

MPiP Minutes Monday 23rd February 2015 7pm, School Staff Room

ATTENDANCE

Attendees: Leah McKinnon, Helena McKerron, Gillian Law, Joanne Provan, Jane Brown, Carol Harper, Hazel Fraser, Joanne Lord, Rebecca McLennan, Liby Davidson, Lesley Buchan, Ruth Scott, Sarah Stephen, Estelle Winward,

APOLOGIES

Donna Sim, Jill and Bruce Thomson, Jenny McGillivray, Fraser Edward, Joanne Evans, Elaine Yeats, Alastair Beaton, Kathryn Michie.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND UPDATES

CH requested that the discussion of the school website which is now up and running at <http://meldrum-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/> be entered into the minutes.

MATTERS ARISING

LM has been in contact with Philip Leiper, Roads Manager for the area, to discuss road safety on Meadowbank. His initial thoughts are that it may be possible to kerb the radius of the road on the corner. He has requested that one of his staff inspect the site then. MPiP is also to be sent a program of works regarding the placement of a pedestrian barrier on Commercial Road.

On 28th January LM, AB and Kerry Marr met to discuss the road safety campaign. This is still in the early stages and further updates will follow.

Education City is our current online homework package but has not been used much this session as the program changed in August/September and there have been log in issues amongst other problems. Teachers were given training during the February in-service and new log in details are being issued to pupils. The package is due for renewal on 7th May, we will be given 13 months for the price of 12 due to the earlier issues. Letters will be sent to parents to explain how to use the service at home. Matter to be revisited at the MPiP meeting in May, decision to be made then whether to continue with this service.

Climbing wall – Aberdeenshire Council has agreed to pay for repair and Robertsons will then provide annual maintenance.

H&S issues with the storage container – H&S inspected and gave recommendations, Business Support have been contacted and AB is meeting with Ed McGann to push for appropriate work to be done.

HEAD TEACHER'S UPDATE

Looking ahead to next session our projected roll currently stands at 385. As this number is just three pupils below the threshold for 15 classes our QIO has indicated

that she is happy for us to plan on having 15 classes again next session. This could potentially be two straight classes at each stage and a P1/2 composite.

Nursery enrolment began today so it's too early to give an indication of Nursery numbers for next session. It's LIKELY that we will have a 100 place Nursery with 12 spaces for Extended Provision - the same as we've had since January of this year.

Staffing wise it looks likely that I'll be remaining in Nursery until 8th May. I've requested an update on our vacancies but there's been no progress to date on maternity cover for Mrs Elder, so our plans remain for Miss Harper to take P1E from Easter through to summer. I'll be mentioning in my next newsletter that Mrs McKee in Orange/Green Nursery is expecting a baby and will be going on maternity leave at the summer holidays. At this stage I don't know if her maternity will be covered by a teacher or a Nursery Nurse.

As mentioned in the last newsletter we seem to be making progress at last with the climbing wall. Two companies have been approached to provide quotes and once refurbished, RFM will take on the maintenance on an annual basis at no cost to the school. I'll keep pressing for timescales for the work to be undertaken.

One final issue to share is that of pupil late arrival at school. Parents will be aware of the stats from my newsletters. We're just about to write to parents of late arrivals for January. For info we had a total of 138 instances of late arrival for the period 5th - 30th January.

TREASURER'S UPDATE

Our current bank balance is £12095.29. Recent rag bag collections raised £247.20. We received a refund of £9.59 for face paints from the Xmas Fayre.

Elizabeth Buchan sorted all the DVDs and CDs and sent them to Music Magpie, earning £54.90 for MPiP. Huge thanks to her for this mammoth task.

£1182.50 was spent on class allowances for all 22 classes within school and nursery. Apologies for the delay in providing this to the classes.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The upcoming fundraising event is the BODEN SHOPPING EVENT on Tuesday 3rd March. There will be a range of clothing available to try on and customers will receive a 22% discount, free delivery and returns. The first thirty customers will receive a free canvas Boden bag and there will also be the chance to win a £50 Boden voucher. LM

MPiP GROUP REPS UPDATE

After being approached by Mr Beaton the reps have organised volunteers to serve refreshments at the nursery open days to be held later this week. They also

discussed doing this at any further induction events and/or information evenings and are happy to help organise this as the school requires.

They discussed the reps volunteering to do 'school/nursery uniform viewings' after a couple of reps said they did this last year. This was done as the end of a few chosen nursery sessions so parents could see and children try on the uniforms prior to ordering. The reps are happy to organise this.

After being approached by LM, the reps have decided to take on the responsibility of organising the Halloween party and plan to have meetings in term 4 to begin the process.

Reps are happy to help as required with the Boden event.

Easyfundraising was discussed and the reps are to promote this again. DS to liaise with RS re email to the school and KM re promotion on the Facebook page.

Maura Roberts and her family are moving to Indonesia at the end of April and as such she will be stepping down as MPiP Group Rep. I would like to thank her for her contribution to MPiP and wish her and her family all the best. LM

AOB

Joanne Evans will be doing a gardening class with Mrs Bremner's class starting in March, she will be applying to MPiP for funding and will submit the appropriate forms once the budget is decided. The football club will also be requesting funding from MPiP in due course.

Could the children be allowed to play outside in the snow when there is no ice on the playground? A suggestion was made of parents clearing the snow from the playgrounds to allow this. The school will investigate whether insurance will allow this. Currently the children are only kept indoors if some or all of the playground is icy but the situation can change throughout the day.

How can parents find out about after school clubs running at the school? Some activities are private lets so uncertain whether the school would be allowed to advertise them. Other classes are run through Active Schools. CH to find out whether any information could be put on the school website.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 24TH MARCH, 7PM, SCHOOL STAFF ROOM