtual Parent Group meetings v's face to face meetings – there was no significant difference in terms of preference, respondents were just as likely to attend virtually as they would in person.</p> <p>Day and time preference – an equal number of respondents advised that Tuesday's or Thursday's are the preferred days of the week to hold the meetings. Again, an equal number of respondents said that either 6:30pm or 7pm were the most suitable times for availability.</p> <p>It was agreed to alternate the meetings between these dates and times based on the feedback to try and accommodate parent attendance.</p> <p>Fundraising – in terms of assisting with fundraising the general response from respondents was that most would be willing to assist in some way. 90% said they would be happy to help by providing donations. 60% said they would also be happy to help at events/sell tickets. 45% said they would also be happy to help promote events. 30% said they would also be happy to help organise events. Raffles, family events, puzzler quiz for adults, items produced by the children i.e. cards etc and afternoon teas were all ideas supported by parents.</p> <p>School Raffle – of the three options provided for sourcing prizes for the annual school raffle, the preferred option was to have a combination of donations and items purchased from the school fund.</p> <p>Facebook page – all respondents advised they are aware of the Parent Group page and all but one are members.</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Maureen Smith Event – Mrs Elrick-Stewart advised that the tickets and posters have arrived. It was agreed that a message would be sent out to parents in the first instance to give families the opportunity to book tickets before being promoted to the general public. Mrs Elrick-Stewart has drafted a memo with information regarding the event, including ticket and payment information which she will forward to the school for sending out. Miss Watt advised she has already received a number of orders for tickets from people not connected to the school who have seen the event advertised on Maureen Smith's own website. Mrs Elrick-Stewart to provide tickets to Miss Watt for distributing. All ticket orders/sales should be recorded on a spreadsheet which Mrs Elrick-Stewart has created on the OneDrive to keep track.</p>	<p>Mrs Elrick-Stewart/ Miss Watt</p>

<p>8</p>	<p>AOCB – Mrs Elrick-Stewart has completed the form to apply for the Tesco Grant, however, she required clarification on what we were specifically asking for and an estimation of the cost of these items. After some discussion it was agreed to focus the application on ipads as the majority of current school ones are in the red category meaning they are reaching the end of their useable life. Miss Buchan will forward the details regarding the cost of these to Mrs Elrick-Stewart so she can complete and submit the application by the deadline.</p> <p>Miss Buchan advised there is discussion regarding a wider education policy to make technology more accessible to all school children although she was unaware of the specifics. Cllr McAllister offered to look into this. Cllr Davidson also advised there is a Schools Equipment Grant that can be applied for under Educational Trust Funding, details of which should be on the Aberdeenshire Council website. Cllr Davidson will look into this to check if the information is available.</p> <p>Ellon Round Table Santa Parcel Collection – Last year Tippetty School organised a visit from Santa through Ellon Round Table to collect donated gifts in support of Northsound Cash for Kids Mission Christmas Appeal. Miss Buchan advised she has enquired about this for this year but has not had a response. Miss Buchan will follow up with Ellon Round Table.</p>	<p>Mrs Elrick-Stewart/ Miss Buchan</p> <p>Cllr McAllister/ Cllr Davidson</p> <p>Miss Buchan (Head Teacher)</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 20th January 2022 at 6:30pm.</p>	<p>-</p>