

CULTS PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Monday 14th November 7-9pm

Staff Room, Cults Primary School

Attendees:

Iain Mearns, Chair (IM); Katrina Stewart, Vice Chair (KS); Katharine Haque, (KH) Minutes; Caroline Johnstone, Head Teacher (CJ); Morven McKay, Depute Head (MMc); Rachel Soplantila (RS); Sonya Angus (SA), Sean Close (SD); Catherine Smith (CS); Denise McDougall (DM); Pamela Dalglish (PD); Laura Haxton (LH); Miguel Orta (MO); Mylin Muracciole (MM); Alison Murray (AM); Gary Nicholson (GN); Nancy Anderson (NA); Mark Raistrick (MR); Marie Gilbert (MG); Vannin Bloch (VB).

Apologies:

Phillippa Smith; Tiana Walker; Hannah Mearns; Leona Jeffrey; John Raine; Susan McGinty; Julie Anderson; Shona Hamilton.

Agenda items	Updates and discussions	Action
1.	<u>Welcome and Apologies</u>	IM
2.	<p><u>School Vandalism: Local Police</u></p> <p>A problem has arisen with youths congregating in the school playground at night and at the weekend leaving broken glass and debris. This has been ongoing since early Summer 2016. Despite the secure grounds this continues to happen.</p> <p>Crime reports are being made to the Police after each incident and the school is working with the local Police force to increase Patrols in the area.</p> <p>It is hoped that these measures, together with increased awareness in the community and the onset of winter/darker nights, will act as a deterrent.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the Police were unable to attend the meeting, so it was agreed that the situation would be monitored and an invitation would again be extended to attend the next PC meeting.</p>	CJ/All
3.	<u>Previous Minutes & AGM Review agreed</u>	DM
4.	<u>Head Teacher report: See Attached</u>	CJ/MMc
5.	<p><u>Changes to reporting pupil progress</u></p> <p>CJ and MMc presented an overview of the changes to how pupil attainment is reported which is required by the Scottish Government from 2017. See attached presentation.</p> <p>The main change is that teachers will now have to report on the level <u>achieved</u> by a pupil, not the level currently being worked in. This will mean that the first report may show a lower level than the previous year and could result in pupils being reported within the same level from year to year.</p> <p>A reference handout will accompany reports to assist parents in understanding the new format and definitions.</p> <p>The comments from the teacher will provide more information on a pupil's current level and CJ will provide additional guidance to the teachers on how they can best report progress in a meaningful way for parents. The importance of parent/teacher dialogue throughout the year was highlighted.</p> <p>It was noted that further guidance is expected in January 2017.</p>	CJ/MMc

6.	<p><u>Ground Team Update: Rachel Soplantila</u></p> <p>Plans for the grounds have now been finalised by Russell Todd and the team are awaiting final costings. RS provided an overview of the design. A phased approach (drainage, division of space and access) will be used to implement the design based on available funding.</p> <p>Consultation on these plans took place at the Parent/Teacher meetings and results are being collated. A Group call will be sent to parents asking for feedback shortly.</p> <p>The money allocated by Tesco Bags of Help scheme must be spent by March 2017 and therefore the drainage will commence once contractors have been identified. It was agreed that sectioning off the field for this in the winter months would have little impact on the children as the field is not fit for use for much of the time.</p> <p>Costs would be kept as low as possible by utilising the Council, Community Days and parental input. Further funding will be sought by the Grounds Team.</p>	RS
7.	<p><u>Travel Safe Team Update: Rachel Soplantila</u></p> <p>The safety of the perimeter road has improved and the majority of parents are following the Golden Rules, however, parking on double yellows, in the bus bay or on the grass verges remains a problem.</p> <p>RS highlighted the outstanding issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop curbs en route to school are due to be installed to increase access for cyclists, pushchairs and those with mobility issues • Double yellow lines to be marked on the forest side of the perimeter road to restrict parking to one side only • A drop off bay to be marked on the road outside the red unit • Double yellow lines to be removed from outside the nursery where the gate used to be <p>The council has not yet acted on these items and this will be followed up.</p> <p>It was agreed to reinstate the signs outside the Bus bay.</p>	IM/RS
8.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Scottish Government are running a consultation on the governance of education in Scotland. The title of the document is “Empowering teachers, parents and communities to achieve Excellence and Equity in Education - A Governance Review”. CJ encouraged a response to this from the PC. A working group will be formed to formulate a response and draw up a pro forma for other contributions. 2. Request for information on the allocation of roles in Christmas production: MMc shared the audition process for this year’s production “Lights, Camel, Action!”. This is outlined on her blog. 3. TechFest: A question was raised about why the school didn’t participate in Tech Fest. Some sessions were delivered by TechFest participants in our school, however there is always great demand for places, which are allocated on a first come, first served basis and for many of the sessions spaces were limited and would not accommodate entire classes. Transport costs too can be prohibitive for what is often a relatively short session. It is not something which is ruled out however, and some classes may well participate in the future. 4. Introduce an element of self funding for P7 Dalguise trip: VB asked if there were any opportunities for P7s to fundraise or allocate some of the funds from the Grow a Fiver project to part fund the trip. CJ to investigate this for next year. 5. House System Update: Remains a work in progress, pupils and staff have identified genres of names to vote on. 	IM/CJ

	<p>6. Lights on perimeter road –lights are not working on the perimeter road have been reported and CJ will follow up to request fixing ASAP.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p><u>Dates of the next PC meetings:</u></p> <p><u>Monday 23rd January 2017 at 7pm</u></p> <p><u>Monday 27th March 2017 at 7pm</u></p> <p><u>Monday 29th May 2017 at 7pm</u></p> <p>Any parent of a child at Cults Primary/ Nursery is very welcome to attend any Parent Council meeting.</p> <p>(The Parent Council can be emailed at PCCultsPrimary@aberdeencity.gov.uk)</p>	

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