

PC logo3

Bathgate Early Years Centre

**Parent Council Meeting**

**Thursday 17th March 6.30 – 7.30pm**

**Minutes**

**Attendees: M Johns, K Leamy, B Weir, C Swan, M Courtney, M McCallum, Janice Earl Summers, L Marshall, F Cameron, H Cartmill.**

1. **Welcome and apologies C Swan**
   1. Apologies received from:
      1. Claire Dignall, Ali Currie, Kirsteen Sullivan, Ros Milligan, Leigh Maybury, Vikki Samuel.
2. **Previous minutes approved** 
   1. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
3. **Head Teacher Report**  **M Johns**
   1. **P7 residential** – Mrs Johns updated that the residential was going well. There were strict guidelines that the children had to follow as result of covid, but all were having fun.
   2. **Covid Update -** government guidelines likely to be relaxed post Easter
   3. **Feedback on teachers -** Mrs Johns referenced the recent Facebook post on the BP Facebook page and requested parents to please contact the school rather than post on social media if they have an issue with any of the teachers.
   4. **School funds account** - Mrs Johns requested a volunteer for the administration or of the school funds account. The account is used to fund requests on a need’s basis and for financial support for excursions etc. There is committee that meets every 4-6 weeks and includes Miss Rae, M Johns and Parent representative, which doesn't necessarily have to be from parent council.

**Action: C Swan agreed that she would be she would put an appeal out to the rest of the parent council**

* 1. **P7 transition** - transition day is provisionally booked for the 29th of April to be confirmed it will include a face-to-face visit / in person transition (for up to three days)
  2. **Jubilee Holiday** 
     1. confirmed as a Friday 3rd / Monday 6th of June
     2. **Bennie Museum exhibition** - Mrs Johns mentioned that there is an exhibition related to the jubilee about The Royal family and their involvement in the Bathgate community, including Prince Charles and Lady Diana's visit. Its lottery funded and open to all schools and children of school age.
     3. **Ancre Somme** - Harry Cartmill also raised that there will be an event celebrating the 50th jubilee end precinct,
  3. **Parking around the school** - Mrs. Johns referenced that she had several complaints about parking around the school, Athol Terrace in particular. She has contacted both parent and the local community police officer to be more considerate of pedestrians and residents,

**Action: we will table parking at a later meeting**

* 1. **War in Ukraine** - Janice Earl Sumners raised a query or the impact of the war in Ukraine on children in the school. Particularly what support there was and what discussions were happening in class. Mrs Johns acknowledged that it is scary for kids and that is support I available in class. Class to class varies but there are ongoing discussions about the situation. the school will support where possible but can't manage what children are exposed to on social media outside the school

**Action: School to issue resource to parents on how to support children with this area.**

1. **Playground progress update**  **M Johns**
   1. **MUGA** – revisited those who had already tendered, and 2nd round resulted in a quote for £26,000, which can be funded entirely by the school. Work was originally scheduled for the Easter holidays but was deferred to the 20th of May.
   2. Back **playground** - it was agreed Parent Council would fund the Garden project and some equipment for the back playground with the funds saved on MUGA. Equipment includes but is not restricted to Mud Kitchen, Wig Wam, tarps some spare construction materials for building.

**Action: Members of PC to ask local businesses for contributions of play materials.**

**M Johns left the meeting at 7:17 PM**

1. **Fund Raising**  **K Leamy / C Swan**
   1. **Family Bingo night - C** Swan suggested a family bingo night in the legion and has requested support in gathering prizes

**Action: C Swan to check Legion availability on Thursday evening**

* 1. **Christmas Cards -** it was agreed to look at school Christmas cards with personalised artwork buy the children as a fundraiser. Timing beginning of October
  2. **Zoom membership –** C Swan noted that the zoom membership had been renewed

**Action: M Courtney to reimburse as soon as account was set up**

1. **PEG**  **M Courtney**
   1. **Online quiz night** - M Courtney suggested that PEG event be postponed to next year if go ahead with the Bingo
   2. **Uniform recycle**

**Action: Group Call to drop in gym on Friday pre / post easter**

* 1. **P1 transition** 
     1. **Information leaflet** to be produced promoting parent council, members, and the work we do
     2. **Goodie Bags** for P1 p**arents**

**Action: K Leamy to confirm date required**

* 1. **Zoom sessions** 
     1. **Internet safety** – to be rescheduled

**Action: M Courtney to confirm D Whigam availability**

* + 1. **Positive Behaviour management** – to be rescheduled next session
    2. **Health & Wellbeing initiative -** F Cameron also raised that an initiative was being launches with content for people to dial in to.

**Action: F Cameron to provide details to be included in a group call**

* 1. **In person sessions –** once covid restrictions lifted
     1. **Wellbeing –** nails, massage, well being tips
     2. **Mums and Prams**
     3. **Coffee morning with creche**
     4. **Walking session**

**Action: to be scheduled post summer break to include new P1 parents**

* 1. **Future events** 
     1. **Late summer fayre –** high church or school
     2. **Fundraising stall at party in the park –** cake / tombola / busy bears

1. **Float update J Earl-Summers**
   1. **Retirals –** J Earl Sumners stated that Douglas Croft retired from float due to ill health and she was also retiring
   2. **Volunteers required** - the majority of volunteers are parent with kids in the upper school who are leaving soon, and some had kids who had already left. There is request from parents to get involved otherwise the float becomes unsustainable and will likely fold. J Earl Sumners also confirmed that Windyknowe and Simpsons were not entering floats this year due to lack of volunteers.

**Action: C Swan to ask for volunteers from school community**

* 1. **Trade men support required** - J Earl Sumners highlighted that a joiner had to be paid to carry out work due to lack of skilled volunteers, with an impact on funds.
  2. **Reimbursement** - there are expense for float which need to be reimbursed form parent council bank account float funds

**Action: J Earl Sumners to advise M Courtney of reimbursement**

1. **AOB**
   1. Marion McCallum raised a query about PE and how often children had PE with Mr Jeffries. Kate Leamy responded that not every class had PE with MR Jefferies and that it was on a rotation basis each term.
   2. It was raised that some children hadn’t had Mr Jeffries for a couple of years.

**Action: K Leamy to identify how often the rotation took place and which classes had had Mr Jefferies over the course of last 2 years**

**The meeting was close at 8.05pm.**