

## PARENT COUNCIL MEETING



**DATE: THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021**

**Present:** L Hogg (Head Teacher), A Brittle (Chair Person), V McLennan (Vice Chair), L Bell (Treasurer), M-J Ferrie (Friends of Beckford).

**Apologies:** C Reid (P4 Grandparent), G McMahon (P1 Parent) and R Antwi (P1 Parent).

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>	<b>Action</b>
1.	<b>Welcome by Chair Person, Apologies and approval of last meeting minutes</b>	Vice Chair V McLennan welcomed everyone to the meeting.  Minutes approved from last meeting by LB and MJF.	
2.	<b>Update - The school land</b>	AB explained that she would pursue access to the additional land (at New Park Street) through Craig Allan (Whitehill Community Team). AB asked LH if the school definitely wanted the land. LH noted yes that it would be helpful, but explained a need for clear guidance about what the Schools Mods Team would do with it to ensure that it is useful to the school.	<b>AB-&gt;CA</b>
3.	<b>Play Equipment</b>	LH noted that V McLennan sent Mrs Hogg ideas for outdoor play equipment via email. LH explained that she had not had time at that point to look at the equipment in detail.  LH noted that Health and Safety need to be consulted before any new large pieces of equipment are purchased to ensure it can be used in the school grounds by the children.  Mud Kitchen - AB noted that she is in communication with Michelle Mosley YFCL about young people she works with who would be able to support the building of the	<b>LH- Parent Council</b>  <b>LH</b>  <b>LH-&gt;MM</b>

		kitchen. LH to speak to MM.	
4.	<b>Update on rules for school discos</b>	<p>LH explained that no other schools in Hamilton Learning Community (Woodside, Chatelerault, St John's and Quarter Primary) are having discos at present.</p> <p>Schools received guidance from SLC in October 2021 and the guidance is still clear that whole school assemblies are not permitted, but small day trips can begin to be organised. Therefore LH noted that anything that the school does will continue to be precautionary until further notice and guidance is given.</p> <p>LH suggested that the PC plan provisionally for a Spring Fling Disco in 2022, however noted that it would be dependent on guidance from Scottish Government and SLC at that time.</p>	
5.	<b>Finance update</b>	<p>Current balance in PC Account is £1118.36.</p> <p>PC to arrange two fundraising activities at the Christmas Fair which will go out to parents prior to the Christmas Fair - Barrel of Booze and a mini games stall for the children - this will be run by Primary 7 on behalf of the Parent Council.</p> <p>LH noted that she had had a suggestion to have a dress down day for Diabetes UK on the 12<sup>th</sup> November by one of the pupils. She asked for opinions from the PC. All agreed that it was a nice idea to support the charity. LH noted she would inform parents on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November via the app.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>LH</p>
6.	<b>Head Teacher Report</b>	<p><u>STAFF UPDATE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr McCann is still absent, Miss Reilly covering Acting PT Role until he returns. Mrs Lafferty and Mrs Leery covering Primary 1 on the days she is out of class.</li> <li>Miss Bradley has begun her maternity leave. Mrs</li> </ul>	

		<p>Taylor has returned to Beckford to cover Miss Bradley's maternity leave. She will be covering the additionally role allocated by Scottish Government as part of recovery work for the year.</p> <p><b><u>RECOVERY PLAN UPDATE</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teaching staff have been working together to evaluate approaches to learning, teaching and assessment in writing. Some staff have taken part in Talk for Writing training from SLC. This is an area of our improvement work we will continue to build on over the year.</li> <li>Most teachers are trying out a new approach to the teaching of spelling and phonics called Systematic Synthetic Phonics with small groups of children who we wish to target to improve on these skills. This approach is called 'a test of change' and is being monitored carefully.</li> <li>A focus for learning across the curriculum is our approach to Interdisciplinary Learning and new planning format was introduced in August. Teaching staff have been carrying out peer observations in classrooms. Our next step will be to take part in a moderation session in November discussing observations from class visits and moderating approaches to planning for IDL.</li> <li>We have been allocated additional funding for supported study for pupils out with the school day. The focus for supported study can focus on nurture activities, additional enhanced transition work, homework clubs and after school clubs. This money has only been allocated in the last fortnight and plans are currently being drawn up.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>EXTRA CURRICULAR/ACTIVE SCHOOLS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P1-4 have taken part in rugby block for 4 weeks and P5-7 have now started their block.</li> <li>Lucy Brown Active Schools Coordinator has begun a 4 week block with Primary 3 focusing on Multi-sports. Primary 4 will be offered a 4 week block following this.</li> <li>St Pauls and Beckford Community Club have started for P1-4 and P5-7 on Thursday after school at the Whitehill Centre for the next 4 weeks. HT at St Pauls applied for community funding last year which was approved. There will be further opportunities later in the year.</li> </ul>	
7.	<b>AOB - any other matters</b>	Fundraising opportunities - MG to look into fundraising opportunities for outdoor equipment.	

		<p>LH to double check if M McCann has PC laptop.</p> <p>Ground clearing for forest schools area - either Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> November. AB to confirm. VM bin bags and gloves.</p> <p>School fundraising and school budget - discussed. LH explained that the fundraising money e.g. from Dress Down for £1 goes into the school fund. School fund is used to pay for items that cannot be purchased through procurement system at SLC, e.g. food items (parties, making food items in class as part of food technology, pupil badges (pupil council, sports council) etc.</p> <p>Residential trips for P7 was also discussed. LH explained that only small day trips can be planned for at present. Residential trips will only be planned for once schools have been given the go ahead from SLC. LH noted that it is also dependent on staff availability in the future to cover.</p>	
8.	Date of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30 pm</li> </ul>	