

Friends of Glaitness School Minutes

Wednesday 13th November 2024

Present	Ingrid Rendall (Head Teacher), Caroline Paterson (Business Manager), Maggie Henning (Chairperson), Michelle Kennedy, Laura Thomson, Nicola Wilson, John Cairns, Abi Ross, Barbara Brown, Katy Firth, Rosie Drever, Karen Rorie, Cathy Smith, Naomi Bremner
2. Apologies	Sharon Muir, Cheryl Gould, Kareen Macleod

Topic/ Agenda Item	Notes	Action	Who?	Additional Information /Comments
3. Approval of Previous Minutes	Minutes from 5 th September 2024.			Approved by M Kennedy.
4. Naomi Bremner – School travel plans developer	NB is supporting council to develop school travel plans for each school in Orkney (this was pre-covid, but now getting back to it). Glaitness School now have a draft travel plan. This could act as evidence to support funding applications to try and solve some of the travel issues we have, or could use this to take to OIC for more significant safety issues. NB attended to get a “sense check” to ensure that the issues she has are still relevant now. In Orkney children are expected to walk up to 1.5miles to school in winter, 2 miles in summer and if over 8 years old they can walk 3 miles. Discussion focused around concerns about footpaths from Pickaquoy Campsite side, the speed of the road, Glaitness Road crossing and parked cars, and the visibility of the 20mph flashing signs.	1. Print out the “safe travel” map and have the FoGS discuss and mark this with comments. 2. NB to arrange to complete a walking audit with Yvonne Scott (Road Safety) and OIC Roads Team. Member of FoGS to go along too. KF put her name forward. 3. NB to return to FoGS with findings.	1. MH 2. NB/KF	1. Add to agenda at a future meeting,
5. John Cairns – Active Schools Coordinator	Introduced himself and his role - “More children, more active, more often”. Active schools often do lunchtime and after school clubs, could do mornings but less common. They work with school volunteers and can provide targeted support for periods of	1. Share John’s email address with FoGS.	1. MH	John happy for folks to contact him with queries/ideas etc.

	time - not year-round commitment. Can support schools toward SportScotland awards (Bronze, Silver and Gold). P7 Sports Leaders are working towards a P1-3 lunchtime club. There will be a push on Daily Mile. In Term 4 there will be taster sessions ahead of International Island Games.			
6. Action Log Update	1. Blue Door 2. Class Pictures – Caroline has got quotes and is in progress. 3. Santa Books – See item 9. 4. Road Crossing/Safety - see item 4. 5. Playground Grant Update – Kate Towsey looking for some parents to support developing plans in this. Creating a bank of toys/resources for the playground – do parents have things they can donate? Chalk, skipping ropes, bubbles etc. 6. ELCC Hours – see item 13.	1. Maggie to check where we are on the list. 5. Interested parents to come forward if time to support playground development plans. 5i. Share list of items required.	1. MH 5i. IR	
7. Halloween Party Fri 1st Nov – Update	A success over all. £380 taken in at the door so 190 children attended. £214 profit was made. The nursery disco was not well attended. Some parents found tricky to attend 3 discos at different times. This will be reviewed, but it is a juggle managing staffing, volunteers and Garriock's Disco who volunteered an additional 1.5-2hrs of this time to host the additional early disco. One child left the building without his parent (but with another adult). This was quickly resolved but new actions to be put in place for next year to ensure safety is paramount (see actions).	1. SM to have registers to admit the children in and employ tighter arrangements to collect the children and handover to their parents. Parents collecting from the inner ramp and following disco not admitted until all pupils have left.	1. SM/ MH	
8. Car park safety	Ongoing issues as two children were nearly reversed into. FoGS	1. IR to do Facebook post	1. IR 2. IR	

	suggest parents reverse into spaces as they are rushing to get out as it is hard to get out of junction. Suggesting the implementation of a feeder lane as at Tesco. Also suggested the use of making a path through the campsite. Look to push changes as part of an active travel development plan with NB support.	to ask parents to reverse into spaces, where possible, and remind parents to shut the gate to the playground. 2. IR to also speak about it in Assembly and involve JRSOs.		
9. Books wrapping date	Christmas Books are here for Nursery – P2 (133 books to wrap). Some nursery staff have volunteered to help and FoGS members welcome.	Mon 25 th November 6.30pm in Nursery Family Room.	MH put in FoGS chat.	
10. Class reps Update	Christmas Jumper swap suggested.	Junior Ambassadors are planning to run this.	IR	
11. Treasurer's Update	Balance £8151.26 at end of October. £1500 of this is for After Schools Sport – this is yet to be paid to Picky. £1000 of that for P7 trip this year. That is the last of the Blue Door funds ring-fenced for this. BB suggested considering ways to fundraise to continue to support the P7s. £857 earned from School Lottery from April.	Repost the School Lottery on Facebook.	MH	
12. Headteachers Update	Grant Thomson (Orphir HT) and Emma Clements (Shapinsay HT) visiting Glaitness as part of ongoing OIC project. IR would like 6-8 parents to attend on this day, Monday 25 th November, at 2.45pm, to chat to Grant and Emma to support the project. Glaitness School had an Internal Audit in September which is now at the Auditing and Monitoring Committee. It covered	1. Parents welcomed to attend on 25.11.24 at 2.45pm for an informal chat.	1. MH to share with FoGS and gather names. 2. Class Reps to put in class chats.	Parental update to come this week with key dates for the term.

	administration, policies, medical procedures etc. Once it is passed the committee it will then be shared. IR reported that they are pleased with the findings.			
13. Early Learning & Childcare Update	Cathy is one term into Glaitness and is working towards the improvement priorities and developing the large staff team. Improvement Priorities: 1. Developing Internal Physical Spaces – working with Amy McCracken from Early Years Team. 2. Leadership within the Team – although not all post filled at the minute. 3. Improvements on the Side Garden (but maybe next year due to internal spaces being focused on first). Safety in Car Park – providing hi-vis vests in winter terms. Contacted local firm about funding this. Staff considering how to best support parents with closing the gates. Christmas Celebrations – providing two large Bookbug sessions and 1 smaller one, rather than a big Christmas Party which can be overwhelming. Cathy thanked the FoGS for the children's Christmas books. She and Steph are hoping to attend to support the wrapping. Things upcoming: Tracking – Learning Folders going home w/b 18th November. Parents Evenings – 28th November Christmas Decorating Event – 11th December. Wraparound Hours Term Time – 30hrs per week. Year Round – 25hrs per week.			

	CS happy for parents to discuss individual queries with her.			
14. AOCB	School Meals query. IR said that Scott Pring, School Meals Manager, is going to share with HTs that there is a possible new system to order your meals in advance coming in in 2025.	IR happy for FoGS to share comments to pass on at the meeting.	1. IR/ FoGS	
15. Correspondence	None.			
16. Date of Next Meeting	Monday 3 rd February 2025 7pm in Glaitness Nursery Family Room			