MINUTES OF PARENT PARTNERSHIP MEETING

23rd January 2024 – St Ronan's Primary School

ATTENDEES: Jan Lister (Acting Head), John Keen, Jacqui Panton, Kate McMillan (Chair), Jane Hogarth, Sara Rose, Morag Bramhall, Beth McGarvie-Jones, Mary Tweedie	
APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE: Margot Smolenska. Gwydion Ball, Fiona Williams, David Cornwall (Acting Depute)	
	ACTIONS BY
HEAD TEACHER UPDATE	
It is looking unlikely that a new permanent Head Teacher will be found and recruited by Easter. JL is assisting SBC where possible in this search and has provided information for leaflet which will be circulated during an Upcoming Recruitment Event and Open Day – 7 February 2024 12:00pm – 8:00pm.	JL
JL noted there have been many changes within the leadership of the school over the past 5 years. She stressed that that both she and DC are optimistic in their current positions and committed to involving all staff to ensure a team approach to further improving the life and work of the school. During recent staff meetings, class teachers have identified lack of support staff and resources as being challenges. To that end, a volunteer recruitment drive through the last Newsletter has resulted in a good response with parents and grandparents now involved with regular reading assistance and other short-term projects, including a six- week cooking programme which has been supported by the Peebles Foodbank. Class Teachers have also been involved in an audit of the school in terms of displays and use of spaces to identify ways to enhance the teaching and learning environment.	
JL wants to look for opportunities for staff to meet more regularly as a team and has re-instated Monday morning meetings for all. A staff weekly/monthly lunch was also suggested.	
PARENT CHAIR UPDATE	KM
There have been no PC meetings for a while.	
KM thanked JL and staff for all the events which took place on the run-up to the Christmas holidays.	
There is renewed hope and positivity going forward into the next term and the PP are supportive and grateful to JL & DC in particular in their acting positions.	
KM said that SBC have said they will reopen the application for funding for Parent partnerships that was withdrawn last year. BMcG-J has said she would be happy to complete this when it opens.	
POINTS FROM LAST MEETING	
Swimming lessons JP will contact Peebles pool again to follow up with the wish for St Ronan's children to have lessons again as soon as space becomes available. The suggestion is for all children to apply for a bus pass and travel by public transport. The charge of the lessons is unknown, however historically, it was a nominal amount. Approach the PTA for assistance in funding if required. Applications for bus passes might require assistance. Should start the process now.	JP/JL
Website	КМ

Parent Partnership details, including parent reps and Constitution to be given to S Low to upload.	
Improvements in communication on this platform have been noted for some year groups, but not all. Further discussions are required with the full teaching staff to continue to move forward with this programme. A training session would be helpful for parents. Review on Reporting – not discussed Parents would like to know a basic structure of learning and have some understanding of where	JL
their child is currently/aiming for. The Curriculum for Excellence is not a readable or helpful reference book and is designed for teachers. Hopefully a more consistent learning pathway will come from SBC in the future, however some basic explanation would be appreciated sooner.	
Update on application from school for extra funding for Additional Needs Assistants – not discussed No applications made. Possible additional funding may come from Pupil Equity Fund	
AOB:	
Members needed for working group on respectful relationships and anti bullying policy These policies have been updated by SBC and now needs to be personalised to St Ronan's. Beth has agreed to work with Jan on developing this. Another volunteer is required. PP to ask year subgroups.	JL
Position on nursery places to be made clear Parents require clarification on flexibility on their child's hours. A clear and consistent message needs to come from the nursery. JL to discuss with Early Years Officer.	JL
School Trips There are now a few in the pipeline, including a trip to The Great Tapestry of Scotland and also to the birth place of David Livingstone. We should make the most of all the interesting places nearby and reach out to local businesses. Field trips to other woodlands etc.	
School Playground/Garden tidy-up/Edible Garden A request went out in the newsletter to ask for volunteers for a general tidy up. Date to be confirmed.	
Wild Meadow Project JP has requested a site visit from Nature Scotland. Project not likely to start until March/April (warmer weather). Further discussions required as to which year groups would be best suited to get involved.	JP
Group Emails A request for certain emails to only be sent to relevant parties. JK commented on confusion for payments of upcoming trip.	
P6 Fundraising Projects SR suggested that the current P6s could start brainstorming and fundraising for their P7 hoodies.	JL
Safe route to school It was noted that the markings for road crossings are almost invisible and are therefore dangerous. JL has been in touch with Karen McGrath and JP is happy to follow this up.	SR

		JL / JP
DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS	7pm Tuesday 12 th March	КМ
Following meeting dates TBC	Wed 8 th May & Wed 19 th June	