

Tipperty Parent Group

Meeting – Wednesday 15th March 2023 @ 6.30pm

Attendees: Miss. Buchan (Head Teacher), Mrs. Comery, Mrs. Elrick-Stewart, Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Mrs. Hewitt, Mackay, Miss Sherriff's. Mrs. Yeoman, Via Teams: Mrs. McLeish Mrs. Dew, Mrs. Harrison, Miss. Watt, Cllr. Davidson.

Item	Notes	Actions
1	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u> Mrs. Comery thanked everyone for attending.</p> <p>Apologies were noted from Mrs. Gillies, Mrs. P. Watt, Cllr. Crawley, Cllr. McAllister and Cllr. Owen.</p>	
2	<p><u>Minutes of Last Meeting</u> The minutes from the last meeting on 15th November 2022 were approved. Outstanding actions were as follows;</p> <p>Tesco Tokens: The remaining balance of the Tesco grant after the purchase of the Ipads has still to be spent. Confirmation of the amount is required. Miss Buchan / Mrs Gillies to confirm.</p> <p>Miss Buchan advised that the protective cases had been purchased through another funding budget and all Ipads in the school now had a case.</p> <p>Approval of the Sumdog platform was still awaited and could not be procured yet.</p> <p>Mrs Elrick-Stewart informed that details of the purchases were required to conclude the grant application and ideally this should be done within the year. Miss Buchan to investigate any other IT equipment that may be beneficial to the school.</p>	
3	<p><u>Chairperson's Report</u> Mrs. Comery chairperson read out her report as follows.</p> <p>Good evening and welcome to our March meeting.</p> <p>I can't believe we are most of the way through Term 3.</p> <p>The school has received 2 new IPads this term using the funds from the Tesco Bags of Help grant.</p> <p>We have had Natalie from Bee Crafty into the school to do a painting craft class with the children. It was decided to decorate Highland Cows and the children had a great time and created some lovely cows!</p>	

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4	<p><u>Head Teacher's Report</u></p> <p>Thank you- Tipperty Parent Group</p> <p>A Big Thank you to the Tipperty Parent Group for organising a session for both classes with the Bee Crafty Studio. The children had the opportunity to paint their own Highland Cow. The children were all very pleased with the results.</p> <p>The school has also been delighted to receive a delivery of two iPads, purchased by the Tipperty Parent Group using funding from Tesco Bags of Help. We are grateful also to the many families who have offered donations of iPad cases to the school.</p> <p><u>Refurbishment work</u></p> <p>As you will be aware, a refurbishment to the Boys Toilets in school is currently underway, and the Girls toilets will be refurbished in the Easter holidays. We look forward to seeing the finished results! We are also awaiting the installation of two Clever touch screens to replace the Smartboards in both classrooms.</p> <p><u>Author Visit</u></p> <p>The children in both classes were fortunate to take part in a recent Author Visit presentation. Mrs. Macdonald (author) and Miss Brown (illustrator) visited Tipperty School to talk about their book, "Able Seacat Simon." The children all greatly enjoyed the session. Many thanks to Mrs. Dew for organising this visit!</p> <p><u>Active Schools</u></p> <p>This term an Active Schools coach has delivered a series of sessions in school, focusing on athletics skills for pupils in both classes. This has been a great opportunity for the children to learn some new skills.</p> <p><u>Scottish Theme</u></p> <p>In February Tipperty School held a Scottish Celebration for pupils. The children enjoyed taking part in Scottish Country Dancing and reciting some Scottish poems.</p> <p>Linked to our Scottish theme, the pupils have enjoyed a visit from Battlescar Entertainment, on the theme of the Jacobites.</p> <p>This month pupils in P5/7 are participating in a block of online Gaelic lessons with an online Gaelic tutor.</p> <p>We look forward to inviting Parents into school for an Open Afternoon on Wednesday 29th March, where the children will share their learning on this topic.</p> <p><u>Newburgh Worms</u></p> <p>Mr. Baxter from Newburgh Worms recently visited the P5/7 Class to check on the Tipperty school worms. Mr. Baxter was delighted to see how well the worms have been doing and how the worms have begun to produce their own vermicompost. The P5/7 class and Mrs. Dew were praised for how well they have been looking after the worms, by feeding them food waste and cardboard.</p>	

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4	<p><u>Head Teacher’s Report continued....</u></p> <p><u>Upcoming events</u> This week the children are visiting Aberdeen Music hall to attend a performance of the RSNO orchestra. On Friday 17th we will also be celebrating Red Nose Day.</p> <p>In the last few weeks of term we will also have an Eco Fashion Show for pupils, organised by Mrs Baillie and the Eco Group.</p> <p>We are also planning a Celebration for the Coronation, provisionally scheduled for 2nd May 2023.</p> <p>Following a recommendation from Mrs Comery, we have arranged a whole school visit to Haddo Country Park with an Aberdeenshire Council Ranger for June 2023. We will link this visit to our theme of Conservation and Sustainability, working towards our 8th Green Flag. Further details will follow in term 4.</p>	
5	<p><u>Treasurer’s Report</u> In the absence of Mrs. Gillies, Mrs. Comery advised that there was £3102.56 in the account at present however with the imminent deduction of the monies for the 2 no. Ipads and Landscaping Bark the account balance stood at £2131.70.</p>	
6	<p><u>School Sustainability</u> Mrs. Comery advised that concerns had been raised by Parents over the possible closure of Tipperty Primary School on the announcement that the council were discussing building a new school at nearby Foveran. With parents concerns being the possible merging of the schools into one larger one.</p> <p>The reduction in pupil numbers over the last few years and the projected low numbers after the Summer holidays was also an immediate concern to all.</p> <p>The Parent Group had requested the attendance of the local councillors to the meeting with these specific concerns in mind.</p> <p>Councillor Davidson who had kindly attended the meeting reassured all that it would be a number of years before the Foveran school would come into use, noting the land for the school had still to be purchased, funding agreed and a consultation would be carried out. It was also confirmed that the current school zone did not go into this area.</p> <p>Councillor Davidson advised that there were no plans to close Tipperty or re-zone the catchment area.</p>	

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6	<p>School Sustainability continued....</p> <p>Miss Buchan informed that the projected school role in Aug 23 was 18 pupils. She noted that numbers of in zone and out of zone enrolments would not be confirmed until May, however the school roll is expected to be below 20.</p> <p>With this in mind Miss Buchan expected the school to be reduced from a two to one classroom school, as is standard policy when numbers reduce below 20 pupils.</p> <p>Cllr. Davidson confirmed that if the school numbers dropped to 18 this would still be a viable school and added that if a school was meeting the educational needs of the students then there should be no reason to close it.</p> <p>Cllr. Davidson advised that the projected school numbers up to 2027 were not expected to rise much. She informed that numbers were calculated by the local authority through birth records. Cllr Davidson stated that other than revising the zones, which there were no plans to do, there was not much could be done by the council.</p> <p>It was noted by all that numbers could change depending on house moves in the area.</p> <p>Mrs. Elrick-Stewart noted that the school was a one classroom school previously but this was before the large classroom extension.</p> <p>Mrs. Elrick-Stewart expressed her disappointment at the possibility of losing valued members of staff if the school reduced in size.</p> <p>A query was raised on staff resources for pupils with additional support needs. Miss Buchan did not expect these to be changed and needs of children would be assessed and provided appropriately.</p> <p>With the current and expected low numbers Mrs. Comery suggested that more interaction with other schools could benefit the pupils as well as more after school activities and youth clubs.</p> <p>Mrs Elrick-Stewart advised that in the past Tipperty and Foveran had a combined Sports day.</p>	Rev
7	<p>Defibrillator</p> <p>Mrs. Elrick-Stewart advised that the paediatric pads were still awaited for the Defibrillator machine. AES has pursued SMG Safety in regard to this with no avail.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the existing adult pads could be used for a child if required.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the existing Defib had an expected 8 year lifespan, which would be up in Mid 2025. It was agreed that Fundraising for a new machine should be started early 2024</p>	AES

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7	<p><u>Defibrillator</u> continued....</p> <p>Miss Buchan noted that she had received a contact for a Lorna Donaldson from the Scottish Ambulance Service Cardiac Response Team who was happy to come out to talk to the community about the Defib and demonstrate how it worked.</p> <p>Miss Buchan to arrange a date in September '23 for a community engagement event to promote the Defib and encourage support for it within the school and wider community.</p> <p>A new custodian is sought for the Defib machine at the end of term as Mrs. Elrick-Stewart will be leaving the Parent Group. Anyone interested in taking on this role should contact the school or email the Parent Group.</p>	CAB
8	<p><u>Fundraising & Planning</u></p> <p><u>Rock and Roll Bingo</u></p> <p>It was confirmed that Friday 5th May had been scheduled for the Rock and Roll Bingo evening. The school hall had been booked but unfortunately the School Lets were not permitting the use of the kitchen for the teas due to food hygiene and Health & Safety Reasons, currently under review within Aberdeenshire Council.</p> <p>Several persons came forward with offers of the use of a vacuum flask to make teas within the hall itself and Miss Buchan advised that the staff room dishwasher could be used to wash mugs. It was suggested that attendees be asked to 'Bring a cup' to help reduce work.</p> <p>A combined Royal / Rock and Roll Bingo theme was discussed given that it was the Coronation weekend.</p> <p>Mrs. Comery asked if the school could get the children to design a poster for the event. It was agreed that given the low occupancy of the hall it would not be necessary to promote the event too widely.</p> <p>Mrs. Comery and Mrs. Gillies to calculate the max number of tickets once they have looked at hall setup.</p> <p>The event is to be ticketed. £5 adult. £2 child. Parents to be asked to confirm how many tickets they would like.</p> <p>Donations for raffles to be sought from parents and Mrs Elrick-Stewart to make a letter for the committee helpers to take to local businesses when asking for donations.</p> <p>Miss Sherriffs to create an additional game for the children on the night.</p> <p>Mrs Elrick-Stewart to print a Lucky Square sheet.</p> <p>A Teams Call meeting to discuss arrangement for the Bingo night will be arranged for Wed 19th April at 6.30pm.</p>	<p>CAB</p> <p>CC/NG</p> <p>LS AES</p> <p>AES</p>

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9	<p><u>A.O.C.B.</u></p> <p>Secretary Role</p> <p>A new Secretary is sought for the Parent Group as Mrs. Elrick-Stewart will be leaving the group at the end of term. It was hoped that a new Secretary could be appointed at the next committee meeting in May to enable a handover to take place before the end of term. If anyone is interested in taking on this role or would like to find out more please contact the school or email the Parent Group.</p> <p>Donald Family Donation</p> <p>Mrs. Comery expressed her sadness at the passing of Mrs. Gillies' Mum Lorna Donald. Mrs. Comery advised that the Donald family had very generously agreed to donate the collection taken at the funeral service amounting to £990 to the Parent Group. Mrs. Comery explained that Mrs. Donalds three children and now two grandchildren attended Tipperty School and she had been an active member of the school and Tipperty Community over the years. The Donald Family wished for the money to be used for something for the outdoor area, noting Mrs. Donald's love of flowers and her creative side. Ideas put forward were colourful benches made of pvc or planters.</p> <p>Miss. Buchan advised that the items could be procured directly by the school and vat would not be paid, however they would have to be from one of the approved suppliers. Miss Buchan to ask school office to look at suppliers to see what they can provide.</p> <p>Miss. Buchan noted that the cost of fitting/securing the bench to the ground would also have to be factored in and it would need to be a set distance from the building.</p> <p>Panto</p> <p>It was agreed that on behalf of the Parent Group the school office would purchase 25 tickets for the Sleeping Beauty Panto at HMT in December 2023.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CAB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office</p>
9	<p><u>A.O.C.B.</u></p> <p>Easy Fundraising</p> <p>Parents are reminded that Tipperty Parent Group is registered on Easyfundraising. Please feel free to register on this website to earn money for the school while you shop. https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk</p>	
10	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Wednesday 24th May 2023 at 6.30pm.</p> <p>Reminder that all parents/carers are welcome to attend in person or via Teams.</p>	