

Friends of Glaitness School - Meeting - 14 November 7pm

1. Attendees welcomed

Present in person: Steven Johnston; Maggie Henning; Cheryl Campbell; Sharon Muir; Ingrid Rendall; Barbara Brown; Kate Towsey; Rosie Drever

Present online: Dawn Hill; Chrystall McBarron; Karen Rorie; Ruth Smith; Katy Firth

2. Apologies:

Michelle Kennedy; David Johnson

3. Action log update – No items on Action Log.

4. Minutes of the last meeting Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 7pm approved with no changes.

5. Head Teacher Update from Mrs Rendall

Staff - New Clerical Donna Seatter - Holly Campbell has been a great help whilst there has been a vacancy.

Support for Learning Assistant posts - 2 currently advertised and 2 still to advertise. Ingrid made a pleas for parents to please share the post.

This term, Jill Charlesworth will be joining on a short term contract until Dec and carrying out targeted work 3 days/week

Roof in dining hall: Nothing to report. No actions have taken place as the tender process is taking a while.

Sports hall has been working well however, children can't rehearse and practise for a Christmas play as there are too many demands on the space.

Parents evening is planned for 28th and 30th Nov and Carol is setting up appointments.

The school improvement plan parental consultation will start during parents evening after it was started with all staff on the in-service days in October. There will also be work with the pupils. Mrs Rendall mentioned that it might be good to get a separate group of parents to work on this too. Children's artwork will be on display at parents evening with parent council doing teas & coffees and swap shop (discussed later in agenda).

Children in Need is to be held on Friday 19th November and has been pared back due to the cost-of-living crisis this year. Mrs Rendall has been attending a group on Mondays after school where different services for children are highlighted - e.g. Homestart. However, the charities group from Kate Towsey's class are still very keen to do lots of CiN activities.

Books - every child in the school chose a book last term to add to the library. There will be a launch which Mrs Faulkner was organising. Each book has a sticker inside the cover to say who chose it.

Christmas Plans

- **Service in Cathedral** on 14 Dec 2pm. Elaine Bain has a junior and senior choir. Elaine is keen for them to participate.

- **20th December** - Families will be invited into the class. This children are doing Sustainable decorated classroom doors.
- **Christmas dinner**- date TBC due to temporary cooks. Waiting for Scott Pring to confirm.
- **Festive Fridays** - pupils can wear something festive on each Friday in December (if they want). Christmas jumpers can be included in swap shop on parents evening.

6. Early Learning & Childcare Update

Shaun Tulloch has now moved to a new role. Anne Marie Leonard is currently acting nursery manager.

7. Halloween Disco Reflections/Feedback.

Good turnout. Worked better in the sports hall. The janitor felt it worked better too. Quiet room was perhaps not being used for what it was intended but no one minded. Worked much better having the nursery disco separate. Much better bagging sweets beforehand. We have a credit with Wilsons as we returned items. Made around £200 profit but the main thing is that is an affordable, fun night. It is likely that we won't need to raise the price next year.

8. Christmas books

Sharon will have a look & send some links. This includes Nursery to P2. Christmas Parties will be held the last Thursday of term - 21st Dec. Wrapping night will be Thurs 7th December. One of the parent council will buy paper that week with some paper left over from last year.

9. Personalised Christmas Gifts

Deadline has passed however the shop may be re-opened for some late orders. Mrs Muir will look into this.

10. Pre-loved swap-shop

FOGS agreed to host a Swap-Shop type event at parents evening and keen to promote the environmental benefit ("Pre-Loved") but also being aware of the cost of living crisis.

Members agreed to accept a range of items including: School uniforms; (winter) coats; wellies; shoes; PE kit and hats & gloves. With the Festive Fridays coming up, Christmas Jumper donations will also be accepted. A donation box will be at front door (next to lost property possibly) in the days running up to parents evening. FOGS will then help out will set-up and distribution of the items, as well as providing teas and coffees.

Action point: Friends of Glaitness Facebook post.

Action point: Volunteers to sort through donations and borrow rails to display items on both nights. Also helpers for tea/coffee will be needed.

11. School Meals

Steven emailed Scott Pring after the last meeting with various feedback but unfortunately no response received to date. Ingrid has had individual parent feedback too. Ingrid has highlighted Additional Support Pupil needs to Scott. When Scott was in last week he had a set of forms for children with allergies, which could be given to parents of children with sensory issues. Lots of regulations - e.g. 80g / meat per portion. However, menu has changed after October holidays to give wider choice of sandwiches. New menu was issued

on 4th October. Mrs Rendall will remind Scott Pring to reply to Steven's email when arranging the Christmas dinner.

12. Treasurer's Update - current balance £6979. Lots of payments for extracurricular Pickaquooy centre sports have come in & many parents have paid in advance for a longer period. Blue Door money - £1000 per year set aside for P7 trip for next 3 years meaning there is around £2500 in reserve. Lottery income is £1600/year. Steven & Barbara fill out a form every quarter which isn't much hassle for the amount of return. Expected outgoings still expected includes Christmas books. Expected income: Kevin Shearer photo commission; Personalised gifts.

13. Extra-curricular sport - Going well. Several competitions have been entered.

14. Election of Chair - Steven Johnston is stepping down. Maggie Henning has come forward to take on the role. Steven has created a guide to help with the handover. Steven is still happy to be involved with events etc. Maggie's appointment was approved unanimously.

15. AOCB

15.1 - Photos update: Kevin Shearer has been thanked. Overall the weekend was worthwhile and he would do it in the same format. 36 bookings - £540 commission. Nursery worked well as a venue. They also had some bookings from non-Glaitness pupils.

15.2- P7 rep nomination: Dawn Hill - Happy to become P7 rep.

15.3 - Facebook - Helen Killeen has handed over the FoGS facebook page to be admin. Maggie has now been added to admin.

15.4 - P7 Parent fundraising for Nethy Bridge - Kate Towsey raised whether there has been any interest in parent fundraising. 3 parents have approached Dawn Hill to volunteer to fundraise. Dawn doesn't have capacity just now to coordinate. Steven suggested getting the P7 pupils to do bag-packing at Tesco's.

16. Correspondence - None

17. Date of next meeting - Wed 24th of January 2024.