**Parent Council Meeting Minutes**

29/11/2023 - 2.30pm

**In attendance**: Ellie – Chair, Tamsin – Secretary and Treasurer, Catriona - HT, Tilley, Debbie Forster

Apologies: Chrissy Lowrie

**Previous Minutes**: No matters arising

**Headteachers Report:**

School Improvement work

Writing – we have launched a new app called Kaligo, it is a resource that will be used in P1-P7 to support spelling and handwriting. Kyle did a demonstration showing the parents present how it works.

Oracy is the complex skills we use to be effective communicators. Throughout the school these skills are taught and will be explicitly pointed out to pupils to allow them to develop the skills of Oracy throughout their time at Sprouston. This will create lifelong skills for the future.

Outdoor Area

We will begin to plan for this after Christmas taking children’s and parent’s views and ideas into account.

Competitions

We entered the NFU Mutual Christmas card competition and the children have created some wonderful entries. Unfortunately none of our entries made the short list.

We will also be joining the Kelso cluster schools in entering a writing competition after Christmas. This is being run by the local Kelso writers association. Winners will be published in a book at the end of the project which will be available to buy.

School Roll

We currently have 14 pupils in school.

IT equipment

Unfortunately most of our hardware is now very outdated and needs to be replaced. We need to raise funds for this as there is no planned upgrade centrally for this equipment. I have requested some support from SBC but not sure we will get any. The initial amount needed is around £1800 to put a smart screen into the main classroom. Parents felt strongly that this was a fundamental resource and should be provided by the council.

**Treasurers Report**

* **Accounts update:** Current balance is £954.52.

Bus to the Pantomime to pay coming up at £220.00

50/50 Lottery at the Christmas Concert will bring some funds in.

It was agreed that the PC would do another 50/50 Lottery at Easter to raise some more funds.

Debbie asked about swimming, if that was going to happen this year. It was advised that we had booked for P4-7 to go in April/May for 6 weeks. The bus cost was £74 per day for this which was agreed was a lot of money to pay. It was suggested that maybe we could ask parents to volunteer to drive the pupils over and back as it would only be 4 pupils and they could all fit in one car with Mrs Waddell following in her own car.

It was agreed that the PC would provide refreshments at the Christmas concert and help in the kitchen making teas and coffees.

**NEXT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**: Wednesday 27th March, 2.30pm.