Greenhills Primary School Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting 28th January 2019

Present: Elaine Johnston, Councillor Dryburgh, Scott McPhilemy, Anne Marie Kean, Kelly Carlin, Carol Gallacher & Joanne Gilchrist

Apologies: Debbie Hutton, Suzanne Campbell, Carrie Ann, Megan Carvel. Fiona Fadhli currently taking a break from meetings.

Minutes
Minutes of previous meeting were agreed by Kelly and seconded by Carol.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Correspondence

Anne Marie handed out school lottery leaflets and asked if it was something that could be considered. Mrs Johnston said she would like to discuss some other items on the agenda first before any decisions were made.

Head Teacher’s Report

Mrs Johnston discussed some of the Mythbusting – Winter Awareness information available from South Lanarkshire Council.

VSE – Mrs Johnston explained that the VSE had been on Reading and a full report of their findings would be available in a couple of weeks, but the initial feedback was very positive. A tweet from Jill Pringle who is our Link Officer was read out to the group – Jill stated ‘Had a brilliant 2 days out on VSE with Greenhills Primary School staff. Lots of quality professional dialogue and lovely learning experiences. The children were a credit to the school from start to finish’

Mrs Johnston went on to discuss the branding of our school and how she would like all the good information to be shared in the community. There is a new editor at the East Kilbride News and Mrs Johnston is hoping to use this link to promote the school.

Burns Supper - This took place on Thursday afternoon and was a great success. Councillor Dryburgh attend the event among other invited guests and the P7 pupils and their teachers. Councillor Dryburgh posted on Facebook that she had lovely afternoon and that everyone involved should be congratulated.

Burns Assembly – The children all learned Burns Poetry and the teacher from each class chose the child to perform on the stage at the assembly. The children who performed all received a medal.

Lockerbie Manor Trip – Wednesday 6th Feb – Friday 8th Feb.

Parents Night – Taking place on Thursday 7th Feb.

Disney Show – This is for the P2 – P7 pupils and will take place in March.

The Cost of a School Day

Equality/Equity – Mrs Johnston looked at equity within the school. For example, ensuring that all families entitled to clothing grants were accessing this facility. Councillor Dryburgh said that the grant is now linked to the benefit system so that families who should get it will do so automatically. This grant was increased from £50 to £100 in 2017/18. Councillor Dryburgh put forward a motion to have it increased to £125 but this was rejected. This grant can still be applied for if circumstances change throughout the year.

Getting Dressed – Mrs Johnston asked for volunteers to help run a workshop for parents. The volunteers would get in touch with agencies such as Citizens Advice Bureau etc and invite them along to the workshop so that parents could access some free advice. Anne Marie, Kelly and Carol offered to contact companies to invite them to the workshop. Anne Marie said she would speak to her employers (Scottish Power) to send a representative who could offer advice. Meeting arranged for 2pm on Wed 20th Feb to discuss further.
**Cost of Uniforms** – We ask that children wear a yellow polo shirt, blue sweatshirt and black trousers or skirt. A white shirt with tie can be worn instead of yellow polo shirt. These items can be sourced from various local shops and supermarkets or the school’s own supplier who provide quality products that last and when asked, our parents overall seemed happy with our current supplier. Uniforms that we have spare we put out at the parents’ evenings for people to help themselves to. The uniforms that remain will be sent over to the church for them to share. Mrs Johnston will discuss this with Laurent.

Anne Marie thought it would be a good idea to do something similar with the high schools.

Mrs Johnston explained that sometimes children are wearing ‘Hoodies’ to school which they will be asked to remove once inside the school building. Fiona Gilchrist asked if it would be possible to get Greenhills Water Bottles. The school will look into this.

Rewards for wearing uniform – Mrs Johnston said that this is quite difficult to do as almost all children wear school uniform but would get the House Captains to reward uniform occasionally.

Councillor Dryburgh will look into getting the clothing grant paid earlier in the year so that parents can order and pay for the uniform in May when the school orders are processed.

Councillor Dryburgh said they are looking into running some holidays clubs if possible.

Church Donation – St Andrews Methodist Church will provide an award for our school values.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Current Balance - £3940.44
Christmas Fair Profit - £537.62

**AOCB**

There will be no Spring Disco.

Parents have been complaining to Anne Marie that nothing happens for the P7 Leavers. Mrs Johnston said each year the children have a trip of their choice which is funded by Parent Council and P7 Fund raising. Mr McPhilemy talked about how the P7 children were asked last year about what they wanted and they chose to go to The Filling Station and the cinema. They also were presented with the high school tie at the leavers’ assembly.

An Arianna Grande Tribute night was suggested to raise funds. Carol will investigate this.

Councillor Dryburgh is attending a meeting tomorrow regarding the P7 children going to Council Chambers to be a Councillor for the Day, sit on the Education Committee, debate school uniform and meet the Provost. She will advise if a date is agreed.

Carol asked why there were no after school activities for P4 children. Mr McPhilemy said that that was being addressed.

**Next Meeting**

25th February 2019

**Agenda for Next Meeting TBC**