Ormiston Primary School Parent Council

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 21st Aug 2024

Date of minutes: Thursday 22nd Aug 2024

Attendees: Liz Wright (Chair), Hollie Wallace (Clerk), Sophie Coats, Kelly Jones, Melissa Pagan, Alice Shan, Linsey Howie, Heather Martin, Sarah Morgan (Head Teacher), Laura Hook, Rebecca McConnell, Stewart Johnson, Claire Cowan (Nursery Teacher) Maggie Gebicka, Chloe Ravaglia, Jaqueline Robertson, Nikki Johnston, Bridget, Helen Bourhill, Shona Corrigan, Emma McColville, Gabriela Veverkova, Tina Singh Kang, Garret Brady

Apologies: Jaqui Cunningham (Treasurer), Caroline Gray

Date of next meeting: 23rd October 2024

Topic	Key Discussion Points	Actions
Head Teacher Update	● The end of term was busy with outdoor cooking, sports day, the fun run and school picnic. ● School transitions have been successful for all stages ● 4 new teachers, a probationary teacher and a new support staff member are settling in well too. ● The focus for the school improvement plan this year includes: o Curriculum, Review and Assessment – looking at reviewing school values and	● Sarah to explore video options for parents to help support reading and phonics at home.

	having core values, looking at the approach to learning to read and looking at different ways to learn to read and new approaches to help support and access the children. There will also be a focus on leadership. o Wellbeing quality and inclusion ▪ Working groups looking at diversity and equality too. o Attainment – looking to moderate the learning. ● There are plans for primary 1 families to visit school for help with supporting their children with phonics and reading at home. Sarah will explore whether it is possible to open this up to P2 families who did not have a visit last year or possible videos to help support. ● The early years (nursery) have been visiting the library to borrow books and attend bookbug sessions.	
Treasurer Update	● The last financial update was on 28th Feb, balance was £6,308.49. Balance as at 21st August is £3,354.06. Difference is -£2,954.43 ● Money in: Co-op for cooking equipment £551.08 McNeil's Garage £75	

	Total in = £626.08 ● Money out Playground tidy B&Q garden gloves £22 Hamilton Waste (skips) £288 Maggie's Tea Room (lunch) £95.40 Strawberry Corner (plants) £148.95 Forest craft (playground storage) £1110.00 B&Q soil & compost £55.23 World book day - Thomas Nicoll (author) £350 P3 camp £745.40 School cooking equipment £551.08 18/4/24 Tesco £59.50 13/5/24 Mitchell's Turf £110.95 20/8/24 East Lothian (Halloween party hall hire) £44.00 Total out = £3,580.51	
Parking On Double Yellow Lines/ Second Lollipop Person/Visibility Around Junction at School Office	● Sarah has been in touch with Nicola Marr who has advised she will come out to school to assess if there is enough of a count to allow for a second lollipop person. ● Junior Road Safety Officers could make posters, leaflets or write letters to parents to urge them to park safely at school. The Parent Council could help distribute this on social media.	● School to reach out by text to remind families to avoid parking on double yellow lines.

	● School will send out a text to families and continue to feature it in Head Teacher updates.	
Uniform Supplier	● Feedback from supplier is that quality of the uniform is not great. ● Hollie and Liz to look at creating a questionnaire for families to look at alternative providers or contact the current supplier with feedback from the parent body.	● Hollie and Liz create a questionnaire for families regarding unform provider.
Composite Classes – How Are They Decided	● Sarah advised that previously composites were determined by age by now the guidance is to get it right for every child. This could be down to attainment, age, balance of gender, friendship. ● Class teachers see the children as a class and not a stage so they will deliver teaching in that way. ● Classes decided by class or nursery teachers and HT to a degree. ● They will look at conflict issues when setting classes. ● Year groups will still come together for play and when appropriate for topics. ● There is no disadvantage for learning and teaching to those in composite classes.	
Phones In Playground Before School	● Phones are put into baskets in class each day for the whole day. ● The school cannot monitor use before school in the playground but can communicate with the children that they	● School will discuss not taking videos or posting online in the playground before school.

	should not be making videos or posting in the playground.	
After School Club	• Due to ongoing issues with the community centre parents are seeking a meeting with Sarah and the care inspectorate to discuss solutions to help make the school a suitable location for the after school club. • Sarah is happy to meet with parents and has confirmed the care inspectorate are who decides if the school is suitable, but she is willing to work them. • There are issues with using the school which Thrive would need to look at with the care inspectorate.	
School Nursery Opening Hours – Term Time vs Full Year	• When the 1140 hours were introduced for children, the nursery had consultations about what the preferred model would be for Ormiston. The council decided a full year, 2 days per week with alternate Friday, would be best due to community demand. • At present the nursery has 60 children (split equally into 2 groups) which is the capacity, and the nursery has a waiting list. If the nursery were to run as a term time model, they would lose 30 of these places. • There is an option to split your child's time and have 2 days per week at Ormiston	

	and use the hours from an alternating Friday at a private nursery.	
Report Cards	● Ormiston Primary uses learning stories and end of year summery reports to show children's development and work over the year. Report cards would be an alternative to this but would be very similar to the update given at parent consultations. Report cards would impact the information provided in the learning stories. ● A working time agreement for teachers has already been arranged for this coming year but Sarah is happy to consult the parent body with examples of the report cards and ask families what they would prefer to receive for future years. ● Learning stories will next be sent home at Christmas and school will explore options to send home information about how to use the learning story and summery report. School is looking to improve the way learning stories are organised.	● Look into consulting parents next Springtime.
Fundraising For the Year	● Yearly plan for fundraising: Sept – Colour Run Oct – Teacher Appreciation Day and Halloween Parties Nov – Film Night and Tea Towel Sales Dec – Barrow of Booze, Bake Sale and School Xmas Fair	● Sophie to reach out to teachers about the planting beds across from school. ● Sophie to check with children what the playground priority is. ● Hollie to look into film nights with Sarah.

	Jan – Film Night and Wonka Chocolate Bars Feb – Valentines Bake Sale March – Playground/Garden Day and World Book Day April – Easter Trail May –Spring Fair June – Family Tea Bingo ● The nursery staff would like to get involved this coming year with Parent Council fundraising. ● A spring school fair is not possible at the weekend in school due to weekend lettings no longer being offered by the council. Option to think about holding this in the park when the library is open for toilet facilities. ● Sarah is happy to hold film nights in the school. Dates to be confirmed and Hollie discuss with Sarah. ● Thoughts on holding a Talent Show – Ormi's Got Talent with ticket sales to raise money for the Parent Council. ● The school will provide wish list with prices to make it easier for Parent Council to work out what is affordable. ● Looking to check with children what their priority is for the playground (seating, playground painting, murals or basketball hoop.) ● Also looking to check with class teachers about whether they would like to use the planting beds across from the school.	

	Sarah advised teacher will need to know time scale and upkeep before deciding on whether they will use the space with classes.	
AGM	● AGM will be the next meeting and will be held in school.	
Child Protection Form	● Hollie will be sending out child protection form which we need to have back for helping at events.	● Hollie to send out child protection forms.