

FRIENDS OF GLAITNESS SCHOOL
Thursday 1st September 2022 at 7.30pm
(In person meeting with V-scene link)

Present:

Steven Johnston (Chair)
Joanne Pirie
Connor Mackenzie
Maggie Henning
Michelle Kennedy
Inga Glackin
Karen Rorie
Barbara Brown
Catriona Tulloch
Dan Yeats (via video link)
Ingrid Rendall (Head Teacher)
Shaun Tulloch (ELC Manager)
Helen Killeen (Business Manager)
Sharon Muir (Deputy Head Teacher)
Fraser Anderson (Football Coach)

Apologies

Donna Reid, Gemma Dorricott, Katy Firth, Jessica Smith, Emma McConnachie and Alice Peace

1. Opening of the Meeting

Steven welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that we would be covering item 10 first due to Fraser Anderson, football coach, coming to meeting.

10. Extra Curricular Sport

It has been agreed to offer 3 free taster sessions for sports this year to allow children time to try it out. Football letters advised that after these free sessions the team would be selected and parents would be notified. Fraser agreed with this and said that gave him time to select the team. He has had issues with children not committing to the team and dropping in and out of training so hopefully this new approach will help. For children who are not selected for the team, there is the option of local football clubs which are open to all which can be highlighted to parents. Fraser advised that 3 new strips are required and he is happy to sponsor them via his business and source them locally. The group thanked Fraser for this kind donation.

Netball have a sponsor for their strips but do require more coaches as the 2 coaches will both be stopping after this year due to their children being in P7. It would be helpful to get some new volunteers in soon to learn the ropes.

Badminton need more shuttlecocks which FOGS will provide. A parent rota is used to cover sessions and Inga confirmed this worked fine last year.

Age groups confirmed as being P4-7 for Badminton, P5-7 for Football and P6-7 initially for Netball with P5 being invited after Christmas.

Discussed giving more recognition to the effort the coaches put in and to the sponsors. Agreed that FOGS would publicly thank the sponsors via Facebook and try to recruit more coaches/helpers – **ACTION**

At this point Fraser left the meeting.

2. Apologies of Absence

As above.

3. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 9th June 2022.

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting held on the 9th June 2022.

4. Action Log Update

1. Invite Citizens Advice Bureau to parents evening – scheduled for 22 and 24 November. Barbara advised she can do a CAB information stand. FOGS will also do a stand to raise awareness and offer tea and coffee.

5. AGM

5.1 Summary of 2021/2022 – see attached

5.2 Class reps for 2021/2022 – see attached

5.3 Office Bearers – Gemma Dorricott will remain as Treasurer and Steven Johnston as Chair. We have no fixed Secretary and Donna Reid has kindly been covering this throughout 2021/22. Parents can volunteer or we can pay someone who does not have a child in the school and who is not an employee of OIC. If we get stuck, FOGS will need to advertise this to see if we can get volunteers.

5.4 Plans for the year ahead – Agreed that the Halloween Disco can go ahead this year – proposed date of 28th October for this. Sharon will ask usual DJ if he can do this. Will run disco at cost to make it affordable rather than trying to fundraise. Usual arrangements of drink, crisps/sweets, glow sticks and transfer tattoos. Discussed policy on collection after disco and agreed that P1-P3 need collected but P4-P7 can walk home if parents wish. Small working group will meet to arrange disco –

ACTION

Have provided hot dogs, drinks etc on bonfire night in past at invitation of Rotary Club. Will need to check if they want us to do this again this year – **ACTION**

6. Head Teachers Update

- Ingrid said children and staff are settling back in. There are still some room moves to finalise but the alterations are ahead of schedule. It was a rush to get set up after the holidays due to tight turn around.
- Further information will be given about the proposed strikes next week as the school get it. Remote learning will be set if required.

- Ingrid would like more involvement from parents. The library space is not fully set up yet so can invite parent volunteers to help do this. Ingrid is also looking to do a “drop off and drop in” type of sessions with parents.
- School Improvement Plan will be on the website shortly. It explains the spend of the Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) and gives a summary of last year and the plan for the next year. It is a lengthy document and she would like to find more accessible way of getting that information to parents. Maggie suggested using Seasaw as a way to share. Katrina said she would be happy to look at communication channels and how to make information more accessible – perhaps having a parent read it and summarise it for other parents.

Discussion was had about difficulties with P1 starting this year – parents did not get a P1 handbook and there was a last minute change to the entrance for pupils too. This made it difficult for parents to prepare children for their first day at school and caused a lot of anxiety for pupils and parents. There has also not been any information about the P1 timetable and little going on Seasaw so parents lack insight into what children are doing. This impacts on ability to discuss school as children are often not forthcoming about their day unless parents can prompt. Shaun advised that SeeSaw doesn’t allow a transition of a child going from nursery to P1 and it has to be set up again, which could be a factor in the activity in the first few weeks. Agreed that P1 prep would be added to the agenda for the June meeting to allow parents to feed into the 2023/24 iteration - **ACTION**

7. Early Learning and Childcare Update

- FOGS got the opportunity to explore the new nursery prior to the meeting – feedback was very positive. Shaun confirmed they are seeing the benefits of the new space and are settled in now.
- There has been a turnover of staff and recruitments is ongoing
- Nursery Improvement Plan is coming soon and will be published once approved
- Seeing the benefit of having parents come into the building again
- Nursery is very different – “COVID babies” and just a different way of working
- Parent feedback of nursery experience was positive – very good at keeping parents updated with what children are doing

8. Treasurer’s Update

Steven advised that the bank balance is currently £4,763.87. The lottery continues to generate regular income (around £900-£1,000 per year). Will advertise this on Facebook again for new parents – **ACTION**.

9. Fundraising

Plan to do Christmas gifts again this year. Looking for a specific project to fundraise for and the playground has been mentioned in the past. Agreed that P7 ambassadors could look at this and see if they can come up with any ideas so we have a sum to aim for. Can restart

fundraising again this year after long period on hold due to COVID. The Blue Door is booked for January with the potential to use as fundraising for P7 trip.

11. AOCB - P7 trip

1. Ingrid advised a letter was sent out to parents yesterday looking for views on whether to do a residential trip for P7s. The cost is estimated to be £500 per pupil and letter also contains information about the logistics and the purpose of such trips. Papdale have made a booking for a residential trip south and given the cost as being £330 per child – that includes the school covering the actual transport costs. P7 parents would like a meeting arranged ASAP to discuss the trip as fundraising would need to start and instalment plans set up if going ahead.

Ingrid advised that school need to consider the accessibility of such trips and ensure they are inclusive for everyone including those with additional support needs. The school have done this in previous years for trips and Helen confirmed that funding has been given in the past by the Orkney Charitable Trust to help with extra costs.

P7 parents meeting needs to be arranged ASAP to agree details on this – **ACTION**.

2. We have also received some feedback regarding the sports day/park run – this will be carried forward to the another meeting via the action log – **ACTION**.

12. Correspondence

None received.

13. Date of next meeting

Thursday 3rd November 2022.

14. Meeting closed 9:30pm.

Action Log 2022/23			
No:	Owner	Action	Date Complete
1	IR/BB	Arrange Citizens Advice presence at parents evening to help parents with finances. Also ensure uptake of free school means so that the school gets the right level of Pupil Equity Fund money.	Due 22 nd + 24 th Nov.
3	SJ/EM	Recruit new netball coach volunteers.	Alice joining. Continue to try for another.

9	SJ	Add <i>2023/24 P1 handbook</i> as an agenda item for last meeting of 2022/23 to allow parents to provide suggestions on useful content	Due term 3
10	SJ	Add <i>Sports Day</i> to agenda in new year to discuss approach for 2023.	Due term 3
Recently Completed Actions			
2	IR/SJ	Arrange meeting between P7 parents and school to discuss residential trip	Oct 22
4	SJ	Thank sponsors of football/netball via Facebook	Oct 22
5	HK/GD	Purchase Shuttlecocks for badminton training	Sep 22
6	SJ	Gather volunteers to organise Halloween Disco	Oct 22
7	SJ	Contact Rotary Club to see if FoGS might provide some hot drinks and food on bonfire night – not happening.	Sep 22
8	SJ/school admin	Advertise lottery to try and gather more participants	Sep+Oct 22