

Robert Owen Memorial Primary School
Parent Council Meeting
16th February 2021 Held at 19.30 via Zoom

Present

Kathryn Gartshore (chair), Bronwen Aidoo (scribe), Mrs Thomson (Head Teacher), Gareth Brown, Jenni Smith, Joan MacMillan, Catriona Murdoch, Erica Baillie, Lis McNally, Mrs McDowell, Laura Black, Ina Marshall, Claire Froot, Fiona Barr, Miss Munro, Miss Crookes, Laura McCann.

Apologies

Miss McAllister, Mrs McCallum, Kirsty McFerran, Fiona Rogerson, Susan Girvan, Annie Smith.

1. Welcome

Kathryn welcomed everyone to meeting. Kathryn also thanked the school and teachers for all the hard work and commitment with Remote Learning under the current circumstances.

2. Agreement of November minutes

Proposed: Erica Baillie

Seconded: Kathryn Gartshore

School Business Mrs Thomson

3. School Updates

Mrs Thomson highlighted the successful engagement in remote learning. Over 95 percent of school pupils were engaging on teams and over 70 percent of nursery pupils were accessing teams. The school has given out several devices and gadgets to provide Wi-Fi at home.

Mrs Thomson asked for questions/feedback from the parents at the meeting and overall the meeting advised positive experiences with remote learning.

Mrs Thomson explained following today's announcement there is a Head Teachers meeting tomorrow and P1 -3 are likely to return to school with procedures in place as they were before Christmas. The return is proposed as the 22nd of February 2021 for P1-3 with P4-7 continuing remote learning at the moment and continued provision for keyworker children.

All school staff have lateral flow test kits and will be testing twice weekly starting on Thursday and continuing Thursday and Monday every week.

Parent Council Business

4. Finances

a. *Bank balance update*

Bank balance is reduced from the last meeting by the cheque to the rotary for the biscuits (£258) and the cheque for the school panto (£150), leaving the balance at £1475.72

b. *Any other updates*

Thank you cards were received from pupils in Room 7 to say thank you for purchasing the pantomime.

c. *Review of Commitments*

The meeting considered the P1 and the P7 gifts. The meeting felt it was unlikely circumstances would allow for traditional fundraising any time soon and so considered the financial commitments they have. Ties will be purchased for the P7 leavers as normal. The P1 entrants gifts will also be purchased and will be agreed at the next meeting whether to purchase gym bags or an alternative. The meeting agreed to provide a contribution of £150 towards the yearbook, this will be paid to the school as the school has already paid for the deposit.

Last year the cost was £441 for the ties and gym bags and £150 for the yearbook. These costs were agreed by the meeting.

5. Feedback from SLC Parent Council Chairs meeting on 11 February 2021

Kathryn updated the meeting with information from the latest of regular meetings with Tony McDaid and Des Dickson.

6 Grants sub-group update

Several meetings have been held and various grants were considered. Most of the grants focussed on community participation. The school has requested consideration for developing the sensory garden if we are able to source any grants. Tesco bags for help has been considered but community participation is necessary and currently that would be difficult to fulfil. The sub-group has considered approaching garden centres for plants at the time they are needed. Charitable status was discussed as some grants are only open to a charity. There is a document with considerations regarding this, that could be discussed at a later meeting. Kathryn has sent enquiry to SLC regarding this and is awaiting a response. Charity status would allow for wider application for grants but comes with responsibilities that would need to be considered and could have financial implications regarding auditing and the level of responsibility for the office bearers.

7. Supporting Parents as partners during Covid 19 Privacy Notice Susan

Susan has drafted a Privacy Notice. Kathryn shared it on screen (see attached document) and the meeting considered it. It was decided to share the document with the wider parent body for consideration before using it. The meeting raised a concern with the length of time we hold data for and whether we have to keep it for a specific length of time. Joan MacMillan offered to seek clarity on this and bring information back to the next meeting. Joan advised we can only hold it for the

length of time we need it for so this will need to be amended. The privacy notice for use by the parent council will be discussed at the next meeting.

8. Parental engagement monthly challenge and rota

Monthly challenge started in December, thanks to Vicky Day for putting it together. There was limited response to the challenge in December. The meeting considered whether it was due to the time of year. Suggestions made for further challenges could include a cook it, build it, discover it, find it and a rate it challenge. All were good suggestions. Following discussions, it was suggested to partner with the House Captains and link the challenges to house points to encourage the participation of all students. It was felt it was important to ensure that resources for the challenges would be available in all homes. It was agreed the Parent Council would set the challenge with input from the House Captains and then the challenge would be sent out on school social media, the completed challenge would be emailed back to the Parent Council email address and the House Captains would judge it to award points. It was advised that no child should be pictured in any of the entries, only name and class would be required. Kathryn will liaise with Miss Munro and the House Captains regarding this.

9. Parent Council Newsletter

Kathryn will compile and send out for review prior to sending it out to the wider parent community.

10. Active Agenda

No issues raised.

Meeting Dates

16th March 2021

May AGM date to be set.

Meeting closed at 20:38