



Parent Council Meeting – 20 April 2021  
(Held via Google Meet)

Present: Ms Karen Orchard, Ms Rebecca Mitchell (Chairperson), Ms Michelle Smith, Ms Krystle Burnett, Miss Anna Royle, Ms Laura Park, Ms Sarah Burnett (minute taker), Mr Chris Bridle.

Apologies: - Ms Katherine Chadwick, Cllr Alison Alphonse

**1 - Minutes from previous meeting**

Approved with no amendments.

**2 - Election and use of the Church**

Concern that the school continues to be used as a Polling Station when the Church had previously said they would be happy to be used.

Email sent to the PC mailbox outlined that Eleanor Shephard would welcome suggestions for alternative venues. KO shared that if the church were willing to be considered that could be arranged quite easily in advance of the next Election.

AR will get in touch with Alison Alphonse to progress this in advance of the next Election.

**3 - Nursery Garden**

AR – Flood on Thursday as water fountain had burst causing significant flooding to the nursery, into the library, through the corridor, toilets into the GP space. Likely need to replace carpets and flooring in GP room.

Claire Cowan previously visited and looked at the nursery space and damage caused by the flood. She agrees that removing the grass mound from the nursery garden is the best way forward, as the original idea has not worked as planned. Claire Cowan will talk with business services to replace this with something else, possibly artificial grass but costing will need to be undertaken.

With extended nursery hours available nursery spaces will go from 80 to 88. Looking at the possibility of extended the nursery garden into the green space next to the playgroup / current nursery garden. Claire Cowan will also look into costing for this and get back to AR and the parent group.

#### **4 - Staffing P3T**

AR shared that the post was advertised but no one was appointed. Supply teacher interviews are ongoing currently and there is a possibility of someone being appointed from that cohort. There may be a delay due to the candidate having to relocate.

Current cover is:

Mrs Boyd for two days – Mrs Boyd plans for the whole week and communicates with other staff throughout the week.

Mrs Duff (previous DHT) is covering two days a week.

Mrs Begg continues to be covering on a Friday. Mrs Bonn will return from Mat Leave and will cover for two days in place of Mrs Duff.

#### **5 - School Ties**

AM previously received an email from the Dug Out confirming they would not supply ties. AR shared that a company called Eco Ties could provide a tie, however this had not been progressed due to COVID.

Will try to get this in place to make available for the next academic session. It may be that ties can be purchased via the school office. AR will speak with Mrs Blaikie to progress with the Eco Tie company.

Update on parents and children survey regarding colour of school t-shirts. AR shared the outcome was that the uniform colours will remain as they are.

#### **6 - Use of field / school zones and shortened school hours.**

AR – Until guidelines change there needs to continue to be two staggered lunches of 45 minutes and therefore means a 2.55pm finish to the school day. It may be as restrictions ease this will progress to 50-minute lunch break and a 3.05pm finish.

It was discussed that there could be potential for an earlier start to the morning, considering the earlier start for the extended nursery hours also. Also, discussion around why the children could not return to have a full hour for lunchtime when restrictions are relaxed. AR noted that not many schools have a full hour at lunchtimes, however suggested that a survey is sent to parents with all possible options for the timing of the school day before any permanent changes are made. The Parent Council are very supportive of parents and careers receiving a survey and being included in the decisions making.

#### **7 - School Lunches**

Concerns raised that chosen options are not available to children, despite making their choices at the beginning of the day, and that the portions sizes are small, particularly for the older children.

It was noted that three days since returning from holiday's there have not been all options available to children and the children are having what is left and not what they chose at the start of the day.

AR noted that it was identified that there were 20 lunches short today and therefore teachers will be reminding children to take their cards to lunch, as sometimes the children cannot remember what they have chosen resulting in them taking something different to their chosen meal leaving the cook short of some options.

P4 are last every day to go to lunch so they are mostly impacted if there is a shortfall of meal options. AR will have further discussion regarding the rotation of lunchtimes.

Allergy – Discussion that a parent had been told that the school was a nut free zone due a child having an allergy. AR confirmed that the school is not a nut free school. CB has not had any information about this and it has not come to AR's attention either. AR will look further into this further and discuss with P1 teachers.

## **8 - School Photographs**

Unlikely to go ahead with the current restrictions in place. AR will look into whether the photographer has any updates or possible availability.

## **9 - Head Teacher Update**

- P6 have been asked to take part in a taste test for the upcoming winter menu.
- Need to increase to 13 classes next session which has been authorised by ACC and therefore the library will be turned into a classroom. Likelihood of portacabins being required in coming years. Re-zoning will likely take place within the next few years with some zones shifting from Greenbrae to Glashieburn. This will go to Committee next Summer and then into a consultation process. Previously discussed the possibility of changing the outdoor classroom into an enclosed classroom, however, this has been investigated and will be too costly and therefore not a viable option at this stage. Communication will be sent out to parent and carers in the coming weeks with this updated information.
- SNSA standardised assessments are in the process of being rolled out for P1, P4 and P7 in numeracy and literacy. These assessments are used alongside the other assessments the class teachers are doing and teachers professional judgement.
- Staff training in the Inset days are planned to focus on helping children to close the attainment gaps that have become apparent due to lockdown.
- P7 Transition planning is ongoing and will be rolled out following the Government announcement regarding the possible easing of restrictions.
- New living and growing programme, now RHSP (Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood). Email has been sent out to parents for consent and an outline of the programme. This is a whole ASG approach and therefore the same programme will continue into S1.
- Social distancing no longer needs to be in place between the children within their own classes. Currently the children still have to social distance the two metres between the staff / teacher.

- Grass in zones opened up to be used on dry days now and the children can now play football. The children cannot take a football in from home currently due to COVID restrictions stating items should not be taken from home into school.
- The Ranger planted fruit trees with the nursery and P1. The children were delighted with this input from the Ranger and the trees are a great addition to the school grounds.
- Class trips – looks like class trips may be able to progress towards the end of the year.

### **AOBC**

- Chairperson for the next meeting – Karen Orchard.

### **Future Dates**

~~Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 6.30pm.~~

~~Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 at 6.30pm.~~

~~Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 6.30pm.~~

Tuesday 01<sup>st</sup> June 2021 at 6.30pm.