

## NEWBIGGING PARENT COUNCIL

### MINUTE OF ANNUAL MEETING & MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2014, AT 6.30PM

Present: Craig Nugent, Diane Melvin, Gillian Alcorn, Gina Campbell, Lynsey Milne, Lesley Milloy, Joyce Gray, Kate O'Neill, Anne Bruce

Apologies: Kathryn Foot, Lesley Murray, Lorna Rogers

#### Head Teacher's Report

#### Action

Lesley outlined what has happened in school so far this session:

- Fraser Brown from Blackwatch spoke to the children about World War 1 which the children found very interesting.
- P5/6 children had the opportunity to go to Monikie Park to take part in activities – high walls, raft building etc. This was enjoyed by all who took part.
- Lottery funding was used to paint games in the playground. Mrs Gray has had the P1/3 class out learning hopscotch and other games, and also making up their own games using the markings.
- Our pre-school class went to see DinoZoo at Dundee Rep. The children all loved seeing the dinosaurs and were given lots of information. There was a problem with parking which meant staff walking the children quite a distance to the venue. Any future events would be better with children being dropped off and picked up.
- P4/5 pupils took part in a Clubs Festival at Carnoustie Leisure Centre. This gave them a taster of various clubs that are available outside school.
- P1/7 had a dance taster session with Rebecca Hillyard.
- The Macmillan coffee morning arranged by Kate raised £107.40. Kate thanked the mums who put in baking for this event.
- Councillor Sheena Welsh visited Monikie School. She advised that Angus Council were very happy with Newbigging's inspection report.
- There is to be a non-uniform day on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, the last day of term. Children wishing to come to school in casual clothes should bring along £1.

#### Treasurer's Report

The Parent Council started last session with a balance of £1,167.15. Following the cost of parties and donations to the school for books, buses, camcorders, musical instruments etc, and fund raising through the Christmas Hamper and the Fete in June etc, the total in the bank is now £1,449.39. Some of this money will be spent on upgrading our new library area, and teachers are to provide a wish list of what they would like purchased.

#### Library

The partitions were taken down over the summer holidays and this has created a great space for assemblies, circle time, paired reading etc. Lynsey to look into using/revamping a sofa which is currently in the nursery attic and Lesley suggested that she also look in Monikie's attic for suitable tables, chairs etc. There is also a caterpillar bookcase on wheels in the school attic which can be taken down. The school would like the Parent Council to help with blinds, a screen, rugs and bean bags.

Lynsey

The Parent Council and school will work together to meet the requirements.

Lynsey has been in to tidy up the area and she saw it being used by various children. She spoke to P7 pupils about how they are finding it and was told that they would like whiteboards and a soft seating area. Gillian to source white covering for the ends of units which can then be used with whiteboard pens. Craig suggested that the library would benefit from being painted in a neutral colour and raised the possibility of pictures being projected onto a wall. He'll get the price of a light box. Also suggested was fairy lights and a canopy for a reading area.

Gillian

Craig

Lynsey proposed that the community should be told what has been achieved so far following their support at the Summer Fete.

Lesley

The library will be on the agenda for the first staff meeting after the holidays, and Lesley will create a priority plan.

Lesley

### **Fundraising**

The issue of fundraising at Christmas was raised as there will be no Christmas concert. It was decided that we could still do the hamper raffle at the Carol Service, although it was felt that this service would not be as busy as the evening concert as people will be at work. Other fundraisers are a £1 challenge and possibly a calendar. PC members to bring fundraising ideas to the next meeting.

PC members

### **Insurance**

Craig has been told in an email from Angus Council that our Parent Council has no insurance cover, however there is information on the website which says that there is blanket cover for all Angus Council parent councils. Craig to investigate.

Craig

### **World War 1 Concert Proceeds**

Ticket sales for this event will be going to charity and it was agreed that Erskine would be the recipients. Information on their work can be found at [www.erskine.org.uk](http://www.erskine.org.uk)

### **Expressive Arts**

Craig asked how often children get PE, art and music, and on what days. Lesley outlined the rota for visiting specialists – PE fortnightly, art every 3 weeks and music every 4 weeks. Teachers do follow up lessons. Diane told the meeting that schools in Angus are very lucky to get specialist teachers as they have been stopped at Dundee schools.

### **Clubs**

The inspectors were really impressed with the children and what they do in school. They wanted clubs to be set up that were children led. Lesley then provided information about who runs which clubs and explained that all the children know about the clubs but agreed that parents should also be told.

Lesley

### **GLOW**

GLOW access for P4-7 was briefly discussed at a previous meeting and the issue was raised about whether P1-3 pupils can get access to GLOW. Lesley agreed that she would ask Mrs Patullo to train Mrs Gray & Miss O'Neill on how to put homework etc on the site, and the children would then be issued with their own usernames and passwords.

Lesley

**Communication**

It was felt that parents are not always clear on the details of events and that more information should be provided.

Lesley

**Halloween**

The community hall has been double booked for the night of our joint Halloween party with Monikie School so alternative arrangements have been made. Newbigging's party will be held during the morning of Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October. Parents to be notified of the change.

Lesley

Lesley informed the meeting that the children enjoy doing things with Monikie School, however we need to know parents thoughts. Gillian felt that joint activities are a good idea, but that these should not always be held at Monikie. Lesley pointed out that the hall at Monikie is bigger and can therefore better accommodate the two schools. She also advised that Monikie footballers came down last session for a match against Newbigging pupils, and that the Monikie nursery are planning a trip to our nursery.

There are a lot of advantages in joint events which allow our pupils to get to know more children. Although arranging joint events outwith the school day involves two lots of Parent Councils, parents and staff, it was agreed that a joint activity should be arranged to see how it goes.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm

There being no further business the meeting finished at 8pm.