

Gorebridge Primary Parent Council Annual General Meeting: Wednesday 30th January 2019

Gorebridge Primary School Community Room: 7pm

Present: Carey Fairgrieve, Janis Harvey, Victoria Edmond, Janine Ketrick, Carrie Campbell, Lynne Roy, Debbie Denver

Steven Wood

Apologies:

1. **Welcome and Teas and Coffees**
2. **Review of previous PC minutes and PTA minutes**

Minutes of previous PC meeting (30th October) were circulated prior to meeting and agreed as accurate record.

Minutes briefly reviewed; majority of actions complete:

Invoice for aprons has been received.

Parent Council allowance of £275 has been received

Some digital learning exercises with staff taken place. **Action: carried forward SW to further explore digital learning opportunities.**

Outdoor learning equipment previously purchased by PTA has been located and includes a hammock.

Minutes of PTA meeting held on Monday 14th January were reviewed and discussed.

It was agreed that Free Fun Friday Magician had been a success. School staffing for future events will need to be reviewed as at one point there were not school staff remembers in the hall and children were a bit rowdy.

Valentines disco to be held on 6th Feb. There will be no PTA meeting on this date as preparations are well underway. Janis has purchased a sprocket to allow photos to be printed at the disco.

Educational visit to school from Immersive Experience has been booked and funded by PTA and arranged for first Monday back after February half term. Staff have been given a choice of experiences for each class to attend. Each class will have opportunity to visit dome.

Outbuilding at rear of school (adjacent to Leisure Centre car park) is under school ownership but Skanska not interested in its maintenance. Agreed that in first instance it would be good to whitewash over graffiti. Action C/F to seek permission to whitewash.

Following whitewashing we will try and set up a project for a mural.

SB is going to prepare an update note for the foyer as old PTA/PC note is out of date and has photos of previous members

3. Cost of the School Day Update -

Carey circulated a spreadsheet (attached to minutes) summarising current status of cost of the school day project.

A leaflet updating on projects undertaken to date has been prepared and will be distributed to all pupils on Wednesday. Action VE to copy edit.

The after school club have a cooker which is currently not fit for purpose. CF exploring possibility of purchasing a new cooker for the room which school could use when out of school club and nursery not using room i.e would be available for school use between 2pm and 3pm allowing for food prepped earlier to be cooked before the end of the day. BW to put in a change request in to amend work top.

In the meantime, family cooking lessons with Mhairi are progressing and will be completed mid-March. Mhairi also looking to do some work with kids on fruits and veg of the world

Projects with the nursery will be undertaken in coming weeks and funded by Cost of the School Day project.

Current underspend to be spent either on cooker or spare uniform.

Action: SW to check if attendance increased on Free Fun Friday days to measure success of project.

3. Treasurers Update

- Recent income- matched giving from BOS foundation for volunteering (£500). Halloween disco raised £334.15 and Santa's grotto/Christmas fair ran at a loss of £7.70 (aim was break-even).
- Cost of the school day fund of £8943 awarded in May 2018.
- Recent expenditure- invoice from school November 2018 for texts, photocopying, BBQ expenses, Christmas trees and aprons.
- Cost of the school day spending is £4,325 to date including discos, cooking sessions, magic show (planned for January 2019) and 2018 panto trips. £208 to come out for the cost of quote for cooker.

Head Teachers Update:

HMIE Update.

SW has little he can reveal until official report issued in March/April

However, it was a positive inspection as indicated by the fact that HMIE inspectors do not plan to make a return visit. This suggests they believe GPS is strong enough to move forward in making improvements

GPS undertook self-evaluation of strengths and weaknesses before inspection and this matched well with outcome and means we will have a clear idea of how to improve.

Staffing

Kelly hunter has joined as class teacher in P5.

Kirst Stadnik has left.

Emily Paton has increased hours to allow her to undertake P7teaching role alongside support for learning.

Miss Landells, Mrs Hobson and Mrs Paton will continue as Principle Teachers until Summer at which point it will be reviewed

Nursery expansion is going well. 24 children are attending full time as part of a pilot study.

Teaching and Learning Policy

A summary of this policy was provided in recent newsletter.

Policy focuses on self-evaluation of both teachers and learners. Looking into what GPS are looking for in a teacher and in a learner. Looking into training pupils to give teachers feedback.

Improvement Plan (SQIP)

The plan focuses on four main priorities:

- 1) Health and Well Being: Focus on behaviours management and consistency in celebrating achievements.

Ensuring a consistent anti-bullying policy

Tweaking consistency in behaviours and positive relationships – looking at effectiveness of Golden Time. Encouraging positive relationships

Smart walking through the school

Ensuring high expectations rather than enforcing rules.

- 2) Raising attainment through literacy and numeracy: This year will have a numeracy focus (Literacy was focus last year) although both are still key elements, Numeracy will focus on basic maths facts and numeracy and maths planning.

- 3) Digital learning: focus on digital learning following teaching audit. Also ensuring children are prepared for transition to Newbattle High School which is centre for digital excellence. Continuing to work with Newbattle and have had virtual reality sessions. Shared learning space with a moveable board. Newbattle and Edinburgh Uni students have been interacting with P5.
- 4) Project equity: closing the attainment gap. Continuing to work with Home School Practitioner and Speech and Language.

AOB

A query was raised about pupil numbers and class number/sized for next year. This will be reviewed shortly.

Next meeting date tbc.