



PTA Meeting 15th January 2018

Apologies : Sue Maxwell, Fiona Guthrie, Sharon, Seeley, Gemma Dunnigan, JoAnne McCafferty, Leanne Inglis

Present: Mrs McNeill, Linda Inglis, Lesley Cairns, Miss Gibson, Arlene France, Elaine Hood, Louise Black

Welcome back and thank you all very much for your continued support over the year. Thank you for all your efforts at the Christmas fayre also.

Previous minutes agreed by members present.

This year some of the main things to be paid out of the PTA fund is Lockerbie Manor and the Trim Trail. Mrs McNeill calculated the cost of this year's Lockerbie Manor to £560. the PTA will fund this. The trim trail will cost £1300 to fix and the school are happy if the PTA half this cost. The balance of the PTA bank balance is unknown as Leanne was unable to make tonight but will provide an updated balance separately. Once the balance is known this will be decided when we can pay half the cost (£650).

The house captains had asked for £300 for equipment all in agreement this will be granted.

The website will launch this Friday and all children from the school and nursery have entered a competition to see who will launch this. Mrs McNeill is looking for members of the PTA who are available on Friday morning to attend this event in school to represent the PTA. Lesley, Linda and Elaine have offered to go to this. The Website total has come to £375 due to additional pages having to be added. The PTA have already given £250 so £125 is required to pay the full cost.

Mrs McNeills update.

1. Staffing update

The nursery is now fully staffed, Mrs Wood and Mrs Scott joined us in November as permanent SLC employees. They both work mornings only at present. Both ladies have fitted in well to the nursery

team. They have a lot of experience from other nurseries and have been sharing their ideas during team meetings.

2. Wider Achievements

P4-7 are undertaking a block of Rugby with outreach Development Officers from Biggar Rugby Club. They seem to be enjoying these sessions on a Tuesday.

Clubs have started up again today with the Girls' Football training, other clubs start during this week. There will be a P3 Multi-sports Club on Thursday lunchtimes for a 5 week block with Active Schools; P1-2 will get a similar opportunity at the end of this block.

Una Cunningham has been working with P5s all of last term, they have been learning to play the Glockenspiel and are giving a concert on Friday for the whole school.

The choir were much in demand at the end of last term. The highlight was taking part in the SL Orchestral Society's concert at the Town House, Hamilton. This was very well received.

Mrs Blades has been awarded the BEM in the Queen's New Year Honours list in recognition of her work with the Girls' Brigade. We are all very proud of her and please for her success.

3. Assemblies

Mr Kelly is with us again for religious Observance assemblies, we have a new minister in the village whom I intend to invite along and introduce to our pupils; he will eventually become part of the chaplaincy team if he chooses to.

The first class assembly is Room 5 on 2nd February.

The main theme for other assemblies this term will be 'Included' as this is the focus for HWB.

4. Website

The website is due to be launched on Friday, 19th January at our assemblies and in the nursery. We have organised a competition to choose children to press the launch button.

The final cost will be £375 due to the number of additional pages we require.

5. School Development

The Technologies Working Party, led by Miss Gibson, have been looking at the use of Google Classrooms. The staff involved and children in the pilot classes seem to be enjoying the experience. We hope to cascade this resource to all staff during our February INSET day.

We will be having a Validated Self-Evaluation inspection from the authority during the final term. This is similar to the one we participated in last session but will focus on an aspect of learning and teaching this year.

Mrs Currie and Miss McGuinness have been on training to update their skills in teaching writing. Mrs Currie is looking at the resources she learned about to help form a whole school approach to Listening and Talking with a view to raising attainment in writing as pupils develop their vocabulary.

More classes are using Easimaths as this is rolled out, with pupils finding this a motivational way to learn.

The House Captains have been helping me with development of the school grounds although we have not yet had a response from the Young Farmers. Arlene has sourced a company who would be willing to volunteer time and donate plants, so hopefully once the weather improves we can move forward with this. Mrs Kerr and I visited Lanark Primary to look at their ideas for Outdoor Learning, some of these have been implemented within the nursery. We hope to see the Trim Trail repaired once the weather improves and then we will look at ways to promote the use of the outdoor spaces.

Food Fortnight was well received by teachers and pupils. The HWB working party led this and as part of this we highlighted ideas for the teaching of the Food Technologies outcomes.

6. Thank you

We would like to thank all of our volunteers and supporters including Mr Kane and Mr Shevill for their donations. The House and Vice Captains are helping me organise a Coffee Afternoon next Friday at 2pm in the Cafeteria. All of the PTA are of course invited as are our parent volunteers who help with excursions, etc.

So this year we are looking at some events to raise funds.

Lesley will organise a bag pack at ASDA Newmains when the community liason is back to work. It can be a Saturday or Sunday nearer the time we can look at availability for helpers and make the choice then. The bag pack normally runs from 10am-4pm so we could do this in 3 sessions and ask primary 6 and 7 for helpers. All helpers from school must come with a responsible adult. We would help at 8 checkouts and Lesley will bring the buckets.

We had a suggestion of an easter party and have decided to have this in school on Tuesday the 27th March P1-3 6.15-7pm and P4-7 7.15-8pm. Hall let will be until 8.30pm. set up will begin at 5pm. The idea of a prize for the best easter bonnet was suggested.

Arlene will contact the Fashion Show Company to arrange a date. If possible we decided 11th or 12th May 2018 as this is a weekend and we will see if the bowling club is available and if not we can look for a different venue.

The Summer Fayre will be held on Saturday the 16th June 2018 in school. 10am setup for this but we can set most things up on the Friday after school. The event will run from 11am until 1pm. Linda will ask the fire brigade and police to attend as guests.

We have thought about a film night and were hoping to hold this after summer, prior to the October week.

Mrs McNeill will have a think about football cards but feels they may not be the best idea for fundraising. There was mention of the lucky 50. A game where parents and family can buy a number and then a number from 1-50 is picked and the person who bought the number wins a prize. Also

mentioned was penny mile. These will both be reassessed at another meeting to see if they will be used as the calendar has a few events at present.

We had thought of other ways to raise money for the Trim Trail and one method suggested was a crowd funding page and Mrs McNeill feels this would be ok if the PTA set this up then donated the money to the school.

Amendment to May PTA meeting it will now be 14th May and not the 7th as previously stated.

Thank you all very much.