



GLASSFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 28th April 2020 at 7.00pm

(via Zoom)

In Attendance:

Audrey Donelly, Lesley Steven, Gordon & Pamela Innes, Janet Hamilton, Yasmina Brown, Angela Foster, Lee Rogers, Donna Storry, Christine Hall, Anne Anderson, Les Hogan & Elaine Richardson

Apologies were received from Donna Troughton

This meeting took a very different format to usual due to the COVID19 Lockdown and was intended to provide an update to parents of the plan going ahead while the School is closed and a chance to ask any questions relating to the same matter.

Audrey gave an update as to what was happening and these points are listed below:

- The children were prepared for the short notice school closure very well with packs sent home which included worksheets and work to keep the children engaged. Well done to the Teaching staff for putting these together so well and so quickly.
- Guidance has been received from SLC regarding the education format and Schools must be mindful that all children have the technology, time or support to complete the requested tasks.
- To assist parents and reduce printing and paper costs, jotters will be able to be collected from School tomorrow between 1.30-3.30 for those that wish to use them (Wed 29th)
- Weekly plans will now be e-mailed on Friday to all children which will contain more level appropriate work – again this is not compulsory, but children are encouraged to complete what they can. The teachers really appreciate feedback and any photos or videos you wish to email in to let them keep in touch with what the children are doing.
- Newsletters will be drawn together every few weeks and circulated though there isn't much school news to share. The teachers like to keep in touch and share snippets of what they are doing.
- We are delighted that Miss Waring will become a permanent Glassford member of staff from August and Mrs Goldie will also be returning to job share with Mrs Steven which is also fantastic news.
- Reports – pupil reports are being prepared with support from SLC though it has still to be decided how these will be circulated.

- P7 Transition – The P7's have been password work already regarding the SA timetable and floor plan and the Academy will likely be in touch closer to August with more details regarding uniform and starting plans though obviously everything is dependant on the COVID 19 ongoing situation
- P1 new starts – a pack has been prepared that will be sent to the new Primary 1's. Obviously they cannot visit the school or meet the teachers as is usually the case but they may be able to visit the school on the inservice days immediately prior to the new term starting. Again this will be arranged as and when we are able. They will also be sent the newsletters just to keep in touch with them and their families.
- The new School term in August will likely present many challenges with the children having been away from a school setting for so long. The classes will just continue from where they left off. There are different levels within each Primary already and this will continue also. The children will need time and extra support to adjust back to school routine and we have to wait and see if there are any extra demands with regards to social distancing by then too.

There were then a few questions or comments made:

- Firstly, Les advised that there was a fund available to access via the Community Council for any family or person suffering financial problems as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. If funds could help an individual or family in some way, then they should speak to Les to pursue this. This money has been received from Windfarm sources and is specifically for helping local people in these difficult times.
- A question was raised whether teachers could engage with children through Zoom but it SLC have advised that this platform is not recommended for school use.
- A request was made as to whether Teachers could have 1-2-1 via social media or phone calls but this was not felt to be appropriate at this time.

In summary, these are unprecedented and challenging times for us all – the teaching staff are constantly learning too and adjusting the way tasks are carried out. Week to week, we need to follow the government and SLC guidance and make plans accordingly. Overall, we want to keep families and children safe whilst keeping them engaged and upbeat. Thank you to all the parents who undoubtedly are also finding these times challenging but are still managing to support the children.

If you have any question or comments ongoing, please do not hesitate to phone or email the School and the staff will pass on messages and do what they can to assist.

The next official Meeting will possibly be the end of August 2020 which will be the AGM but communication regarding this will be made before then.