

Robert Owen Memorial Primary School

Minutes of the Parent Council meeting held on 22February 2022 at 19:30 via Zoom

Welcome

Kathryn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present

Kathryn Gartshore Chair , Bronwen Aidoo, Catriona Murdoch, Gillian Drummond, Margo Thomson (Head Teacher), Annie Smith, Alanna Crookes, Fiona Barr Joan MacMillan, Ina Marshall, Ruth McAllister, Victoria Day, Claire Froot, Gemma Good, Hazel McCallum, Jenni Smith and Erin Barrie

Apologies

Jennifer Fisher, Laura Black, Claire Orr, Erica Baillie, Fiona Rogerson, Gareth Brown, Susan Girvan, Vicky Epton.

Agreement of minutes

Proposed: Catriona Murdoch

Seconded: Kathryn Gartshore.

School Business

Mrs Thomson gave highlights for the calendar for March which will be included in the March SWAY. These include World Book day, Lucy's Blue Day, Termtacular , House day and virtual parents evening.

Homework

Mrs Thomson asked those present on opinions regarding homework. The Uptake of homework varies between classes and years with some classes not responding to homework at all. A mix of views were expressed by parents at the meeting. The school will be sending out a survey to allow the whole parent forum to give an opinion. Mrs Thomson thanked all who contributed to the discussion.

Behaviour Statement

Mrs Thomson advised the school is in the process of updating the Behaviour statement to bring it in line with the work that has been done with the Emotions works programme, Nurture and attachment theory. The children have been involved in discussing consequences and triggers and moving forward. The school also uses the school charter and rights are real and how your behaviour can impact on others rights. The staff are considering how focus on fun and termtacular can be brought in line with this. If anyone would like to discuss further or has ideas, please contact Mrs Thomson to discuss. Mrs Thomson thank member of the meeting for sharing comments on the behaviour statement

Parent Council Business

Finance Update

Bank balance - no change to account £1527 .28. There may still be one cheque outstanding.

The meeting confirmed that P7 ties will be purchased and P1 will receive a welcome gift. The meeting voted unanimously to provide all children with a treat before summer rather than contribute to the bus for the leavers treat as this benefits only the P7. Kathryn asked if all members could consider what would be suitable for a treat across the school.

Updates

57 ties for the P7 have been ordered.

Miss McAllister will add out Parent Council newsletter and any updates to the SWAY. This will raise the profile of the parent council by being available in the SWAY.

P1 Gifts

Kathryn approached ALJ to ask what other options could be considered for P1 gifts that are a similar price to the gym bags. Options were given as school ties, bookbags, water bottles, winter hats, or gym t shirts(if bought in bulk). The meeting discussed the options. At present it looks like coming to school in PE kit for the whole day suits everyone better and is likely to continue. The meeting decided that Gym T shirts will be a suitable gift for the P1s. Price will need to be confirmed when numbers are confirmed from the school.

Spring Summer Event

Prior to COVID, an event was planned for the summer term with the aim to kickstart fundraising for the new school year and reduce the need for heavy fundraising at the start of the school year to support the pantomime and Christmas treat costs. Kathryn invited ideas for an event. Guidance regarding access to school and mixing of groups is not yet finalised so an outdoor event is more likely to go ahead than an indoor event. The meeting agreed to consider the issue by email and finalise decision at the next meeting.

AGM

The AGM is scheduled for May and in preparation for this the constitution will need to be checked to ensure it is fit for purpose. Kathryn also advised members need to consider if they wish to remain elected members or if the child they support at school is moving on. Office bearers also need to consider their roles.

Charity Status

Charity status was to be considered and discussed at an in-person meeting. This has not been able to take place. The meeting agreed that it does need to be discussed but there is no urgency at present, and it is a decision that would be binding to future councils so needs to be carefully considered. This will be carried forward and will be discussed in the new school session. It would also require consultation with the entire Parent Forum.

Active agenda

No issues received.

Next meeting 24th March

Meeting closed at 20:46.

Kathryn thanked everyone for contributing to the meetings discussion.