**NEWLANDS PARENT COUNCIL MEETING 20.04.23**

Present Callum Lagrange, Carn Peaston, Victoria Johnstone, Jo Bullough, Christine Rose, Heather Ling, Kirsten Richardson, Kirsty Mein, James McCaw

Apologies Doreen Graham, Fiona Condy, Anatua Martin

1. Chair’s report

The Whipman book sale and sports day will be fundraising focus for this term.

Need to arrange a uniform sale for P1 parents – this is normally done at Sports Day but most new P1 parents won’t be there. JB to post in Newland Kids group to request P1 size uniform. Uniform sale could be done at P1 parents’ event on 22 June.

1. Headteacher’s report

It was a very busy Spring term from February to Easter, resulting in very tired children and staff! However, all have returned recharged after the Easter holidays.

One day visit to P7 camp – great interaction between pupils from Broughton and Newlands was noted.

Quality Improvement Officers from SBC will be coming to school the week of 15 May, for an internal audit specifically focused on learning and teaching, attainment, and interventions for those not attaining.

CP would like Newlands to feature more in Peeblesshire news, she has tried to contact and promote but no results yet. Follow up required.

Poly tunnels have been revamped by Mr and Mrs Cameron over the holidays.

Visibility of fundraising needs to be improved, and there was a discussion on how to both promote and celebrate it. An attainment meter was discussed, as well as a need to be transparent about what these funds are specifically being spent on. Fundraising ideas - HL suggested items made by children, car wash. CP suggested an enterprise for every class next academic year. VJ suggested an auction with visible electronic bids. Would require an appeal for prizes to parents and the wider community.

CLG suggested planning entire fundraising for the course of the year in August, with a target amount.

KM confirmed no final approval for wind farm yet.

Parental engagement - improving parental involvement will increase parental engagement. CP suggested frequent open mornings every month, open to all parents. Possibility of using conference room during the day for parents to pop in for coffee/to meet each other informally (could even outreach to people without children). We could reach out to parents, asking for specific skills to come into school. CP to ask children and staff for their opinions on this. This would start this term.

Closer working between Parent Council and Newlands Kids would be beneficial – for example a representative present at each other’s meetings. CP to speak to Kerry about this.

Transition has started for Newlands Kids moving up to P1. This will take place over 10 sessions this term.

Coronations – the school will provide coronation bibles to those children who want one. The Community Council will provide medals, to be given to the children at an event on 4th May PM. Mrs Adams to lead this event.

School photographs will take place on Monday 22 May

Outstanding funding requests from PC all approved. £300 for ipad styluses, £150 towards poly tunnel upkeep, £90 towards Read The Rainbow.

1. Treasurer’s report

FC still has no online access to the bank account. JB has clarified with Jayne Adamson how to do this and will pass information on to FC. Cheque for £540 to be written for the school (see above).

1. Whipman Book Sale – 10 June

KM has started collecting books and DVDs. KM can also arrange to collect books from people. Maybe look at seeing if anyone local makes and sell reusable bags too – perhaps Whipman themed ones?

Further requests for books are needed – social media and Thursday notes.

5 Whipman Float - 2 June

JB to post in Newlands School Facebook group for any volunteers for tractor and trailer - must be insured.

Appeal for volunteers to help organise and decorate the float will be required. The Children need to choose a theme soon – poll on FB group to narrow it down and then put it to children.

1. AGM

Date set for 15 June.

Promote on Facebook pages and in Thursday notes.

Combine with cheese / wine / pizza evening for all parents?

1. Date of next meeting

18 May

Purely to discuss fundraising - Whipman float, Whipman book fair and sports day.