

Meeting of Papdale Parent Council Monday 4 February 2019 at 5.15pm

In Attendance: Wendy Bowen, Kevin Balfour, Tanya Blowfield (Chair), Craig Spence, Lorna Robertson, Shayron Mooney, Dawn Stanger, Katie Croy, Karen Allan, Nicola Reid (minutes).

1. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Tracy Linklater, Audrey Waterson, Ruth Drever.

2. Welcome to Wendy Bowen

A warm welcome was extended to Wendy Bowen. Everyone around the table introduced themselves.

3. Minute of Previous Meeting (26 November 2018)

The minute was agreed as an accurate record. Proposed by Katie Croy, seconded by Lorna Robertson.

4. PC Chair and Head Teacher Meeting Feedback

Tanya and Wendy met recently and discussed issues such as:-
Homework volume and teacher expectation

Teacher/parent communication using apps such as Dojo or Seesaw. Andy Brown and Jo Hill have been tasked with looking into using tablets in the school for Seesaw which would enable teachers to capture the children's learning using photos etc and share this with parents and carers. Some classes are also using IDL which allows children to complete their homework online. Wendy would be interested to hear which technologies parents would like to see being used in the school.

Parents Evening - the next parents evenings will include both early and late appointment slots.

5. Head Teachers Report

Wendy reported that she is delighted to be in the role of Head Teacher at Papdale and is really enjoying it, she is continuing to work her way around the school to visit all the classes.

Wendy's focus at present is on support for learning, looking at how we do things and supporting staff. The management structure is being looked at and costings are being done to add a Principal Teacher to the structure. Job Description and Person Specification have been drafted and Wendy is waiting to hear back from OIC on the proposal which is for an 18 month contract initially until we see whether it works. It is hoped that the new structure would put us in a strong position to raise attainment levels. Also looking at how we manage challenging behaviour and building in risk assessments for children with heightened emotions to be able to leave the classroom and move through the school rather than being held in a room.

Wendy and Debbie Delday are attending Studio 3 training at present for managing challenging behaviour although Wendy stressed the importance of reaching all children and not forgetting about the quiet ones that you may never hear anything from.

A meeting took place recently regarding the rooms within the school that will be taken over by the Nursery in order to provide enough space to meet the Government requirement for additional hours. It is hoped that a few structural changes can be made to make the new space more flexible and to promote Learning Through Play.

Helga Flett's maternity cover has now been recruited to.

6. The Role of the Parent Council

Induction booklets were handed out to the new PC members, apologies for the delay with this!

Craig has agreed to prepare a paper on parent council induction/the role of the parent council for our next meeting.

7. School Disco

Jo has prepared the rota for the discos and will share this on Facebook once all spaces have been filled. There are a few Teacher volunteers to be added still.

Karen will speak to Paula at Tesco to see if they will donate some of the crisps and juice for the disco, Ruth has sorted the float, Kevin will re-advertise the discos on Facebook.

It was agreed that we should apply for Tesco Bags of Change to try and raise money for IT equipment in the school.

8. Bike Shelters

The bike shelters have arrived, we are just waiting for the concrete to be done before they can go up. The deadline for completion is 25 March 2019. Tanya will speak to Ruth about how much the Parent Council can contribute but it was felt that £5K would be possible.

There is the possibility of removing the old bike stands which could maybe be re-used by another school, Kevin will look into this.

9. Male Participation in P6-7 Netball

At present, girls are allowed to play in the Papdale football teams up until P7 but boys can only play netball up until P5. It was agreed that this was unfair and that next year we would also allow boys to participate in the netball teams but that children would have to choose between netball and football as they would not be allowed a place on both teams. Teams would also have to be mixed in both netball and football.

10. AOCB

The next parents evening are on 27 and 28 March. Jo will draw up a rota for the Parent Council sale table. It was also agreed that we would set up an information table regarding volunteering work in the school. We will have a meeting with Wendy to prepare for this on Wednesday 13 March at 9am for anyone who can attend.

Date of next meeting: 29 April 2019 (apologies noted from Katie)