



Portlethen Parent Partnership

Meeting Minutes

VENUE:	Staff Room, Portlethen Primary School		
TIME:	6.30pm	DATE:	9 June 2015
ATTENDEES:	<p>Ian Bruce (Acting Chair), Judy Mathieson (Treasurer), Terri Taylor (Secretary), Nicola Brownie, Michelle Geekie, Christine Lyon, and Councillor Alison Evison</p> <p>Teaching staff: Jennifer Garnes, Sandra McKechnie, Laura Watson, Hannah Polson, Kirsti Colligan, Fiona Robertson and Steph Moir</p>		
APOLOGIES:	Debbie Mann (Vice Chair) and Nicola Garrod		

		ACTION	DUE BY
1	<p>Actions carried forward from 30 April 2015:</p> <p>No actions to be carried forward.</p>		
2	<p>Matters arising:</p> <p><u>Parent Contact Details</u></p> <p>A query was raised regarding updating of parent contact information. Mrs Garnes noted that the school relies on parents to advise on change of personnel details. The school issues an update form annually every September to notify of changes. This information is then updated by the School Administrator. It was agreed that going forward there would be mention of up keep of information on each of the school newsletters.</p>	JG	Immediate and going forward
3	<p><u>Headteacher Update</u></p> <p>Following an audit and consultation with pupils, parents, the teaching team and the wider community, a new Vision, Values and Aims strategy has been introduced.</p> <p>Behaviour Management and how conflict is dealt with in the school was assessed via a consultation group of pupils, teaching staff and parent representation. The group assessed how discipline is managed within the school. The school will work with an Educational Phycologist and Restorative Team with a date</p>		



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	<p>anticipated for November 2016.</p> <p>The curriculum rationale was reviewed and the teaching staff wish to assess how this is delivered to ensure all needs are being met.</p> <p>One option is 'bundling'. This includes 'bundling' experience and outcomes together in groupings of 3 or 4 through one or two lessons or interdisciplinary learning via a topic. Bundling will not include similar outcomes. The evidence is the focused outcome which is identified by the teachers. Bundling will ensure all outcomes are met over a 3 year period. This is not a new concept and will follow other authorities and schools.</p> <p>Learning and teaching:</p> <p>Big Writing is a scheme run throughout the UK which demonstrates how to attain and teach writing more effectively. A company has been identified to train all teaching staff on Big Writing. The total cost will be £2,000 for 20 spaces which will be shared with other schools to reduce the overall cost per head.</p> <p>Mental maths has been identified as an area which requires upskilling. There is now standardised testing used throughout Aberdeenshire in P1, 3, 5 and 7 and S3.</p> <p>Outdoor learning involves the use of outdoors and uniqueness to enhance the learning and teaching within the classroom. We are fortunate to have outstanding practise in the use of 'loose parts', in particular the nursery. In an effort to enhance technology and co-operation the nursery teachers have been team teaching other staff. The nursery children have demonstrated working more cohesively as it's embedded in the play. There is a lot of information and good practise available on outdoor learning and the current fundraising by PIP will enable this to take place.</p> <p>A government driven scheme called One plus Two is to be introduced. The scheme will mean that by 2020 every child will have one language (mother tongue spoken at home) plus learn 2 further languages between nursery and P7. Research has shown that this will enhance children's understanding of the English language. Clusters must be agreed, currently the Academy teach French and</p>		



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	<p>Spanish.</p> <p>The information on the Vision and Values has been published on the website, PPS Facebook and Portlethen Community Facebook page. Mrs Garnes has asked for it to be displayed in ASDA, the community centre and the library. Any other suggestions for advertising would be welcomed. A lot of people were consulted and the outcome is based on feedback from parents, teachers and the community. There will be an official launch to be held at Woodhill House.</p> <p>The information noted above is still flexible and any feedback should be directed to Mrs Garnes.</p> <p>There will be a Survey Monkey being issued tomorrow to parents to capture views on the schools performance – you said, we did.</p>		
4	<p><u>Pupil Council</u></p> <p>Mrs McKechnie advised that activity has tailed off a little due to the playground consultation.</p> <p>The children are following up on feedback for the school ties.</p>		
5	<p><u>Hillside School Update</u></p> <p>There will be a meeting on Wednesday 17 June at 6pm in the staff room where stakeholders have been invited to attend. This will not be a public meeting.</p> <p>Ian Bruce (Acting Chair) has been issued with a formal invitation to attend.</p> <p>It was noted that there is a further difference on the timescale as previously reported and this is now anticipated to be the end of the calendar year.</p> <p>It was noted that there is capacity at Portlethen Academy as the school capping is different.</p> <p>The next intake of P1 pupils has reduced to 89.</p>		



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	<p>Concerns were raised over disruption to children being moved. The question was asked 'how can you make the decision to move your child if the date keeps slipping?'</p> <p>There were further concerns over where children are to be taught. If we currently can't get Out of School provision for space, where are the children going to be taught? Also, concern over Out of School placements for siblings.</p>		
6	<p><u>Out of School Provision</u></p> <p>Councillor Evison continues to work on obtaining additional Out of School provision. Councillor Evison now holds the post of Chair for Education, Learning and Leisure and will make sure to note our concerns and will gain a clearer understanding.</p>		
7	<p><u>Project Update</u></p> <p><u>Playground Improvements</u></p> <p>To date the total raised is £14,000.</p> <p>One funding application has been submitted and a further application for Awards for All is being completed.</p> <p>The MUGA quotes have been received and range from £50,000 – £100,000.</p> <p>This week the children were recorded singing 'Help Us Play'. Letters have been drafted to Northsound, Original 106 and STV to promote our fundraising efforts. The recording will be upload to YouTube and hopefully will be live by Friday. The fundraising will be done through Crowd Funding which means we need to meet our target or we receive no money at all. Pledges are only taken at the end of the pledge period.</p> <p>PIP are generating green tokens at ASDA. If we win then we will receive £200. Mrs McKechnie to remind children to request tokens at assembly.</p> <p>There will be an upcycle day in the playground on 21 June.</p>	SM	Next assembly



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	There will be a Car Boot sale on 28 June in the playground.		
8	<p><u>Treasurers Update</u></p> <p>No change is held funds for PPP.</p> <p>There is £13,321 banked for PIP, this includes money received from Mrs Garnes for a fundraising event she held.</p> <p>There is still more money to be received: £414 dance off, Eco group £91, 2 children donated £18 following a penalty shoot-out which they held, £400 from Sinead Ewen for her Great Glen walk and £200 funding from the Co-op.</p>		
10	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>Next meeting arranged for Tuesday 1 September at 6.30pm in the staff room. This will be confirmed following the summer break - all are welcome.</p>		