

## **BROUGHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday 26th February 2025,  
This meeting was held online and recorded.

### **Present:**

William Baruah-Young - Meeting Chair  
Maria Gowans BPS Head Teacher  
David Borthwick BPS Principal Teacher  
Elena Samoletova – Treasurer elect  
Tia Kousar  
Bilkies Akram  
Pauline Oh  
Duc Le  
Anna Stansfield  
Simon Ramsay  
Julie Baruah-Young  
Amanda Skinner  
Sue Perkins  
James York  
Naomi Sandilands

### **Apologies:**

Sam Rushforth – BPS Depute Head Teacher  
Shona Campbell - Treasurer

### **Welcome, matters arising.**

Attendees agreed to the meeting being recorded.

### **Head Teacher's Report and Question to the SLT**

Mrs Gowans gave the Head Teacher's Report and responded to questions from parents to the Senior Leadership Team.

The school was still coming to terms with the death of colleague, Mr Inglis, and the Parent Council recorded its condolences to his family.

There will be 15 school classes in the academic year 2025/26:

- Two P1 (60-61 pupils registered though this is expected as we approach August 2025);
- One composite P1/P2;
- Three P3 classes, and
- Two classes per year group for the remaining school years.

The focus on outdoor learning for all year groups is going well. The leader is Mrs Williamson, and this initiative had included tree planting by P6s and campfire safety for P1's.

A new art programme had begun with a print workshop. The child planned to use the printing skills they have acquired to produce banners for display on the stair of the school.

**Talk for Writing:** Parents will have the opportunity to see the improvements to writing skills the next parent consultations in March.

Scottish Water project in the school playground is behind schedule. The installation of a new waste screw had run into problems and the completion date had been revised to the end of May. Tesco Broughton had allowed staff to use 18 of its carpark spaces as the school staff carpark is also affected.

Cycle/scooter parking would be provided for P1 and Nursery on the north side of the top playground and at the existing bike shelter in the lower playground which would be extended for scooters by end of March.

**Q:** Can the school do more speed up the Scottish Water project in the playground such write campaign letters.

**A:** The land belongs to Scottish Water. However, everything that can is being done by the Council and school.

**Q:** Has any progress been made to provide Pram and Scooter shelter at the Nursery?

**A:** The issue was that the when previously the nursery had requested a shelter for prams and scooters close to the Nursery fire regulations do not permit the Council to construct a structure near or next to the building.

**ACTION:** **Mrs Gowans agreed to approach City of Edinburgh Council to ask for a solution to the request for a pram / Scooter shelter.**

Finance update was postponed until next meeting.

### **Parent Awards**

In previous years, a few of our parents have been nominated and won an award. Pauline reminded the meeting that a community award scheme exists to recognise the efforts of parents and grandparents who make a difference to their community. Pauline offered to assist with nominations and applications for those wishing to apply.

### **Lower playground/Scottish water update**

Covered previously under Head Teacher Report

### **Leith Chooses**

Pauline and Anna successfully applied for partial funding to have the mural at the front of the school re-painted. Pupils will be consulted on its design with a brief that it should capture the diversity of the school. Leith chooses awarded £1,334.57 to the parent council to commission local artist and parent Anna.

**ACTION Parent Council voted to fund £1,659.43, which represented the other part of the mural commission not covered by Leith Chooses funding.**

### **Winter Event thank you certificate**

**ACTION Pauline would prepare the Thank You Certificate once the total amount raised has been confirmed by the treasurers. This certificate will then be circulated to local businesses who made a contribution to the winter event 2024.**

### **Tesco Stronger Start Funding Update**

Broughton Nursery and Primary School Parent Council has entered a competition to win for funding for outdoor clothing for P1s as part of its Forest Friday project. Tesco Stronger Starts application reference Number: 116762 has been shortlisted and are guaranteed to receive either £500, £1,000 or £1,500. A public vote in Tesco stores via blue tokens for each shop will run from mid-January 2025 until end of March 2025. Results will be available shortly after in May. £1,500 would buy a stock of rainsuits and boots for every P1 to be reused for successive years.

**ACTION Robert to circulate information on how to vote for sharing.**

### **Summer Fair**

Veronika confirmed this year's theme would Space and an out of this world title would be landing soon. Veronika agreed to be a leader on the Summer Fair but requested that more leaders would need to volunteer to assist her.

**ACTION : Kisten to contact the Royal Observatory and Dynamic Earth for loan of primary age specific learning materials which can be returned. Robert to contact space centre in Sutherland and Julie would contact NASA.**

### **ACTION**

### **Playground Tidy**

The playground tidy up on Sunday 28 February was postponed for two weeks.

**ACTION Barbara to be leader arrange a let and Amanda would design a poster to call for volunteers and participants.**

### **Spring disco**

Pauline had booked the DJ. Robert agreed to be a leader for this event on 28 March and asked for other volunteers to assist. A theme would be discussed and decided on. Amanda to be a disco poster designer. William would volunteer too.

**ACTION Spring Disco Event checklist to be drawn up as good practice.**

### **Monitoring of Broughton Parents email account**

A vote was held to agree to stop using the outlook email account as it cost money and only to use the free gmail account.

**ACTION It was agreed to save money to stop using the Outlook email account. The parent council email account would now be [Broughtonparents@gmail.com](mailto:Broughtonparents@gmail.com)**

## **Winter raffle prizes**

Anna S, who led on the winter raffle, wrote in to remind prize winners to collect their Winter Raffle prizes.

**ACTION Shona to update on raffle income at next meeting.**

## **Inclusion Review**

Equality Rep Anna Savage would gather views on the council's restructuring consultation from ASN parents and liaise with Robert who would feed back to the council on behalf of the parent council. cil

## **Road Safety around school**

A Road Safety Around School communication was sent out to the Parent Forum, 19 responses were gathered. There was an ongoing issue with road safety around school, specifically Claremont Crescent/Broughton Road crossing, and the northern approach from Pilrig. The pavement at the old Powderhall waste site was suspended and the opposite side at Pilrig Heights was only wide enough for one person. The Powderhall project could be delayed meaning longer to wait until it is resolved. James and Rachel McColgyn had complained to the council would talk to Councillor Caldwell about this matter.

## **Any other business**

- Policy on smartphones in school (Pauline)**

The school promotes digital on-line safety and smartphones are not allowed at school during school hours. Julie suggested a framework for parents and pupils on phones and Mrs Gowans agreed to organise a digital safety event. It was suggested that FAstforward.org could be invited and website [www.smartphonefreechildhood](http://www.smartphonefreechildhood) could provide resources to inform the event.

- School ensuring children wear jackets at lunchtime.**

Senior staff team confirmed that it is school policy that children are encouraged to wear coats at lunchtime when being outdoors. However, school cannot ensure the children would take the jacket off while having lunch.

- Gardening Club funding request**

Amanda sought £450 contribution for materials and £50 donation to mends shed who will build raised planters along the north of the P1 playground. A vote was held this was carried.

**Action Mens Shed to receive £500 including a donation of £50 to build the school raised bed planters.**

## **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 30 April in person Link Building Broughton Primary School.