



GLASSFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 27th October 2020 at 7.00pm

(via Zoom)

Members present: Gordon Innes (Chairman)
Christine Hall (Secretary)
Anne Anderson
Donna Troughton

In attendance: Audrey Donnelly (Head Teacher), Lesley Steven, Councillor Isobel Dorman

1. Welcome

Gordon welcomed everyone to the meeting, held again via Zoom because of the current restrictions still in place in visiting the school as well as meeting in groups.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Donna Storry, Lee Rogers, Les Hoggan, Rev Shaw Paterson and Janet Ballantyne

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Gordon proposed, and Lesley seconded the Minutes from the previous meeting.

4. Actions from Previous Minutes

- Gardening Open Areas/ Allotment – Angela Foster is progressing this though it is taking some time as SLC (understandably) have other priorities currently.
- Mind Marvels/ Mindfulness – the school is due two online sessions from Mind Marvels using funds from the Windfarm Covid19 fund.
- Traffic signs for playground and entrance – via Lesley Yule. This are on hold currently till school life returns to near normal.

5. Correspondence

- E-mail from General teaching Council for Scotland requesting that parents and teachers write to their MP to express concerns with the educational proposals contained in the UK Internal market Bill currently being discussed in Parliament. Christine would circulate the letter after the meeting and also post on the website for interested parents to progress individually.

- E-mail from SLC re an online event on Friday 30th October at 7pm called Halloween Moosical Spooktacular which will showcase the areas musical talent. Again the link will be circulated after the meeting and also details updated on the School website.

6. Fundraising

- £47.20 from rag bag bin collection on 0825/9/20 and £63.20 from another collection on 28/8/20. There is a big collection of bags awaiting collection currently in Christine's garage and another street collection has been arranged for 25/11/20. This will probably be our only fundraising for the year so good support would be really welcomed.
- At the last meeting, it was suggested we organise a Halloween quiz or similar via Zoom but instead the school children have been invited to take part in a Treasure Hunt in Strathaven park on Wed 27th October at 5pm if they wish. More details are available from Christine if interested.

7. School Recovery Plan

- All pupils are making good progress since they returned to school in August and have adapted to the changes and challenges very well. They are all still working through the Emotions Work Programme.
- Regarding the actual curriculum, all the children are now at the correct stage and the teaching staff are 'plugging the gaps' where necessary if it is found that there are pockets of learning that have been missed earlier in the year. The Teachers are now ready to look at benchmarking for numeracy and literacy again.
- As a school, they are specifically looking at digital learning. P4-P7 are learning about google classroom in preparation for isolation needs or a further lockdown. Approximately 25% of the pupils would possibly struggle to currently complete online work if they were absent because of either limited wifi/ internet or lack of suitable devices. We as a PC have applied to the Kype Muir Wind Farm fund for 10 Kindles and covers to hopefully help alleviate this issue (if the application is successful).
- There are still some children and staff (understandably) who are anxious and everyone is working hard to alleviate these fears.

8. Continuity of Learning Plan

SLC have asked all headteachers to draw together a Continuity of learning Plan to plan for a school closure of pupils isolating. Glassford is working alongside Gilmourton, Sandford and Chapelton to produce a joint plan. There are 4 parts to this plan with consideration given to how learning would continue in each instance.

1. Class teacher requires to isolate
2. Single learner requires to isolate
3. Multiple learners are isolating
4. Whole class or year group require to isolate.

It would be expected that a teacher would be available to provide feedback and answer queries at some point each day, dependent on the situation.

In each situation, a child would only be expected to participate in self learning if they were well enough. If they were unwell, they would not be expected to continue to work until they had recovered sufficiently.

There are no plans to introduce video calls or recorded videos for learning; this is SLC advice.

9. Business

- The Parent Council have applied for a Community Council Microgrant of £500* to purchase equipment for loose parts play.

** we were advised after the meeting on 28/10/20 that this grant was approved.*

- The Parent Council is considering applying to the SLC Renewable Energy Fund for money for a bike shelter which may also be able to be utilised as an outside learning area. However this application is at a very early stage and requires more investigation before proceeding. Audrey will ask Loraine Gilfilan when she is able, to try and find out whether the bike shelter that was requested via SLC (Marion Logan) is a possibility, before completing or furthering this application.
- Gordon and Christine represented the School at an online joint Parent Council Meeting with Des Dickson and Tony McDaid. It was reassuring that all Parent Councils are facing the same challenges and worries. There were several questions regarding restarting Breakfast Club. Unfortunately this is on hold at the moment due to the continuing requirement for children to stay in bubbles. If children were mixing at Breakfast Club, if one was to become ill, this potentially would require a larger number of children to isolate than would otherwise be the case if the children were only mixing within their bubble as is the case day to day. At Glassford, the staff are aware that some children come to school without breakfast for a variety of reasons and if necessary, they will quietly be given something without a fuss.
- Sarah Kelly from the Village is arranging a Santa ride through visit around Christmas, and asked if the school could support this quest financially. They were also in the process of setting up a justgiving page. It was felt that while we could possibly offer support in kind whether it be manpower or paint for example that this may be possible but that we weren't able to offer a monetary donation. The School would be happy to advertise the event via the children.
- Within School, Audrey has arranged that Santa will come to the front door and wave while dropping off the gifts but he wouldn't be directly visiting the classroom or the children. It was hoped that a low key party could be held towards the end of term in each classroom.
- It is expected that restrictions being as they are, that there will be no Coffee and Carols event this year however if the rules allow, nearer the time, we may consider arranging some sort of outside carol singing service.
- Christine attended an Education Resources meeting online and while the meeting was lengthy, a lot of the agenda items were budgetary and not of direct interest to ourselves. However the 2021/2022 holiday dates were finalised and a copy will be appended to these Minutes. Also, Des Dickson presented a paper about Covid19 and particularly about what has been learned. He described the requirements for Isolation and reporting and how these can change weekly. He also outlined all the considerations taken into account when deciding who had to isolate in the event of a positive case within School. He also mentioned there was still no evidence of transmission within school, all the positive cases were from the Community. And thanks to all teachers, staff, pupils and parents for supporting the protective measures in place and contributing to this.

10. Any Other Competent Business

- Les had passed a message to us asking the School to get in touch with Echoes if there were any good news stories as usual.

11. Date & Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Glassford Parent Council will be Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 7pm via Zoom. School.

Gordon then closed the meeting at 8.10pm with thanks to everyone for attending.



Education Resources

School holiday Dates Session 2021/2022

	Holiday dates		
First Term	Teachers In-service	Thursday	12 August 2021
	In-service day	Friday	13 August 2021
	Pupils return	Monday	16 August 2021
September Weekend	Close on Re-open	Thursday Tuesday	23 September 2021 28 September 2021
October Break	Close on Re-open	Friday Monday	8 October 2021 18 October 2021
	In-service day	Monday	15 November 2021
Christmas	Close on Re-open	Wednesday Wednesday	22 December 2021 5 January 2022
Second Term			
February break	Close on Closed on	Friday Monday and Tuesday	11 February 2022 14 February 2022 15 February 2022
	In-service day	Wednesday	16 February 2022
Spring break/Easter	Close on Re-open	Friday Tuesday	1 April 2022 19 April 2022
Third Term			
Local Holiday	Closed Re-open	Monday Tuesday	2 May 2022 3 May 2022
	In-service day	Thursday	5 May 2022
Local Holiday	Close on Re-open	Thursday Tuesday	26 May 2022 31 May 2022
Summer break	Close on	Friday	24 June 2022
Proposed in-service days	August dates to be confirmed		

Notes

- ◆ Good Friday falls on Friday, 15 April 2022
- ◆ Lanark schools will close Thursday, 9 June 2022 and Friday, 10 June 2022
- ◆ Schools will close at 2.30pm on the last day of terms 1 and 2 (Wednesday, 22 December 2021 and Friday, 1 April 2022)
- ◆ Schools will close at 1pm on the last day of term 3 - Friday, 24 June 2022
*Two in-service days proposed for August 2022 to be confirmed.