

Machanhill Parent Council Meeting - Held on Tuesday 10th October 2023

Present

Cheryl Marley, Stephen Shields, Zoe Hughes, Sharon McCallum, Charlene Barclay, Emma Mackie, Caroline Stevenson, Ricky Hutton, Barry Brownlie, Mrs. Tallamy, Mrs Carson and Mrs. Hamilton.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Sarah Semple, Vasile Jornea, Emma Thomson, Graeme Clark, Lynn Hunter, Ana Jornea, Dawn Coffey and Mrs. Boyle.

Welcome

Cheryl opened the Meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Head Teachers Report

Mrs. Tallamy delivered the Head Teacher's Report in the absence of Mrs. Boyle.

The school agrees that it would be a nice gesture to send flowers from the PC to Mrs. Wallace who is currently absent from the school office.

Room 4 has a new teacher called Miss Walker starting on 23rd October who will cover Mrs. Taylor's maternity leave. Interviews are due to take place to provide an EY worker in the Nursery to cover Miss Law's maternity leave which starts in November.

Gavin Lee, Peyton Cadzow, Josh Bishop and Lily Smart have been elected as School Captains for this session. The first event they were involved in was the recent Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning which proved to be an excellent event where they were fantastic ambassadors and helpers for the event. The event raised over £660.

The School Captains also visited Mrs. Scott in the local community. This was in recognition of the former Machanhill teacher who recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

Copies of the School Improvement Plans were shared with members present. This document highlights the improvement priorities of the school for each of the next 3 years.

Mrs. Carson has been liaising with IProc regarding the purchase of 4 iPads for the school. She will confirm costs with a view to the PC funding these items.

Mrs. Boyle attended the recent Catchment Area consultation and is meeting with Education Scotland on 26th October regarding the proposals. A small group of parents/carers from the school and nursery are also requested to meet with Education Scotland to share their views. Volunteers are to contact Mrs. Boyle prior to 13th October.

Other Matters

Cheryl advised that following the last PC meeting the DJ for the school discos has been changed. This was due to another DJ being sourced who will provide the Halloween Disco free of charge, and the following discos at a cheaper cost to what is currently paid. A cancellation fee of £50.00 was paid to Matthew due to us cancelling with short notice to him. Whilst the majority of members agreed to pay him the cancellation fee due to the circumstances, it was felt that a vote should have taken place prior to the payment being made.

Cheryl confirmed that Asda have agreed to provide selection boxes again this year, however the quantity is likely to be restricted to 30-35 which is less than the quantity donated to the school last year. Ricky agreed to contact other supermarkets with a view of asking them for donations of selection boxes also.

Discussions took place around buying a larger raffle prize or not for the Christmas Fayre. Cheryl will message Graeme to ask if he is able to source a big prize. Caroline offered to buy a large squishy bear that can be used to raise funds via a guess the bears birthday. The school agreed to take control of how and when the tickets are sold around the school, prior to Christmas.

PC members are urged to try and source prizes for the Christmas Fayre and raffle from businesses and people they know. Caroline offered to contact M&Ds to try and source a prize. Ricky also agreed to visit the shops in Larkhall to ask for donations for the Christmas Fayre. Mrs. Tallamy agreed to provide a cover letter for Ricky to use to verify his requests for behalf of the school PC.

Consideration was given to bringing in stallholders and charging a fee of £20.00 and for them to donate a gift. A review of the floats will be carried out by Zoe prior to this years fayre. It was agreed the Wine Bottle stand will return to the price of £1.00 with a 1 in 5 chance of winning introduced. Members were also asked to donate a bottle for the fayre. It was decided to change the homemaking to include donations of shop bought cakes etc. Doing this will increase the number of parents able to donate to this stall which will be renamed Cakes & Bakes.

The allocation of stalls for the Christmas Fayre was agreed. Additionally a staff member in the nursery will be asked if willing to run the face painting stall. Mrs. Hamilton has agreed to run the glitter tattoos stall, and Graeme McDonald has kindly offered to be Santa in the grotto again this year. The donations raised by the grotto will join the rest of the funds raised at the event. Sharon shared an idea for the Pocket Money Stall and will look into this in greater detail. It was also decided that an entry fee to the fayre will not be charged. The school will look into whether arts and crafts will form part of the fayre.

Zoe advised that the Nursery have made a request for the PC to fund the purchase of tablecloths. Discussions also took place around the provision of books at Christmas for the nursery children along with a selection box. Zoe agreed to look into sourcing books for the nursery children similar to last year.

Concerns were raised that there may not be sufficient PC members present to supervise at the Halloween Disco. Cheryl will ask PC members with a school PVG again if they are able to help out. Mrs. Hamilton also offered to contact school Parent Helpers asking for their assistance on the night. Discussions took place about the content of the discos with a view to reintroducing more fun, particularly for the younger disco. Suggestions included playing 4 Corners and other similar activities/games so as to increase the fun factor for the children.

It was noted that the next scheduled PC meeting of 7 November clashes with Parents Evening. Due to this it is likely that the PC meeting will be moved back 1 week. Confirmation of this will follow. It was agreed that PC members attend the Parents Evening and host a table promoting PC membership. Similarly it was agreed to have a table and members present at the Nursery Parents Evening on 9 November promoting the PC and recruiting new PC members.

Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of 7/11/2023 is likely to be moved to Tuesday 14/11/23 at 6.30pm. This will be notified to members in due course.

Meeting Closed

Cheryl closed the meeting, and thanked those present for their attendance.