

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

Parent Council Remote Meeting Tuesday 14th September @ 7pm

Present: Maryanne Jenkins, Helen Wood, Lynne Short, Carn Peaston (Head Teacher), Maureen Swinburne (Principal Teacher), Suzy Babb, Alphedia Kenchington, Malcolm Bruce, Annie Butlin, Julia Milne, Susan Brown, Chelsea Shapiro-Waugh, Fiona McLachlan, Francesca Bell

Apologies: Vicky Grant, Jenny Hutchison, Lesley Mason, Shona Scott, Hilary Rennie, Laura Deans, Vashti May-Driver

MINUTES

1. Welcome

Maryanne welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed Carn back after her leave. She thanked Maureen & Jenni Curson for their hard work in leading the school during Carn's absence. Minutes from the last meeting were signed off by Helen & Alphedia.

2. Parent Council Update (Maryanne)

- Maryanne discussed Parent Council's fundraising success despite the difficulties posed by Covid. Grants from Upper Tweed Community Council and Tweedsmuir Community Council as well as Arnold Clark and Tesco have been secured this year. All things considered, this has been a positive year for fundraising.
- Maryanne thanked all parents who have supported the maintenance of the poly tunnel over the summer holiday. She encouraged any further help that parents can give.
- Parent Council Committee: Maryanne proposed Annie Butlin as Vice Chairperson and Phoebe McCosh as Treasurer with effect from January. They both attended a Committee meeting last week. **A Chairperson and Secretary still need to be appointed. It is extremely important that at least one of these roles be filled by a parent from the current P456 class. Without this the upper end of the school will not be represented in Parent Council for the next two years. Please speak to a member of the committee and get involved if you can. It is only a two-year term; it is rewarding and it makes a difference to your child's experience!**

3. Head Teacher's Update (Carn)

Session 2020/21

Learning, Teaching and Assessment:

The introduction of iPads for all children in P4-7 was embraced during lockdown. Staff very quickly became upskilled offered all P1 – 7 children the opportunity to engage in daily live lessons. Most children engaged in two live lessons per day.

ELC children had the opportunity to join a weekly live session, including story time, show and tell and an opportunity to share experiences, as well as the planned one : one weekly phone calls with families to update on any

developments, progress or wellbeing concerns. Activities were emailed directly to parents or uploaded to their class Teams files.

P1-7 targeted sessions were also delivered by the Support for Learning Teacher and by supporting agencies (Inclusion & Wellbeing, Autism Outreach, and Speech & Language).

Children who did not have access to digital technology at home were provided with iPads, Laptops and wi-fi dongles.

Children and staff have become much more confident in using digital technology to support learning.

Feedback from parents (**39 responses from a possible 49 (80%) January 2021**) stated that the majority parents felt live lessons were useful and most felt they pitch at the right level to meet their child's needs. The majority of the parents shared that quality of the work set was the right amount and most felt that their child was able to access timely help and advice from the class teacher. Almost all parents were able to support their child's learning and had a better understanding of their child's next steps as a direct result of the level of communication from the school.

Both parents and children reported problems with technology hardware and broadband width. This was a direct result of the schools' geographic location and the remote locality of many families. Hard copies of planned work and direct communication i.e. phone calls were made available for families who had little or no access to the live sessions. Parents and children also reported tensions with timings of lessons - families with more than one child. Staff responded by planning collaboratively to ensure timings of live sessions did not crossover and a timetable of live sessions were issued a week in advance to assist with the reduction of the tensions reported.

All staff have engaged in high level digital learning to up skill their teaching across the digital platforms.

Staff across all stages have engaged in professional learning in numeracy and literacy and have implemented increased use of concrete/pictorial/abstract approaches. This has had a positive impact on attainment.

Next steps involve working in partnership with Speech and Language and the Language and Communication Service to promote making children's thinking visible through increased opportunities to promote pupil voice/language in class. Staff will work collaboratively with 2 other cluster schools. (Newlands & Halyrude)

Inclusion and Wellbeing

All teaching and support staff have participated in SBC training on Nurturing Approaches and all now have a clearer understanding of the importance of nurture in promoting positive relationships, behaviours and wellbeing so that children can achieve and engage in all aspects of school life. This is reflected in the schools' reviewed 'Positive Relationship Policy'.

Engagement with all children identified that they can talk more readily about their emotions. Developing awareness and impact of emotions continues to be a focus across the school.

Returning to school after lockdown – The priority of Broughton School for this session was to nurture our children back into the school setting. Children reengaged with motivation and confidence as a result of careful planning of the first terms activities, including the Growing Project along with the involvement of outside agencies.

Outdoor learning/learning outdoors are firmly embedded in Broughton's Curriculum (ELC - P7). The children experience at least one session outdoors each day. Parent Council secured funding for an outdoor classroom and the erection of the community funded Polytunnel. Establishing community engagement, during the school day, to support and continue Broughton's Growing Project will commence when COVID restrictions allow.

There have been carefully planned opportunities for transition this year, both for our P7 children and the children moving into primary one from our ELC setting as well as from private providers.

Next Steps in relation to learning teaching, assessment and inclusion.

- To engage with the themes from What Scotland Learned: Building back better throughout the year.
- Increase teacher confidence in engaging with the both the Learning, Teaching, Assessment and Inclusion frameworks. Developing this through book groups, reading and discussing key texts and implementing improvements in the classroom in collaboration with other schools.
- To review Learning & Teaching Framework including the review of outdoor learning/learning outdoors
- To review Learning Journals in ELC setting – capturing success and next steps timeously
- Engage with SBC's Early Years Team to deliver high quality learning across all areas of the ELC learning environment
- To revisit Curriculum Rationale, Vision and Aims.
- To develop Loose Parts Play to support creative play across the school
- To develop oracy and vocabulary in partnership with the Speech and Language Service. This will be a whole school approach and a professional learning opportunity for all staff.
- Developing opportunities for online family learning in literacy and technologies.
- To focus on positive nurturing relationships required to maximise learning while exploring the six principles of nurture with staff and children begin to implement this in our school.
- To continue to improve the classroom climate to make it safe, respectful, welcoming and inclusive through the Circle framework.

Acknowledgments

- A huge thank to our Parent Council for all their work and commitment in supporting Broughton School Community throughout a very challenging and unique year.
- Projected PC expenditure to secure items on wish list and individual class donations of £50
- Securing grants to support STEM embedment with our curriculum.

4. Outdoor Learning (Annie Butlin)

- Annie asked if BPS has a member of staff trained in Forest School. Carn replied that all staff are trained in outdoor learning. We use Michelle Fraser for specific Forest School activities.
- Carn further explained that we are due to re-engage with Michelle Fraser and have secured funding for eight weeks of 2.5 hours of targeted outdoor support for groups of children who may not otherwise have access to extra-curricular activities and groups of children who may need support with emotional well-being.
- Further to this, Carn explained that the 'orchard' area at the back of the school grounds is due to be cleared. Steve (janitor) is keen to lead on this and develop this area of the school. Pupil Parliament and the school Eco-Group will also be involved.
- Maryanne asked about the current Covid regulations and a timeframe for external bodies to come into school grounds. Carn replied that no official decision has yet been made.
- Maryanne asked about class trips related to outdoor learning. Some parents are keen for these to go ahead: what are the current regulations? Carn replied that SBC is discouraging this at the moment. It is very frustrating, but she is hopeful that she will be able to say yes at some point in the not too distant future.

5. Treasurer's Report (Helen)

Broughton Primary Parent Council – AGM Financial report YTD 2021

Report date: Updated at 13th September 2021

The financial year runs from January to December, we will be looking at the accounts for 2020, which have been audited and signed off by Katy Miller.

Broughton Primary School Parent Council

Summary of Finances

Period 1st January to 31st December 2020

<u>Income</u>	2020	2019
Christmas 2019 Raffle	330.15	
Bananas Playgroup	1,700.00	
Upper Tweed Community Council	200.00	
Easy Fundraising	99.44	
J & S Brown - Christmas Trees	420.00	
Clyde Windfarm Transport Grant - Approved 2019	6,300.00	
Interest	2.88	
Total Income in year	<u>9,052.47</u>	<u>5,958.02</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Village Hall Hire - Halloween	43.00	
BPS - IDL Funding	238.80	
Transport - Angus Swan (Peebles HS Transport)	80.00	
Fasthost Internet	14.99	
Sumdog Annual Renewal	312.00	
End of Year Covid19 Goodie Bag	436.76	
First News	235.60	
PVSL (Screening Licence)	128.00	
Accelerated Reading	566.65	
Sports Equipment	407.92	
Christmas Gifts Activity Packs	70.48	
Pantomime Online - Christmas	150.00	
Christmas Gifts Teachers & Children	219.48	
Total Expenditure in year	<u>2,903.68</u>	<u>13,412.65</u>
Net Cash Flow	6,148.79	-7,454.63
Cash Brought Forwards	5,044.70	12,499.33
Cash Carried Forwards	11,193.49	5,044.70
Represented By:		
Cash at bank	11,150.84	5,002.05
Cash in hand	42.65	42.65
Total Actual Balance at 31st Dec 2020	<u>11,193.49</u>	<u>5,044.70</u>

- Started January 2021 in credit **£11,150.84 at the bank**
- **Income for 2021 (to date): £4607.81 – Main items:**

Alphedia Kenchington Wellbeing Evening	£ 666.86
Easy Fundraising	£ 70.47
BPS Contribution towards Flower Beds	£ 120.00
Summer Social Fundraiser	£ 851.00
Bank Interest	£ 2.68
Upper Tweed Community Council Grant	£ 250.00
Tweedsmuir Comm. Council Grant	£ 646.80
Arnold Clark Covid-19 Funding	£1000.00
Tesco Community Grant	£1000.00
Total Income	£4607.81

• **Expenditure for 2021 (to date): £2772.79 – Main items:**

Polytunnel / Flowers Beds / Tarpaulin	£1134.88
Notice Board	£ 859.00
SBC Lottery Licence	£ 20.00
Outdoor Sports Equipment	£ 45.84
Atkinson Pryce Books	£ 208.52
PVC Licence	£ 132.00
Sports Day Ice-creams	£ 62.00
End of Year Teacher Gratuities	£ 225.55
Transport – P7 Residential	£ 85.00
Total Expenditure to date:	£2772.79

- Deficit for the year of **£1835.02** resulting in a closing balance of **£12,985.86** as of today's date.

6. **Communication: School – Parents (Maryanne on behalf of parents from ELC & P1&2)**

- Maryanne raised a point on behalf of parents from P1/2 and ELC. In the current climate some parents – particularly those of younger pupils – are feeling a disconnect from the school. Can staff please think about ways to create more connection with school, e.g. ways for parents to see inside the school, to see staff etc? Carn replied that staff are currently exploring the 'Showbie' app. There are plans for pupils in P1 upwards to have iPads and apps on here will also help to create a connect with the school. Carn also has an idea to give a tour of the school in a video via Pupil Parliament with an intro from herself and Maureen. This is still in consultation with pupils. We would aim to get this out to parents by October half term.
- Alphedia raised a question about the school website. This still appears to be temporary and has very little content. Where are we with this? Carn responded that we do need to move on with the website and she will be reviewing this matter with Maureen. It will be improved over time.
- Alphedia further asked how parents could access school policies – surely the website would be ideal? Maureen said that at present parents could contact Barbara, the school secretary, and she can email out any requested policies and information. Carn will be looking into this matter.

7. **Hallowe'en (Maryanne)**

- Covid risks mean that there will be no Hallowe'en party again this year. There will be similar events to last year within school: the Friday before Hallowe'en, children will be allowed to wear fancy dress into school. Games and activities will be organised by class teachers. Parent Council will fund drinks and sweets.
- Maryanne will contact Emma Reid regarding the Pumpkin Trail that was successful in Broughton last year. She is hopeful of a similar event this year.

8. **AOB**

- Maryanne explained that we have an updated Wish List from school and are working on it.

- It is possible that some of the cost of the revamp of the orchard area could be covered by the Tesco grant. We are also hopeful of a revamp of the nurture room in school, changing it to a reading hub. Parent Council will financially support wherever possible.
- We also expect to help fund ongoing poly tunnel development.
- Francesca raised the after-school club. Is there any way of taking this forward? Maryanne explained that before the pandemic, Newlands had considered taking this on. Carn explained that Newlands now has funding for an electric minibus so there is potential to pick up children from Broughton. We will need to revisit this with Joe at Newlands. Carn will speak with him and Maryanne will back this up with an email. We don't want to lose children due to a lack of after-school care. If another parent survey were required, Francesca will take that on.

Meeting ended at 8.10pm.