

**BROUGHTON PRIMARY**



**PARENT COUNCIL**

Challenge Achieve Nurture

**For your Information:**

**Chair:** Maryanne Jenkins

**Vice Chair:** Lesley Mason

**Treasurer:** Helen Wood

**Secretary:** Lynne Short

**To contact us:** [BroughtonParents@outlook.com](mailto:BroughtonParents@outlook.com)

Parent Council Remote Meeting – **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 @ 6.30pm**

**Present:** Lynne Short, Maryanne Jenkins, Lesley Mason, Maureen Swinburne (Principal Teacher), Vicky Grant, Alphedia Kenchington, Malcolm Bruce, Susan Brown, Fiona McLachlan, Suzy Babb, Carn Peaston (Head Teacher)

**Apologies:** Helen Wood, Lynn Smith, Steph Stewart, Phoebe McCosh

## **MINUTES**

*Minutes from our last meeting were approved.*

### **1. Head Teacher's Report (Carn Peaston)**

- **Parent Consultations** - Due to COVID restrictions, we were unable to offer our face to face parent consultations. Staff embraced the change to telephone meetings and I was very appreciative of their efforts to ensure this approach was a success. Only 4 consultations were not able to take place and alternative arrangements have been made for parents who wanted an additional date. Feedback from staff has been positive and parent comments will be asked for as part of the Head Teacher survey on Reporting and Communication.
- **Learning Journals** – Most children returned their Learning Journals with parent signature or comment (60%)– ACTION: HT to survey families on reporting and communication.

LM commented that it was not particularly obvious where in the Learning Journal to comment and what kind of things parents should be commenting on.

- **Dyslexia Awareness Week** – As part of our inclusion strategy, Mrs Lawson lead a very successful week on raising the awareness of how people with dyslexia learn. We will aim to look at an Autism week in future.

National & Regional guidelines on Inclusivity & Nurturing have been published in poster format by SBC. These guidelines will be shown on the school website, on the notice board at the gates and in school notes. Broughton Primary is well on the way to covering all areas in the guidelines. This is reassuring but staff are aware that there is still work to do and forthcoming training will go out to **all** staff involved in school.

- **Book Week** - Mrs Swinburne in her role as Literacy Ambassador planned lots of activities to encourage good reading habits at home and at school. The week was hugely successful.
- **Accelerated Reader** - Mrs Swinburne will produce Parent Information sheet for Accelerated Reader (AR). This will be issued in January 2021 along with the children's user

details. It was felt that an info sheet would be accessible to all families rather than a zoom meeting which would depend on all families having good broadband.

MJ clarified that AR is accessible to all P4-P7 pupils.

- **Remembrance** – MS took ownership of Remembrance activities. As children were unable to lay a wreath at the memorial as usual, class discussion and activities took place. Children created messages of thanks and created poppies for display in school and in windows.

- **Outdoor toys** – Mrs Roy and the Pupil Council have been very busy ordering outdoor toys. Suppliers have let them down but hopefully a solution to the short supply of the requested toys has been found. Thank you PC for your generous support.

- **Fundraising: School Tea Towels** – A great response to this fundraiser. 274 Tea Towels have been sold and the school has bought 300. This allows any late buyers the chance to get their hands on this fantastic Tea Towel – Thanks to Mrs Roy for organising this for us. School has approx £300 profit as a result.

- **Respectful Relationships Policy** – Re-launched by the P7's and shared with parents via Thursday Notes. Parents have been encouraged to discuss the contents of the policy with their children to support a shared approach to the use of the language around the policy.

- **Hi-Viz Vests** – As part of SBC 20mph initiative, all the children were issued Hi-Viz vests. It is a requirement that they are worn to and from school by all pupils.

- **Christmas Calendar:**

**Christmas Activity Day** – 2nd Dec PM, all children will take part in making Christmas Craft – their crafts will be brought home. Craft materials funded by Parent Council.

**Christmas Lunch** 10th December. Order on ParentPay please.

**Parties** – P6/7 - 15th Dec PM, P1/2/3 – 16th Dec AM, P4/5/6 - 17th Dec PM, (Food funded by Parent Council)

**Christmas Panto** - Thank you to Parent Council for covering the cost of the virtual Panto. This will be shared with the children 16th Dec PM

**Nativity** – ELC and P1/2/3 will be producing a short drama of their version of The Christmas Story. This will be shown to the whole school on Friday 18th December. A private link will be shared with families from ELC & P1/2/3 to watch this remotely.

**Christmas Cards** – We are suggesting that we discourage the giving of cards this year due to the COVID restrictions and because we are an ECO School. An alternative would be for each class to make a large card and display them in the corridor for everyone to see.

LM asked about teacher gifts. CP requested no gifts to be sent in this year please.

VG suggested a donation might be made to a local foodbank in the school's name as an alternative. CP will investigate this.

**Polytunnel/Outdoor Classroom** – MJ asked for an update. CP clarified that these are now in the hands of SBC's Senior Property Manager. The current hold-up is with the supplier who is located in England therefore in lockdown.

## **2. Treasurer's Report** (Helen Wood/Maryanne Jenkins)

There were no questions arising from the report (published with school notes Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov)

Andrew Mason will chase up the Transport Grant.

## **3. Feedback from Parents' Survey** (Maryanne Jenkins)

There were 8 responses and 3 main issues as follows:

- **Water availability at school**

If a pupil forgets their water bottle, can staff help?

CP explained that the water fountains must be switched off at present but if a child informs a member of staff, a sterile cup can be given to the child for the day.

- **'Inclusion Officer' Role in Pupil Council**

A parent had requested such a role in order to give a voice in all decision making to support children who may have additional needs.

CP felt that although BPS practice is currently very inclusive, we are absolutely open to comment and recommendation.

MS was concerned that if one particular child took on this responsibility, it could diminish the collective responsibility of the entire school community to be the voice of inclusion. She felt strongly that we must all share this responsibility, all the time.

AK & LM agreed that this is a shared responsibility for all those in school.

CP suggested that this was worth further discussion.

- **Times of PC Meetings**

Several parents suggested in the survey that the current meeting time of 6.30 – 7.30pm was not possible for them. We are keen to try alternative arrangements. MJ proposed that the next meeting be 1-2pm on a weekday to give an opportunity to all parents to attend. This was agreed.

## **4. Events / Fundraising** (Maryanne Jenkins)

MJ explained that no events or fundraising was planned for this term. A tentative wellbeing evening organised by AK has been postponed due to illness. We hope that this will go ahead after Christmas with a possible date of 15<sup>th</sup> January.

LS has applied for grant funding from Tesco. This replaces their 'Bags of Help' scheme during the pandemic. We may be awarded a grant of up to £1000 to help costs of weatherproofing the outdoor classroom.

MJ reminded parents to use Easyfundraising when Christmas shopping online. BPS is a registered cause.

Susan & James Brown are selling Christmas trees this weekend (28 & 29 November). Profits will be split between the school and the Parent Council. Many thanks to them.

#### **5. PC webpage (Maryanne Jenkins)**

Many thanks to Nick Haworth for building the school's temporary website [www.broughtonprimary.org.uk](http://www.broughtonprimary.org.uk). Post-Covid, Nick will come into school to work with the children on content for the permanent website.

Parent Council now has a page on there. Meeting agendas & minutes, useful info and forthcoming events will be available to view. We also have a PayPal 'Donate' button on the page!

#### **6. AOB**

AK asked about school shoes and allowing children a change of indoor shoe now that winter is here. CP is looking into this. Please put a spare pair of socks into your child's bag in the meantime.

Susan Brown asked about the police presence in school this week. Her child had been worried. MS explained that the Community Police Officers had been working with P6/7 but were unable to make their usual visit to all classrooms due to COVID restrictions. CP will follow up with staff and parents to ask for support in driving home the message that the police are here to support and help us rather than something to fear.

Meeting ended 7.31pm