

Broughton Primary School Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 14 October 2020

Minutes

1. Introductions and Apologies

1. Attendance:		2. Apologies:
Maria Gowans (HT) David Borthwick (PT) Lisa Bradley (Acting DHT) Sarah Evans (teacher) William Richardson (teacher)	Jennifer Longstaff Sandra Bagnall Naomi Sandilands Bence Solymer Anne Hay (Chairing) Rachel Blythe Sandra Rathjen Priyanka Kapalavai Rachael Milligan Dina Subasciaki Pauline Oh Gilberto Carnieli Chris Knowles Tommy George Rebecca Winterstein Karolina Galera Husnara Uddin Yasmin Sadali Gareth Jones Laxman Raman	Matt Boyles

2. Welcome Heads of School from Drummond Community High School: Andi Christie & Connor Flannigan

Heads of school chatted to us about their impression of Drummond and what it has to offer and confidently answered our questions. Andi joined DCHS from Musselburgh but found the school very welcoming, praising it as inclusive, diverse, where everyone knows you – overall a strong sense of community and belonging. Conor also moved to Drummond from another school and found it easy to join the close-knit school environment. He praised the teachers' very good communication and being responsive to all pupils' needs. Has found the guidance from teachers more focused and has had exceptional teaching!

Seniors can make use of the school-college partnership where students can travel to the college for some subjects (now online) or to other schools (eg for politics).

What is learning support like for pupils who need more support? Additional exam requirements – staff on board and very supportive. Sections in the school called the 'hub' to provide the extra support, and is indeed well known as a school for this extra support.

As there will be no open days for this p7 year, DCHS aim to hold virtual tours and videos, or even regular zoom meetings with prospective students and parents of the feeder schools. A new instagram account is being set up, with different languages to be more accessible. Twitter for many departments already set up. User name @Drummond_CHS.

Both have plans to continue their education in university courses and we all wished them well. They represented their school very well!

3. Head Teacher's Report

Outdoor learning - Lisa Bradley

All staff met outside in Botanical Broughton bowling greens to see how we can use the area. Plans to take the nursery team too who are less familiar with the greens. Progression of skills for outdoor learning, including some kind of planting and upkeep of what is already planted. Monitoring of what works and coming up with a progression of skills plan.

Some classes have been across to the greens and also planning to go to St Mark's Park making more use of community spaces.

Equalities – David Borthwick

By Christmas school is to create a new equalities policy, taking in other related policies under one banner. Following an assembly about discrimination and equality – SLT have been interviewing pupil volunteers to join the pupil equalities group (one rep per class p4 to 7 – may extend to other years later). Keen to get interested parents involved in = the process and in the group. The October in-service day will focus staff training on bullying and equality (mandatory training for all CEC school staff specifically on racism).

Report from Maria Gowans

Parent consultation – appointments via video link or by phone but as there are only two phone lines in the school will have to spread this out across weeks.

Pupil wellbeing survey + belonging survey – results will be analysed in the in-service day, and then reflect on which areas to focus on.

OPAL (outdoor play and learning organisation) – BPS is due three training sessions, will have to be a recap as staff previously involved are no longer at the school.

Some anxiety expressed by some parents about using MS Teams for home learning. Will discuss at the in-service day.

Staffing - Christine Waters Early Years practitioner has finished after 24 years (a post part funded by PEF money). PEF funding has dropped over the years.

Laura Murray P5 and Sapfo Sitaridou P3 will be going on maternity leave this year.

Sam Rushford will be returning after Christmas break

Mrs Martin the art teacher will be retiring at Christmas – hope to set up a virtual presentation of some of the school's art work for all to see.

Covid-19 pandemic – hard decision was taken to ask that parents wear masks when in the playground due to sheer volume of parents at drop off.

There has been no positive Covid cases in the school. There is a substantial process (with health authorities) to identify all the close contacts of a child (within 2m, over time). As there is still movement

within the classroom environment it would be likely that the whole class would need to isolate in the event of a positive case.

Discussed asymptomatic nature of covid in the young and some parents routinely take temperature in the morning. Agreed that keeping classroom environment as normal as possible is paramount for the children, even if that may mean whole class needs to isolate. Noted that some high schools use QR codes to assist with track and trace.

Staff are still expected to stay 2 m apart. But kids can move about, and early years is one moveable bubble.

Traffic around Broughton - Recently a driver of a car at Bonnington crossroads knocked over an S2 pupil, the sibling of a BPS pupil. Current position is that where there is traffic lights and controlled crossing – a lollipop person - will not be allocated (the Broughton Road crossing lollipop lady is a historic long-standing arrangement). If, as a result of a traffic/pedestrian volume survey, it is determined that a lollipop person is required, long-term would aim to replace with a controlled crossing. Surveys to date have not determined that the pedestrian volumes merit more lollipop crossings. However, with current roadworks and diversions and tailbacks, have sought more. Look at light sequencing. Traffic wardens to control parking were only around for 2 days.

Bowling Green – Council to erect heras fencing along the path side which will effectively close the gate currently used by the public/dogwalkers (to stop vandalism of the building there). School enters from Broughton Road gate.

Bike shelters to be erected in the Oct week – 20 bike racks with shelter. New scooter pods required too.

Questions:

Active Schools update – plan to start after Oct break but now under review with rising Covid numbers. Hopefully soon. Active schools staff have been redeployed to schools as PE teachers. No indoor PE allowed.

Lagganlia update alternative for p7 and P6 – Council asked if the school would be interested in eg one overnight camping experience – school responded positively. Alternative outdoor experience is limited to being within walking distance - no public transport and no hire of coaches (restriction lifted on 2 mile distance from school). No outdoor external providers allowed to come into school (only some specialists eg speech and language now allowed into school for exceptional cases).

Outdoor centres are facing closures, Scot Gov are still deciding whether to help financially for next year. Sandra – utilize some EMF funded places refunded to some other activity eg Bridge8 (CEC approved venue) – but too far from BPS.

Week booked for current p6 year at Lagganlia as booked 2 years in advance. Block on any residential until 31 Dec. No news for next year. Discussed need for financial planning of Lagganlia trip (i.e. p6 parents have not yet been warned to plan for costs.).

4. Treasurer's Report - Bence Solymar

Shona Campbell independently examined accounts and sent out. £188 raised with 'your school lottery' tickets. £600 grant from the Council is now in.

OSCR fine with our plan to change the accounting dates (as agreed in last meeting) from financial to academic.

Still to hand the money for the EMF funded places to families - Sandra and Bence to meet and arrange this.

Culture fund – still to agree how to spend.

5. Broughton Growing & Gardening Project – Rachel Blythe

Four tidying up days in total 30 Aug, 5,6 Sept and October.

Meeting with Leith Chooses funding body 16 October and working soon on the end of project report.

Supposed to have spent all by March 2020 (all 4 partners still have small amounts unspent due to pandemic). Can't apply for more funding if you haven't spent and reported all the funding.

In-school – activities with p3 and p5 and language class – planted carrots and potatoes outside, and herbs in classroom. Mrs Clark P3a – apple themed home learning. 'What Plants need to grow' topic work. P5 enjoyed planting and using herb seed packets instructions as part of literacy. More ideas for recipes into challenge homework.

Plans to re-plant 3 apple trees into the ground with help of a landscape company (parent).

Future ideas:

- to explore more herb and garlic planting – planting out Mr Rogerson's class's herbs.
- Follow up with apple day organisation from trip to parliament last year.
- Outdoor classroom day – worldwide event – can we link this up?
- Enter a potato competition – activity starts in January.
- Renew link with Botanic gardens – Maria confirmed BPS is down for the schools programme for next year.
- Plan for planting days in Spring – which may be only in-school without parent involvement.
- Beehives in the bowling greens?

6. Fundraising & Social Ideas – Rachel Blythe

Halloween ideas:

- Pumpkin carving/painting competition (also links to the growing project). At home – or a pumpkin trail? Or at bowling greens?
- Scary hair day? Parent council cupboard can give decorations to school.
- Remind people how to donate to the school. Normally, the disco funds the school's winter/Christmas activities.
- Ticketed event at bowling green (Eventbrite) – timed slots, but with current restrictions unlikely, plus weather.

School response:

Friday dress up can take place. Suggested donation only, not to be a barrier to children. However, try to reduce handling cash by putting direct into a bucket/cauldron. Or use ParentPay – school to investigate setting this up.

Together time – given over to the theme of Halloween – end of the morning in the class.

Pumpkin ideas, yes, but maybe more photos from home rather than all in the playground.

Decorating or activity across on the bowling green – by parents or BASC (school would not have the time), and not too early in the week!

ACTION: ALL email: broughtonparents@gmail.com with suggested alternative activities or grant application ideas.

7. EMF update – Sandra Bagnall

No real update, as no way to know if event will take place in May 2021.

But as the daily mile is still happening in some classes – Team Broughton can still be training!

8. Any Other Business

Facebook group – monitoring of it mainly done by parents of P7s so email if interested in getting involved for posting and monitoring the private and community FB pages.

Community page and the private group – check that no breach of the privacy rules, and allow new members to find and join the group.

Pauline and Rachael M have volunteered to assist.

Dates of next meetings:

27th January 2021, 24th March 2021, 26th May 2021. EGM for June to agree the constitution and new Chair post.

These will be held at 6:30-8:00 pm on MS Teams, contact broughtonparents@gmail.com for a link.