

Lanark Primary School Parent Council Parent Council Meeting Minutes



Monday 6th November 2023 6:15pm
Lanark Primary School

Item	Discussion	Actions
Attendees	<p>LPS: Farah Crook (FC), Marguerite Elkin (ME), Jane Gracie (JG)</p> <p>PC: Helen Logan (HL), Kimberley Philip (KP), Alison Campbell (AC), Kirstin Leitch (KL), Iain Hughes (IH), Kerry Freel (KF), Nikki Strachan (NK),</p> <p>Apologies: Lorraine Newbigging, Jan Towers, Melissa Ross, Gillian Thomson, Moira McMahon, Olivia Masters</p>	
Welcome	<p>HL welcomed everyone to meeting.</p> <p>Minutes from the meeting on 2nd Oct were approved, proposed by HL, seconded by KL.</p>	
Head teacher's report	<p>Planned industrial action for 8th Nov is now cancelled.</p> <p>Staffing</p> <p>Current staffing is relatively stable. There is one long term absence in the support staff for which there is no cover. There is also another recurring absence in the ELC.</p> <p>A full time member of staff in the ELC is returning from maternity leave and reducing their hours. A part time post to cover the other hours has been approved and is being interviewed for on Thursday.</p> <p>Parental Consultations</p> <p>Parental consultations went very well with a high level of participation. At present there are only 5 families that are still to be seen.</p> <p>P7 Residential</p> <p>The P7s have just returned from a successful residential trip at Lockerbie Manor. The children all had a great time. FC thanked the teachers who accompanied them on the trip. FC enjoyed the day</p>	

	<p>that she managed to spend with them. The instructors at Lockerbie Manor were complimentary on the attitudes and behaviour of the children. Well done.</p> <p>Consultation for Budget</p> <p>SLC are currently conducting a consultation on setting the budget for 2024-25. SLC have asked residents to participate in the consultation to have their say on how budgets are allocated. The link to the consultation has been sent out via the school app and can be accessed at www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/budge-consultation</p> <p>Education currently accounts for a large proportion of SLC costs including ASN and transport. There is currently a £77 million deficit in SLC's budget. SLC will need to look carefully at all spending. This may mean that addition staff used to support learners may be reviewed/challenged. How staff absence and vacancies are managed may also be reviewed.</p> <p>LPS are looking at how they can make use of any free resources, e.g. proposed P6 farming event.</p> <p>Participatory Budget Consultations</p> <p>The consultation on how to spend the participatory budget has now closed. Many thanks to all the children and parents/carers who participated. Winners of the vote were free/low cost school trips and after school clubs. FC said that LPS have been very fortunate with a number of people keen to come into the school to provide out of school clubs, e.g., girls football coach.</p> <p>JG raised that during the PB consultation a number of parents indicated that they would be willing to contribute to the cost of school trips. JG asked the PC members if they would favour having the option for parents to contribute to the cost of the school trip. This would be on a voluntary basis. Several members of the PC felt that asking for payment,</p>	
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	<p>even on a voluntary basis, could put pressure on families who could not afford it. Others raised that if parents wished to contribute, and do so in a confidential way, that this may allow the schools pressurised finances to be used to support learners in another way and would therefore be happy to be able to contribute. FC said that her preference would be that all trips were free for all. HL said that the PC are keen to support trips if possible and that parents could be encouraged to contribute to the PC fundraising activities as a means of supporting such events. LPS will look at how to reduce costs for all trips, e.g. free events/activities, using public transport.</p> <p>Fire Safety The fire brigade will no longer automatically respond to a fire alarm being activated. A fire team has been set up in LPS who, on activation of the fire alarm, will contact the fire brigade only if evidence of a fire is found. The LPS fire team have carried out the appropriate training.</p>	
Treasurer's report	<p>Income: £650 from lucky numbers (65 numbers bought)</p> <p>Current Balance: £6449.47</p> <p>The Scottish Opera is still to be paid (£1080). LPS have still not received an invoice for this.</p> <p>Commitments for the rest of the year: Lottery license - £40 Lucky Numbers - £400 School App – approx. £500</p> <p>Given the current healthy balance HL proposed that the PC paid the remaining £3 per head for the panto. This was seconded by all the other PC members present. With 240 pupils this comes to £720. Everyone was also in agreement to give £100 to purchase an online panto/Christmas show for the ELC. FC thanked Morrisons who have provided the snacks for the panto.</p>	

	<p>The PC discussed how else they could support the learners. It was discussed whether a contribution, either per head or per classroom, could be made towards the costs of trips or equipment. FC will consider and we will rediscuss at the next meeting.</p>	
Fundraising	<p>Christmas gift sale Confirmed date Friday 1st Dec. Set up PM Thursday 30th Nov. Sunday 19th November for gift sale preparation, at HL's house. Review stock under stage – lunchtime Friday 10th Nov. Gifts still to be purchased – Mugs, Candles, Coin keyrings, Chocolate (chocolate oranges, matchmakers etc), Pet items, Men's socks.</p> <p>We will check wrapping paper, bubble wrap when looking under stock.</p> <p>"Christmas gift sale helpers" whatsapp group set up, please contact us if you wish to join.</p> <p>KP will produce flyer for gift sale. KP to check with lanimer committee what software they used for the Halloween disco flyer. FC suggested it may be Canva.</p>	
AOCB	<p>NS raised that the diary and home page of the school app is not updating. FC will investigate this.</p> <p>HL asked if LPS were aware of the offer of BBC microbit devices for every school. FC said that they were aware and already had them. They are currently being used by P5-7.</p>	
Next meeting date	15 th January at 7pm online.	