

# CULTS PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL AGM

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, 7-9pm

Red Unit, Cults Primary School

**Attendees:**

Nancy Anderson, Rachel Gill, Katrina Stewart, Gillian Stewart, Nicola Butler, Mark Raistrick , Jan McIntosh, Yee Chin Tang, Sarah Esson, Svetlana Cuthbertson, Alessandra D'Alessandria de Bone, Oluyomi Osobaye

**Cults Primary Staff Members:** Jordan Thomson, Morven McKay, Joanne Johnstone, Steph Sharp, Gayle Allan

**Apologies:** Tiana Walker

Agenda item	Updates and discussions	Action	Responsible Person(s)
1.	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b> Katrina (Chair) welcomed attendees to the meeting.		
2.	<b>Previous minutes were approved</b>	Circulate minutes	RG/School Office
3.	<b>AGM Financial Report</b> Rachel provided an overview of the Financial Account on behalf of Tiana Walker. The Parent Council ended the year with £1203.81 in the account having spent money on two talks for parents that were well attended.		
4.	<b>Board Members</b> Katrina Stewart and Rachel Gill will stay on for a further year as chair and vice chair respectively. Tianna Walker will continue as Treasurer. Mark Raistrick stepped down as Secretary at the AGM. Julie Anderson will take on this role.	Parent Council approved board members	

<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>AGM General Report</b>  Katrina confirmed the purpose of a Parent Council and summarised the achievements over the past year, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identifying knowledge gaps with parents around emotional wellbeing</li> <li>- Parents requiring more information on the curriculum similar to the Primary 1 evenings but with a focus on further up the school</li> <li>- Developing the Health and Wellbeing Event arranged for 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019</li> <li>- Working closely with Gail to develop links between school and learning at home</li> <li>- Currently working the with the Educational Social Worker linked to Cults Primary to develop a workshop for parents around Emotion Coaching which is something the staff are already trained in</li> <li>- Setting up the Walking Bus to ensure children can walk to school safely. 45 children are using the Walking Bus on two routes. The Bieldside route is still looking for volunteers in order for it to be set up but this is in progress</li> <li>- Involved in recruiting Depute Head post</li> <li>- Input in the Annual School Report</li> <li>- Progressing a path at the Purple Unit - current plan is that this will happen in October</li> <li>- These outcomes have been possible in part due to the really good relationship with the management team.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Health and Wellbeing Event</b>  Rachel updated the group on the Health &amp; Wellbeing Event taking place on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September at Hillview Community Church. This event has been organised in response to feedback from parents asking for information on the curriculum and how they can best support their children. A small working group (of committee members) worked with Miss McKay to populate the content of the seminar(s) and help organise the event. Rachel gave an update on attendance numbers to date and the group discussed promoting the event further.</p>	<p>Reminder message to be circulated on Facebook and via Class Reps</p>	<p>RG</p>

**7. Head Teacher Report**

Staffing: There are a couple of absences but on paper the school is fully staffed. There is a Support for Learning post of 2 days which is challenging to recruit to

Curriculum: We are in the second year of the curriculum which is new to the pupils and the staff. This current 'World' has come at an opportune time as it focuses on 'Our Democratic World'. The discussions that the children will be hearing around the dinner table will bring learning to life with current affairs.

Next session we will be focusing on 'Our Scientific World' as part of that all of the classes in the school will go to Aberdeen Science Centre (ASC) which will allow all of the pupils to take part in the experience. Jordan has been in discussion with ASC and they have agreed that each child will get a free ticket and the PTA will pay for the buses. Part of the curriculum will be delivered through the ASC workshops.

Google Classrooms: There have been some queries from parents regarding Google Classrooms but it was anticipated that there would be some teething difficulties. Overall, it has been hugely positive with all pupils and staff on board. The children are to be the experts that come home and share their learning with parents/carers.

There will be a workshop delivered at some point in the future for parents.

World of Work: Steph updated that she has been focusing on how this area links in with the curriculum. The school will be looking for involvement from parents/carers to talk to pupils about careers on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The exact format of this will be dependent on the level of involvement from parents - i.e. possible Careers Day, presentations, etc. Steph is also engaging with RGU and the college for input. The aim is to show the children the link between a maths task and it's application to life/work.

Building Work: The scaffolding is now down and the external work is complete. The work included the Red Unit roof and some external doors. The roof overran by roughly 5 weeks - it had to be striped back and rebuilt so the staff in the Red Unit have had to be very patient.

Internally there is some minor snagging to be completed but the main work to the AV rooms has finished. This allows teachers to extend and enhance learning in a quiet space. The staff toilets have been replaced, new accessible toilets in all blocks and an accessible toilet with wet room by the main Green Unit door.

Almost all the snagging is complete and all of it should be finished off during the upcoming September long weekend.

Early Years Expansion: Cults School is in the second phase of building works however because we are a large school the work is likely to begin around the same time as the first phase of works. The expansion is to allow the nursery to provide the required 1140 hours to pre-school and ante-pre-school children from August 2020.

Robertson's have the construction contract for our building works. The plans will be up on the nursery wall tomorrow (18.09.19) for comment on the building works with the architect advising that suggested changes can be emailed for further consideration.

It will involve the Tartan Unit coming down and the new building running alongside the end of the gym hall. The current nursery building will remain.

Care Inspectorate: The nursery have had a two day unannounced inspection on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019. It is likely that there will be continuity of inspectors when they return in 3 years which can be helpful for comparison.

Parent Interviews: A new approach will be taken to booking slots for parent interviews in November 2019. It will be sent out via Groupcall and although it does incur a cost to the school this is outweighed by the benefits in terms of the amount of staff time previously required for scheduling these appointments.

The process will be linked to the school computer system SEEMiS so it will know the children linked to each parent and will provide suggested times for appointments. Where these appointments are not suitable the parent can vary them and check the other available slots. The new system will then send a reminder by text of the chosen times for parent interviews.

### **Tour of Completed Internal Building Works**

#### **Learning at Home**

This work has been progressed to make links between school and home. The school website can be hard to search and is difficult to update. Gail has completed a 'mock up' of a website that would provide suggested resources that link with work in class and that are recommended by staff.

There are some unknowns about the website as it has not gone live yet.

The Parent Council would update the website, where necessary, following their termly meetings. The resources would be reviewed to ensure that only necessary content is retained and to ensure the website does not become unwieldy.

The Primary 1 children do not have their usernames and passwords back from the Council but will be up and running once this information is received.

The link to this website is to be shared via Google Classrooms to limit unauthorised access to the site. Gail noted that the Google Classrooms roll out had not been foreseen at the point at which this website was being developed. Google Classrooms will provide more specific information for each class and this site will give general, useful resources grouped into Early, First and Second Level.

Other useful resources to be added were around: Health and Wellbeing (specifically resilience), internet safety and information around the style and content of school reports.

**Future Parent Council Meeting Dates 2019/20**

12<sup>th</sup> November 2019

21<sup>st</sup> January 2020

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

26<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Dates of the next PC meeting:**

**12<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Any parent of a child at Cults Primary/ Nursery is very welcome to attend any Parent Council meeting.

The Parent Council can be contacted on:  
[PCCultsPrimary@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk](mailto:PCCultsPrimary@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk)

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