

Minutes of PPC Meeting – 19th November 2019

Present:

Iain Wightman (Chair), Helen McDougall (P2/3M), Jo Mowat (P1S), Gemma Robertson (P2/3M), Julie Campbell (Minutes), Lee Handley, Emma Lee (P1J), Jacqueline Mackenzie, Claudia Duffy, Nicky Blair (Nursery PM), Karen Colvin, Rushmi Lampshire.

Apologies: Caroline Barker, Scott Arthur, Stephanie Johnstone.

1. Minutes from last meeting – No outstanding issues.

2. PPC Roles

Andrew Boyle has kindly taken on the co-ordination of the Drama club as well as being the overall Activities Coordinator. All clubs now have a coordinator.

3. Fundraising update

Summary of money raised since the last PPC meeting:

- Easy Fundraising - £45.71
- Own Clothes Day - £262.75

The Fundraising team are always looking for volunteers to help. If this is something you can help with please get in touch with the PPC.

4. Funding Requests

- £218 for P7 hoodies
- £100 contribution to the P7 end of Year

5. School issues

We are continuing our search for a gymnastics coach. We have reached out to Lorna (Active Schools) in hope she may know someone who would be interested.

Due to the school being used as a polling station on 12th December, the clubs which usually run on a Thursday after school will be cancelled. A refund or money off the next term will be offered to those affected.

It was queried if the learning journals, which at the moment are generic updates, would be more specific to individual children. Mrs Mackenzie explained that all staff are still learning to use the system and at the moment the purpose of the learning journals is to encourage discussion at home about what is being learned in the classroom. The aim is for the journals to be more personalised in the future.

A query was noted from a parent / guardian regarding the P1 windows and if it was appropriate for the children to be changing for gym here given that members of the public could be walking passed. This was noted.

A few concerns have been raised regarding the “slippy hill” in the playground with many noticing children running and slipping and falling over. Unfortunately due to the type of material the hill is made of, it’s unable to be gritted. It was noted that prior to this surface, this area of the playground was just mud and complaints were received then too. Mrs MacKenzie advised that she would remind children to remain cautious of this area in cold/wet weather conditions.

A question was asked around PE classes and if they were being cancelled due to the hall being used for other things such as assembly practice. Mrs Mackenzie reiterated that the 2 hours of PE per week are non-negotiable and that every year the school is audited on this.

6. Head Teacher update

Open/Enrolment week – This was very well attended and Mrs Mackenzie noted how well the P7’s did with the tour, feedback was excellent so well done to those involved. There are currently 80 prospective P1’s registered which could mean potentially an extra class next year. Classes will be confirmed in due course.

The Scottish Government Directive of 1140 hours by 2020 is generating a lot of questions from parents asking how this will affect Pentland. Currently, it’s still unclear what approach Pentland will take but this will of course be communicated once this has been confirmed.

Pudsey was at school as part of Children in Need and was very well received by all in School!

7. Councillor Update

Work will start on the Hunters Tryst School Site in March 2020.

Comiston Farmhouse – Awaiting a planning decision.

Parking – ongoing parking issues. PPC will send an email out via Parentpay reminding parents/guardians where is suitable for parking and reminding everyone to be considerate.

Speed Limits – The council agreed last month to cut the speed limit on Oxfords Avenue so thank you to everyone who took part in the survey.

February 2020 will see the council consult on reducing the speed limit on some Edinburgh Roads from 40mph to 30mph. Based on feedback from residents, Scott would like Buckstone Terrace and Biggar Road to be included in that consultation. Please sign the petition if you would like to support this.

8. AOB

It was agreed that the lets for the PPC meeting should be reduced from 2 hours to 1 hour.

Class rep list – A few parents have queried who their class rep is as this hasn't been confirmed. An updated list is required. Iain will work on this and email out for volunteers for those classes without reps.

Next Meeting – 21st January 2020