

Meldrum Parents in Partnership (MPIP) - Meeting 8.11.2023

Attendees:- C Harper, L Holland, L Fowlie, F Morris, L Downie, G. Gorman, Mrs Brown, C Skinner Gifford (**Virtual** - L Bremner, S West, L Kingdon)

Apologies:- None

Updates:-

Head Teacher Update:

OTTER Clubs

OTTER Clubs started again today. These are skills based clubs which encourage team work and children from different stages across the school. Examples of clubs – sketching, origami, cartoon drawing, K’NEX, singing, Lego, team challenges, clay modelling, dance.

These will continue for the remainder of the school session and children will get a chance to go to each different club.

P7 Residential Trip

P7 (and staff) had a great time visiting Abernethy, Nethybridge during the last week of last term. The house and facilities are excellent and the children enjoyed all the activities on offer. The swimming pool was also a big hit with everyone. We have booked to go again next Autumn.

Community

P7 will be heading up to the church this Friday to take part in their Remembrance Day Service.

We will also be visiting the church at the end of term for our Christmas Services.

Christmas Events

We will have a busy December with P1 Nativity performance, P2,3,4 performance and P5,6,7 Craft Afternoon. As usual we plan to mark Christmas jumper day and will have our School Christmas Lunch too.

School Improvement Plan

We continue to work on our school improvement priorities.

- Literacy – we have completed some audit work with staff around literacy across the school. This week, we will be working with focus groups of children to gather their views and plan to ask parents/carers for their views this term too, starting with MPiP this evening! Literacy is a big part of the curriculum so will be a focus improvement area for us over this session and next session.
- CIRCLE (Child, Inclusion, Research Into, Curriculum, Learning, Education). This is a tool to help us audit our inclusive practice.

We will be working on both of these priorities during November inservice days.

Self Evaluation

We are also prioritising our work on self evaluation this session. As part of this, we would like to seek more and better feedback from parents/carers. How best can we do this?

School Fayre

7 stalls please.

Nursery, P2A, P2B, P3B, P4A, P4B, P7A, P7B.

Feedback discussion - Discussion regarding how best to capture feedback. Priority for MPIP to get Sway set up. Links on Facebook page. Conscious not to send out too many emails. Speak to people when they are in school for consultation/any in classroom events. Drop off/pick up at disco or at Xmas fayre.

Access to MPIP email discussed. Needs to be sorted. Sway to also be sorted. Sway can be linked to the website.

Finance update : J Good brief update. Balance is £4,869.62. Ringfenced £630 for Xmas wreaths minus the 1 refund. Football nil balance – coach is aware. £438.02 netball team. One cheque not issued for Sharon for £32.80 for tuck shop for the disco. Cheque for Fiona not cashed yet (£173.96). Split tuck shop money between the Halloween & Xmas disco. Payment set up yesterday for the library software £550. That will need approval. Down to £3,025.04 MPIP funds available. Halloween took in with tuck shop & event brite £735.33. Paid out DJ & Tuck shop £363.28. Profit for Halloween disco £372.05. Rag bag income £150. J Main £135 income 3 wreath tickets. Jill to send an email tomorrow so back up to 16 wreath making now. 10 tables for payments for the Xmas Fayre, another 5 to come.

Grants & funding: Separate catch up about that to be arranged. Louise, Tracey, Carol & Laura met to discuss before the summer holidays. Outdoor area play & sound system for the school is the focus of grant applications. Laura & Tracey have put in applications for various things so just waiting to hear. Updated quote required for outdoor signage. Ms Harper to chase up quote for outdoor signage from Hunter Construction.

Events update. Everyone enjoyed it. Nice to see kids in the school & efforts with the costumes. School Fayre coming up. Wreath making workshop 16 paid. Probably at about 20 people. 30 would be the max. Closing date required for Linsey to buy the material - 1 or 2 days before the event should be fine.

Xmas Fayre catch up after this meeting. 25 November 2023. Chocolate tombola & bottles for the bottle stall to be requested. Donation of home bakes, just need the ingredients on the packaging. We did hot chocolate last year. Discussed Xmas jumper swap sale. School to do an appeal. More school uniform as well we could put out as well as the Xmas jumpers. Hand them into the office before the Xmas Fayre. Discussed warm winter jackets. Abernecessities were looking for any surplus jackets & jumpers and we can sort out what is left.

Valentines Disco 17 Feb 2024. Let not done for it yet. Eventbrite have increased their price so may need to consider another method of selling tickets. Online form & they pay cash on the day. Try to find out what the Academy use. Fine for Wreath workshop as its low numbers but when there are 300 pupils more difficult to manage. Ticketboom, Viagogo may be possibility.

Colour Run – planned for 2024

Burns Night Social – 27 Jan 2024 possibly. Meldrum Golf Club. They would do the food etc. Still need to find a band & sell the tickets. Sharon to get back in touch with the golf club. Fundraiser & open to the community. Johnny said before happy to help out with music.

Parents rep discussion – P1, 2s are sorted. Idea of the Rep is for someone who can encourage people to contact the school with issues etc. Discussed Microsoft form link on the website or Sway etc. No P1, P5 or P7 reps in MPIP. Point of contact for the year group. Discussed setting up Whats app groups for the intake year. Year intake rather than changing the primary every year. Try a combination of Sway, parent info rep/flow person, etc.

Parents Voice –

- P5 show. Feedback from some that they have missed out. When you alternate 2 years then they don't have a show. Always tended to alternate. They will get a show next year. They have a craft afternoon this year. P1s do their own show & then we alternate between early & upper.
- Class & individual school photos on alternate years - Photos always been class one year, individual the next year. Maybe class photos aren't as popular. Cluster HTs Whatsapp – some schools have both every year at different times, some do what we do. Photographer is booked for 2 days this year so too much to do class & individual over 2 days this year. School doesn't pay for the photos but gets commission. Individual photos get more commission than the class photos but we do get commission for them all. Photographer coming next week to take class photos. Maybe class photo one term & individual photos before Xmas in future. Keep as it is this year & look to change next year. Confirmation that our school does sibling photos.
- Music tuition – Chanter just started getting info back. Music tuition is dealt with centrally & when spaces come up parents/carers are usually contacted. Agreed to add link to the minute & school newsletter/Sway. Can be ad hoc as just when there is space. [Music tuition - Aberdeenshire Council](#)
- P1s feedback mentioned in first half of the year a lot of rough play with older kids hitting/kicking. Was an issue last year with P1s and was settled down after Christmas. Remind children to find a PSA if they need one. Some children are drawn to the quiet playground. With equipment out they get a chance to do skipping/ball etc. Skipping is really popular.
- More reminders about change to the school time in January would be handy. From Monday 8th January 2024 school hours for P1-7 children will be changing to 9.00am – 3.00pm.
- P1 & P2 more info on “VIP” & “leadership” – Junior leadership. Voice. Junior VIP to go into next newsletter. VIP cards seems to be working well.
- Query regarding school times – change of hours, were MPIP consulted & what was their responses. Confirmation that everyone had the opportunity to respond. Another reminder out again about the school times changing. Term 3 & 4 probably in next newsletter. Need MPIP events in the school calendar. Add in the event dates as well. Calendar could go on the school website.

AOCB – Santa Sleigh Rotary want helpers. Just to confirm it is going ahead. Dates waiting for him to tell Fiona not sure if he wants 6th Dec. Meldrum 11 & 12 Dec. Don't know how much elf helpers are needed. Nursery getting money for puddle suits. Staff could assist. Could be any parent.

School Xmas fayre – GP room out of bounds now it is a class. For Santa's grotto, Santa could read a story. 20-30 children listen to a story then get present. One end of the room possibly. Helena kindly

said she would come & set up the grotto. Gym hall would be too noisy. Discussion about best room to use for Santa. Cauliflower cards - everything got posted away & everything delivered & has been dispelled to classes.

Self evaluation – literacy – parents in attendance were asked for feedback such as; What do you think literacy looks like? What does your child enjoy across the school & what they say? How do you support your child with literacy at home? How can we support you to support your child with literacy at home?

Next MPiP meeting – TBC