CLERKHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL – PARENT COUNCIL MEETING AGM

24 Sept 2020 – Virtual Meeting on Teams

**Attendees:**

Ann-Louise Murray, Louise Brown, Stuart Flowerdew, Gillian Hutton, Vicky

Georga Menzies, Emma Bruce, Laura Birnie, Natalie Flowerdew, Nicola Cameron

**Apologies:** Annette Buchan, Susan Gladstone, Mariane West, Isla Smillie

Stuart Flowerdew opened the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of 7 September 2020 will be approved at the next meeting.

**Appointments/Nominations**

Post of Chair - Stuart Flowerdew was proposed by Nicola Cameron and seconded by Laura Birnie.

Post of Vice Chair – Laura Birnie was proposed by Laura Birnie and seconded by Natalie Flowerdew.

Post of Treasurer – Natalie Flowerdew was proposed by Stuart Flowerdew and seconded by Gillian Hutton.

Post of Secretary – Georga Menzies has stood down from the post. There were no nominations.

It was put forward by the Chair that there would be a targeted request for other parents to attend on the next Agenda.

**Treasurer’s Report**

There is only £0.66 in the bank account, however a payment from Aberdeenshire Council is due shortly to the amount of £445.

**Head Teacher’s Report**

Covid Update – The school has changed from a couple of weeks ago and the priority now is to keep schools open for the benefit of all. The UK and Scottish Governments have re-stated that children do not need to keep socially distant. There will be no changes after the October holidays, there will still be staggered start times and lunches etc. There will be no easing, and safe measures will still be in place. There is enhanced cleaning in school with lunchtime cleaning and help from PSAs.

Head Teachers have a weekly call with the Director of Education, and it has been decided that there will be no face to face contact with parents until March.

Teachers can now phone out from their laptops as there is only one phone in the school.

We will have a staff meeting in the next 2 weeks to discuss and propose how to move forward with parent’s evenings, open afternoons etc.

It is highly unlikely that we will manage to celebrate Christmas events this year, however we will try and do something outdoors, perhaps a marquee with Christmas lights, but this too will be discussed with staff. We have booked Alexander Dixon to try and produce something, but because singing is not allowed, we may try to use Sign Language instead.

We have been awarded £65k from Pupil Equity Fund of which £45k was spent on new laptops. The P4-7s have a laptop bus each with 15 laptops. 59 devices have been received from the local Authority for specific, vulnerable children.

\*\*\*\*This next part was completely broken, but my notes say support interventions…… Spelling city, maths\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The Improvement Plans, which determine the priority for future learning will focus on math, numeracy and writing which are the areas of lowest attainment.

Health and Wellbeing will be focusing on recovering, resilience and perseverance.

Technology Improvement Plans have developed the use of Teams for P4-7 pupils. We may not be able to use ‘Seesaw’ in the future because of GDPR and European Rights ???????????\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Parental engagement will be done virtually ????\*\*\*\*\*\*

We have appointed our new P7 leaders last week who are all delighted with new roles including Head Boy and Girl, Head Prefects, Prefects, House Captains, Vice Prefects/Captains as well as Eco Group, Rights Respecting, Pupil Council and Digital Technology Leaders.

We have introduced ‘Hot Chocolate Friday’ to motivate children who may be struggling or who consistently work hard – the reward being a hot chocolate with the HT every Friday. After the October holidays we shall introduce a new ‘value’.

The Clerkhill Lego Legends Group have received the ‘Pride of Buchan’ Award, nominated by Councillor Fakley and have featured in the Buchan Observer and Press & Journal.

There have been problems with older children recently in the school grounds after school hours. They were seen on the roof of the building and managed to vandalise our internet and phone cables. Police were contacted. Also, older children have been smoking cannabis in the grounds around 4pm – again, Police were involved.

Questions were invited.

Q, Will the P7 trip to Edinburgh go ahead?

The P7 pupils/staff normally stay in a hostel – this has been risk assessed and so it is very unlikely that this trip will go ahead. We will do something with the P7s, perhaps a day trip or 1 overnight stay.

The Dalguise (P6) trip has been moved to May next year, but if this cannot continue, it could when they are in P7.

SF – was at a meeting of Chairs recently and the outlook does not look particularly positive.

Q. If someone is called by track and trace, does the whole household have to isolate? \*\*\*\*this question and answer in particular was completely broken\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

We have a meeting with an NHS nurse, 3 times a week to ask questions and get advice.

**Fundraising Committee**

The Fundraising Committee has just over £1,500 in the bank. Obviously, there has been no fundraising for the last 6 months, however a donation of £20k has been made to the school for new laptops.

We have organised : Bonus Balls, Christmas bags (over 100 have been ordered), and Afternoon Teas (at home), but we are mindful of people’s current situation.

Mrs Murray offered many thanks for the efforts of the fundraisers as without the funds there would be no new technology. Stuart Flowerdew also thanked the Fundraising Committee.

**Any Other Business**

When the advert for Parent Council Secretary is put forward, Natalie confirmed she will send out the Agenda and set up the Teams meeting if required.

Mrs Murray would like the Parent Council to send a survey to parents to raise the profile of the group.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 12 November 2020 at 5pm on Teams.