



St Bernadette's Parent Council Meeting

Minutes from meeting on the 30 October 2017

Attendees: Craig Beer, Natalie Masterton, Edwina Kilpatrick, Claire Rodger, Sarah Clark, Mike Kelly, Marianne Savage, Peter Butterly, Debbie O'Donnell, Antoinette Irwin, Sarah Gallacher, Tony Bancewicz, Roisin Fulton, Lynne Bissett, Esther Trevis

Apologies: Jane Barrett, Mandy O'Donnell, Father John, Louise Noon

No	Item	Action req'd
1.	<p>Attendees/ Apologies</p> <p>All the above people were in attendance with apologies received from those noted. The minutes from the last meeting were agreed.</p>	
2.	<p>Chair Report</p> <p><u>School Grounds</u></p> <p>Car Park – There have been no new issues recently in the book for the car park. The traffic cones however seem to have disappeared and if we are unable to find them they will need to be replaced. Tony suggested putting in planters instead which would be better looking than the cones.</p> <p>Natalie said that people are still parking in the disabled spaces. Roisin suggested putting out a letter or email to remind people that they shouldn't be parking in the disabled bays without the appropriate parking permit instead of putting it in the newsletter as it can perhaps be glossed over in the newsletter.</p> <p>Bins – The issues with the bins are ongoing. Marianne said that she spoke to the Councillor and the dog bin outside the school is going to be fitted with a sensor that lets the Council know when it is full and needing emptied.</p> <p>We do not have enough bins and Marianne has applied to Crawford Campbell for another big bin, which we will need to pay for, as Mr Clark is still collected 6 bags worth of rubbish from the muga pitch at the weekends. Claire said that the probation service could maybe send people out to clear the rubbish as part of community service and she thinks they would take the rubbish away too. Agreed this is something we could consider.</p> <p>Muga – There have been no more issues apart from the rubbish each weekend.</p> <p><u>Communication</u></p> <p>There are still parents saying that they are not getting the communication from the school. Marianne said that there is only one family in the whole school who receives a paper copy, everyone else gets it by email and class specific things would be communicated through Class Dojo.</p> <p>Peter said that he felt that the feeling was that some teachers are very good at communicating to parents and others aren't as they are not all using Twitter. Marianne said that the teachers all have their own family commitments and it's not part of their remit to update Twitter. Craig said that he felt it comes down to whether people are comfortable using Twitter as a means of communicating. Sarah Clark said that teachers aren't given any guidance and that there isn't enough understanding on how to use it.</p> <p>There was a very lengthy discussion about communication and the issues that parents are experiencing. Peter said that it would be useful for the parents to feel a bit more engaged with what their children are doing in school. Marianne said the school would take all these comments onboard.</p>	

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	<p>Facebook – We discussed starting up an official Facebook page for the Parents Council. It was agreed that we should go ahead with this and Craig said that he would get his wife Tina to get involved with this. Debbie and Sarah Gallacher said that they would help too.</p> <p>Website – Miss Noon is starting to look at this. The Parent Council have a tab within the old school website which Angela Green had been involved with, but the username and password have disappeared. This was originally set up by John Cloherty. If we can get access to this it could be developed.</p> <p>Noticeboard – The noticeboard has been damaged as the glass is no longer in place. Agreed we should look into getting a cost to get this replaced.</p> <p><u>Parents Night Booking System</u></p> <p>This started this morning and is much easier. Marianne said that if parents want to leave a comment when booking their appointment they can and this will come through to the office.</p> <p>The only issue highlighted so far was that people have recorded their names wrong and they've been phoning in to check.</p> <p>Marianne said that they are going to wait a couple of days and they will be able to check what parents haven't yet made an appointment and they can contact them to see if they do want one.</p> <p>Parents night will take place on 15th and 16th November 2017 from 3.30pm until 6pm. Peter asked if there was any reason why they weren't having a later one and felt that this was unacceptable not to accommodate parents who are working. Marianne said that they will go back to this the next time.</p> <p><u>Holy Sacraments</u></p> <p>Craig said that he was asked by a parent after mass if it was a school or Church decision to hold the reconciliations during the school day. Marianne said that this decision was made by Father John.</p>	<p>Tina/Debbie/Sarah G.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Treasurer Update</p> <p><u>Accounts for last year</u></p> <p>Peter said that he had mentioned at the last meeting that the accounts had been signed off and the finalised ones were emailed out to everyone, however, these ones were £15 out. Mark Stewart, who is an Accountant, has agreed to meet with Peter on Wednesday to get them officially signed off.</p> <p>Peter asked if everyone was happy to formally accept them, which they were. Once Mark has looked over them these can then be submitted to the Council so that we can get the payment from them for this year. Peter is going to get Mark to check if he has any suggestions for procedural changes.</p> <p>Peter said that he would let Debbie know once these had been finalised.</p> <p><u>Bank accounts</u></p> <p>Peter said that the balance of the accounts are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Account – £1,100 • Fundraising Account – £2,660 • 200 Club – £3,830 • Total across all 3 accounts - £7,590 <p>There are a couple of things outstanding from the fundraising account of around £200. The 200 Club now has 199 members.</p>	<p>Peter</p>

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	<p>Natalie said as we have a healthy book balance, should we be looking at what we need to buy. This was discussed at the last PC meeting and it was agreed that the projectors might need to be replaced in the near future. The new one for P1 cost £1,800, which came out of the school budget. Peter said that he is conscious that over the next couple of years we may need to replace bigger things.</p> <p>Marianne said that she would speak to the staff to see if there is anything they would like to add to a "wish list" and she will bring this to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Marianne</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Fundraising Update</p> <p>Edwina said that the next fundraising event is the Christmas Winter Fayre on Friday 8th December. We currently have 20 stalls, at a cost of £15 each. These stallholders will each be donating a prize for the raffle.</p> <p>The idea is to have a star prize for the raffle and Edwina asked if the Parent Council would agree to donating £100 to buy a Smyths voucher. This was agreed. Sarah Clark said that perhaps an Argos voucher would be better as it's not just toys. Agreed that it would be left to the fundraising committee to decide what voucher to get.</p> <p>Edwina asked if the teachers would be prepared to make crafts with the children to sell at the winter fayre. Marianne said that she had reservations about asking the teachers. Edwina said that there are 4 volunteers who would be willing to do a lunchtime club with the children on either a Monday or a Tuesday. Marianne said that she would be happy with that.</p> <p>Edwina said that we are struggling for volunteers for events and asked if we could get more support from the teachers for events. Perhaps a rota could be used. It was suggested that perhaps P7 children could help out but we would need permission from their parents.</p> <p>We will be having a dress down day on 10th November 2017 and asking parents to provide a donation for the bottle and tombola stalls.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Headteacher Update</p> <p><u>Building Positive Relationship Policy</u></p> <p>Marianne said that there were leaflets sent to parents on the Building Positive Relationship Policy, which is to ensure consistency across all classes and amongst the staff. Teachers will teach specific skills to build relationships through activities such as circle time, playground games etc and children. There were only 2 responses from parents, which on the whole were positive.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the lack of golden time which some parents are concerned about. Marianne said that the children still have 5 hours of play per week and golden time will be replaced by a more structured activity instead to work on building positive relationships within the classrooms as there is no educational value in golden time.</p> <p><u>Growth Mindset</u></p> <p>Growth mindset is a focus for the school and cluster. Teachers will be using a variety of strategies in class to encourage a growth mindset – challenge-o-meter; learning pit; number talks.</p> <p>A company called Live-N-Learn are coming into the school on Thursday 2nd November to deliver a session. This will include a whole school assembly, P4-7 class workshops, a parental seminar, staff CPD and motivational posters. Marianne said that she would like to encourage parents to come along to the parents seminar in the afternoon.</p> <p>Growth mindset puppets have been purchased for Nursery to P3 classes and the whole school will develop character names and qualities. This will be followed by a visit from Magic Torch Comics to produce a school growth mindset comic based on the puppets. We will be using the song 'Get Back Up Again' from the Trolls movie as the school song.</p>	

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	<p><u>Cross Country</u></p> <p>After speaking to Miss Noon and Mrs Angus about the rain jackets for the cross country team it was felt that these were not needed as the school already have outdoor jackets. They also don't feel that a gazebo is required. They did say that we need more vests in bigger sizes. Possible hoodies with staff names on the back could be ordered but have not been priced yet. Louise will come at the next meeting with a price for these.</p> <p><u>ipad Chargers</u></p> <p>These are either going missing or are not working and so need replaced. It was agreed that we could possibly put out a plea to parents for any unwanted iPad chargers. Marianne said that she would arrange this.</p> <p><u>Outdoor Playground Hut</u></p> <p>Marianne said that Mr Clark has requested a new hut as the one we have at the moment is coming to the end of its life. The wind blew it over in the last high winds and it is needing re-felted. Marianne said she would look into the price of this.</p>	<p>Louise</p> <p>Marianne</p> <p>Marianne</p>
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Peter said that a number of parents felt that at times there is struggle for books and thought he would put it out for discussion. Marianne said that there are not enough hard copies for everyone. Peter asked if there was merit in thinking that we could get more books. Marianne said that the cost to double the number of books would be in the region of £14,000. She agreed to do an audit on the number of books we currently have.</p> <p>Lynne said that her daughter was disappointed that the P5 bike day was on the same day as cross country and asked if the school could look to change this.</p>	<p>Marianne</p>

Next Meeting: Tuesday 5 December 2017 at 6.30pm in Staffroom

Chair: Craig Beer

Minutes: Debbie O'Donnell