



NEWTONGRANGE PS PC MEETING – minutes

LOCATION: Newtongrange Primary School	
DATE: 4 th December 2023	
PRESENT: Alison Lyles (minutes), Liz McCabe, Julia Gossip (chair), Annette Henderson, Sarah Burrell, Kerry Dolan, Laura Cameron, Ianthe Sutherland, Ben Miller, Lesley Canning	
APOLOGIES: Pam Cook, Ashly Young, Candice & Mike Wylie, Tricia McNicol, Kirstie Corbett, Arantza Henderson	
MATTERS ARISING:	ACTION
1. Parent council minutes agreed as a true representation of the meeting on 11/9/23	
2. <u>School update</u> – LC/SB/KD	
<p>Staffing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student, Sarah McMillan (P6W) • Lynsey Mitchell has competed another Keeping in Touch Day and returning in January. • Sally McGurn (PT), Steph Thomson (CT), Courtney Crawford (LA) and Pauline Beveridge (LA) – long-term absence • Alex Matthews completed NQT placement and now supporting with supply • Supported by Daisy Provan (supply) • Mrs Matheson (P1M) Mat leave from Feb 24 • Mrs Thomson (P1T) Mat leave from March 24 • Mrs McLean (EYP) Mat leave from Feb 24 • Interviews taking place this week for P1, ELC and LA • Ashley Sinclair (EYP) – baby girl <p>School Improvement Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Book Week Scotland Celebrations – class library focus, Book Bug Bag / Read, Write, Count - Working on our Reading schools award – core level - Writing Moderation session for our ASG – 17th November - Reading Elves – books out in the community - Literacy Champions / Library Pupil Voice Groups - Reading Moderation Session – January In-service Day - Nursery and P1, P2 Library Visits • Numeracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maths Week Scotland – Time focus – lots of positive feedback. Maths trail QR needed some support due to weather conditions - CPA training delivered for staff supported by Attainment Team – positive feedback and use of resources in classes - Numeracy interventions ongoing - Education City – being used to support homework 	



- Upcoming – Number of the Day
- National Numeracy Day – Friday 17th May – opportunity for families to come in for Sharing the Learning
- **Digital**
- Resources now on Google Shared Drive – updated and organised for staff
- Seesaw class of the week
- Digital Leaders shared questionnaire with P3 -7 classes
- 'Digital Drop' for sharing good practice/resources
- Digital Bookmarks – for learners to self- assess/record next steps
- Digital pencil case for sharing good practice – FAQ's etc.
- **Wellbeing**
- Working towards 'Rights Respecting Schools' – Silver Award (24th April)
- Class charters being used in all classes
- Display in each class – learners responsible for sharing Right linked to learning
- Newsletter shared school app/websites
- Safeguarding questionnaires being completed by all learners
- Enhanced Class Supports ongoing
- HWB Heroes – Children's Mental Health Week (Feb)
- Working to create child friendly wellbeing indicators – respected and included

What has been happening? 52 days since last meeting

- IEP and MAM meetings involving all staff
- Wider Curriculum sessions continue
- Extra-Curricular clubs
- Football team playing at weekends
- Junior Senior Leadership Team
- P6 Bikeability
- Hands Up Survey
- Big Breakfast at Tesco
- Maths Week Scotland
- Assessments
- Moderation sessions
- Data Dialogues
- Reading progression sessions
- Fire warden training
- Educational Psychology Visits every 3 weeks
- P7 visit to the High School, transition ongoing
- Harvest assembly – support from Rev Gayle
- Playground resurfaced
- Maintenance in school ongoing
- Inservice Day – Learner Participation and Outdoor learning
- Quality Assurance Visits – positive feedback including school is in a strong position
- ELC Pumpkin Bash
- Flu Vaccines
- SLT visits to classes – focus on Learning, Teaching and Assessment
- Class Assemblies and sharing the learning experiences
- Parent and Carer Consultations



- Fiona Robertson ‘I was delighted to be able to arrive prior to the meeting to walk round the school and very much enjoyed seeing a calm, settled learning environment. I would like to express my thanks to your staff who joined me and their very constructive comments on areas for improvement as well as sharing the very positive work of the school. Staff were very positive about the strong and supportive leadership of the school and the positive culture and ethos (note they offered this as a strength, I didn’t ask about leadership!).’
- Rookie Rockstars – sessions and concerts
- ASG CAT – Literacy Moderation
- Children in Need – charity focus
- P1, P2 and P3 Bookbags – sharing with families
- Basketball competition
- P4 swimming and P5 skiing
- Visits to local areas
- Bike shelter fitted

What is coming up?

- Interviews for staffing
- CAT 4 – Rights and Tracking achievements
- P1 Info afternoon
- Achievement assembly
- Panto
- Christmas celebrations
- January In-service Day
- EP Parent Groups
- Scottish focus
- P1 and P7 Dental Checks

3. PTA fundraising update – JG

Events so far this year have raised:

Winter fayre £1742.90

Halloween bake sale £244.14

Overview of accounts: Bank balance at the start of the scholastic year was £11000

There have been the release of £4000 for recurring payments (school app, panto) plus £3000 to fund half of the cost of the new school stage system
Currently £4000 remains unspent

£40 is to be released to fund a new santa suit for the school

New funding requests:

AH requested that £400 funds be released to enable essential works to improve the school garden. This will enable the raised beds to be repaired in order for learners to utilise the school garden for growing/ enterprise projects which support various aspects of the CfE.

It was acknowledged that this is a worthy request and those present agreed that the money should be released to support this.



<p>JG shared that a Just giving fundraising page has been set up in order to add to the fundraising stream for the specific fundraising of the remaining cost of the school stage system and also to help continue the improvements to the school playground/ outdoor learning spaces. It was agreed that this should be launched early in 2024 and that the local community and businesses be approached in targeting fundraising for these specific items.</p> <p>Upcoming PTA events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15th December bake sale – TBC - 1st March quiz night – Dean Tavern booked - End March - coffee morning/ baking competition - 23rd May – sponsored bounce 	<p>AL to make enquiry with East Lothian bouncy castles</p>
<p>4. <u>Playground update</u> – BM</p> <p>Resurfacing work to the playground has now been completed by the council. The council roads department have agreed to use their new line marking equipment to recreate the playground designs free of charge. The school have made requests regarding specific designs in collaboration with pupil voice groups.</p> <p>Accessories for the playground are currently being installed from the grant provided by counsellor Kelly Drummond.</p> <p>Additional resources will be dependent upon fundraising – see above Justgiving page.</p>	
<p>5. <u>AOCB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - P7 yearbooks: JG shared that there have been advances with the P7 year book. Consent forms have been issues and all but 1 have been returned with a unanimous agreement from parents/carers that their child(ren) would like to take part and be included with their photograph. 1 outstanding consent forms will be followed up. JG will take photos in the new year with the purpose of inclusion in the year book. There will hopefully be other opportunities to include images from events and learning from the remaining school year as they arise. - Music tuition – LM asked if there would be further opportunities for music tuition in children prior to primary 6/7 as this has been the case in previous years. LM had heard that Burnbrae PS had possibly had some opportunities akin to this recently. LC explained that after COVID P7 pupils had initially been prioritised for music tuition but that tuition did not usually extend below P6 pupils. It was acknowledged that prior to COVID there was a short music project where younger pupils were offered music tuition in P4 however this was not necessarily a regular occurrence. 	
<p>6. Next meeting 26th February 2024</p>	