

HYNDLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING (ONLINE)

MINUTES FOR 1 December 2021

Present: Helen Brown (Head Teacher), Julie Wynn (Deputy Head), Stephen Frame (Deputy Head), Fiona Batista (PT), Kate Kitson (PT), Victoria Moir (PT), Alan Bonnyman (Chair), Dorian Grieve (Secretary & P5 rep), Natalie Watson (P4 rep), Jaime Guenther (P3 rep), Susan Kesson (joint P2 rep), Roz Laing (P1 rep), Alexis Wright (joint P2 rep), Stevie Gallagher, Jane Munday

Apologies: Kirsty Chambers (PT), Paddy Morrison (Afty), Katie Brady Patterson (joint P6 rep)

1. Welcome and apologies

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes were approved.

3. Senior Leadership Team report

(HB) Janny John's leaving do was due to be on 17th but he has asked that this be cancelled because of Covid. It is hoped that other arrangements can be made at a later date.

Christmas preparations are well underway, with party dates to come out soon. Christmas lunch will be on 16 December with online ordering courtesy of VM.

HB asked the reps to canvas parents' opinion on the cost and quality of Tempest photography as she has received a number of complaints. As it stands, HB thinks the school will not be going with Tempest in January.

(JW) P7-S1 transitions have begun with S1s visiting the school in person. JW is liaising with Vicky Letford (S1 Deputy Head) trying to get a plan in place for Secondary School staff safely to give face to face transitional lessons at the Primary. The transition choir with Wendy Black (music teacher at HSS) is now in its third week and it is hoped that the P7s can join the secondary choir in advance of moving up to the Secondary School.

Two new cohorts of P6s are working with Angela Boyle on social communication and conflict resolution and helping to build skills that the children have had less opportunity to exercise over this period. SF has also been running P4 to P5 transitions with Angela and these are also going well.

JW discussed the links the school had last year with Downvale church, who had provided vouchers and hampers, and the continued popularity of the Tuesday food bank. In light of this ongoing need she is planning to put out a message for people who need some support to get in touch and asked if this could be backed by the money donated by the PC at the outset of the pandemic for purchasing vouchers. AB said that this was what the money had been intended for when donated though he was not sure how much of the initial sum was left. JW said she would put out a message to get an idea of what need there was for support and get back to AB about this.

JW is looking at Millport for the P6 night away in May but would like feedback from the P6 reps on enthusiasm for this among the parents. AB said he would relay this to the P6 reps.

Mark O'Mara has offered to bring sports students to the school for a sports activity day for P5, 6 and 7 and, when confirmed, this should be on 15 December.

(SF) The infant festive show is going ahead but it will not be possible to have a live audience. The show will be recorded and parents will be able to watch toward the end of term. SF thanked FB who has been working on backdrops for the show with the P7s.

SF has been in regular touch with Hodder Education regarding the Rising Stars reading programme. The survey he conducted on parent and pupil experiences of using the programme highlighted regular glitches which coalesced around excessive buffering time and difficulty accessing the website on mobile devices. Alongside this, the survey also highlighted the positive experiences pupils were having with the materials. He is having a Teams meeting with the Head of ICT tomorrow to discuss these matters.

Music Club and Music Club Choir have been going ahead. The P2s have been having their taster sessions and the P1s will be having their taster sessions in February with a view to starting Music Club next academic year. Homework clubs have been under discussion with the aim of having one club for each of the three levels. This along with other clubs will be introduced as and when covid restrictions allow.

In term 3, P2s will be taking part in the weekly Get Ready for Sport programme, focusing on motor skills and health and wellbeing. Also in term 3, coaches from Determined to Dance will be in the school weekly working with P4s.

(VM) Among other things, the Digital leaders programme is starting again with 1 rep per class from P3-7, around 10 in total. 53 applications have been received so far. Once selected, they will work with each other and VM and share the knowledge gained with their class and class teachers.

(FB) Xmas cards have been very successful and raised over £800.

The Promise Tree formed of 400 leaves of promises made by the pupils at the end of the Sustainability Fortnight has gone up in the stairway to HB's office.

Partick Housing Association have kindly contributed some money for Christmas and also put the school in touch with Halo Arts who are going to provide a digital copy of their pantomime for the school and also run Panto workshops with P3s and P4s. P5, 6 and 7 will have a silent disco and P1 and 2, an activity morning and a movie.

Leavers hoodies have been ordered and should arrive before Christmas or in the first weeks of January.

(KK) Children in Need coincided with Anti-bullying week this year and there have been themed activities and discussions around each along with a no-uniform day which raised £486 for Children in Need. Book Week Scotland saw P1s receive their Book Bug bags and P2 and 3 their Read Write Count bags.

Additionally, VM noted that P7s as part of their John Muir project have written to local businesses for help with rejuvenating the school garden. There have been few responses so if anyone knows of anything or anyone that could help in this regard please get in touch with her.

HB noted that a P4 pupil's mother is very interested in getting a gang of parents to take over some of the work that Susan Taylor used to do.

JW noted that Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP had been in touch regarding a Christmas card competition which P6 and P7 took part in. 4 Hyndland Primary pupils' designs have been selected to appear on the cards. HB continued immodestly to note the all-conquering success of Hyndland in the field of ultimate Frisbee, the outstanding successes of its pupils in the fields of road safety and Royal Academy approved art and the big-match brilliance of the football team.

4. Financial report

There has been no income and no outgoings since the last meeting. The account balance currently stands at £5363.52.

5. Fundraising update

Chris Bryce's fundraising sub-committee currently has planned a Burns ceilidh in January, a pub quiz in March and a Spring fair in May, Omicron permitting.

6. ASN forum update

As Annie Rigby wasn't able to attend this item was postponed till next meeting. JW will schedule a phone call with Annie.

7. Playground review update

The outdoor learning area is in disrepair with panels falling off and leaving nails protruding dangerously. A group of interested parents have volunteered to have a look at it when weather permits.

The bike shelter panels should be going in next week. The planters from Glasgow Wood Recycling have been ordered and paid for but it is not sure when GWR will deliver them. FB offered to call them.

AB noted various health and safety concerns with the playground particularly around the amphitheatre. Because the parent council put the feature in HB said it was likely the City council's action will stop with closing off the area. AB noted that this attitude was not compatible with child safety. HB will email Andy Duff and ask the estates team to come out and have a look the area, AB to be copied in.

The P1 playground also requires attention but, since safe, is not so much of a priority. FB said that 10 heavy log seats were purchased with grant money last year and would happily find a home in any plans for the P1 playground. KK noted that from the kids' POV playing with the mud is one of the particular joys of the P1 playground and that there is a case for leaving some of the muddy area exposed. AB noted that parent opinion on avoiding muddy clothes versus promoting muddy play is split 50/50. RL said that the murals in the P1 playground need cleaned and offered to do that. AB asked if the mosaics would be returning. There is still an issue with their weather-proofing. SF is meeting with Diego's mother in January and hopes things will move on this in spring.

8. AOB

DG asked how parents can contribute to Lollipop John's retirement gift. HB will be setting up a Parent Pay for that but envelopes can also be dropped off at the school; details will be in the newsletter this week.