



PARENTS COUNCIL MEETING WINDYKNOWE PS

DATE: TUESDAY 17th APRIL 2018

TIME: 7.00PM

VENUE: Windyknowe PS

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Gillian Norquoy	Lucy Spence
Kirsty Gibson	
Lisa Meikle	
Paul Barrowman	
Rita Angus	
Lyn Garvie	
Susan Griffin	
Lorena Mombelli	
Laura Weir	
Evelyn Stewart	
Rhona Tait	

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

3 new parents joined the parent council.

2. ITEMS FROM AGENDA

- TEMPEST: as per last parent council meeting where it was agreed to move from Tempest to Mr Barron's photography business, a lot of concern was raised by several parents after receiving newsletter from school stating Tempest will be taking school photos this year. School advised WPS is still attached to a contract to Tempest and it can't be changed at the moment. Some parents will volunteer and help on the photo shooting day to ensure children look their best and photos are up to parent's standards/expectations. Miss Norquoy has spoken to Mr Barron and his business will be covering several events at school through the year.
- TESCO BAGS GRANT: Lorena Mombelli suggested school applies for this grant to improve the outdoor area. School management agreed happily and suggested getting pupil council involved. A Sensory garden was suggested by a parent and school feels this will develop the social and life skills for the children.
- GOLDEN TIME: Susan Griffin enquired about the changes made to golden time. Mr Barrowman explained the change is a trial till the September break and it will be evaluated then. The idea of the WRAP time is for the children to end the day on a positive note. Children don't lose any of this time and they don't have to wait till Friday for golden time. Children are being rewarded with raffle tickets and house points.
- DOJO: West Lothian Council advised schools that DOJO doesn't comply with the GDPR requirements and therefore the school management team suspended the use of this



application. The school have set up a website that has been developed by WLC. All communication will be on the website. The website will be used similiary to dojo, to communicate. It will be updated weekly, so please get in the habit of checking it. Homework is housed in the blog section. <http://www.windyknoweprimary.westlothian.org.uk/>

- SCHOOL BLOG: Lynn Garvie asked if the files uploaded to the blog could have identified names to make the search easier. Mr Barrowman will pass it to the staff in the next staff meeting.
- HOMEWORK: Lynn Garvie mentioned that the ICT tasks in home learning sheets are marked with stars and some children don't have access to computers. Mrs Angus advised that the school has a Home Learning club where children can do their home learning and use school computers to complete these tasks. Lucy Spence asked if files could be uploaded in PDF formats and it was agreed it will be done in both PDF and word formats in the future.

3. HEAD TEACHER REPORT

Please find report from Mrs Angus attached.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MINUTES

Lorena Mombelli enquired about the project "make a difference" and Lisa Meikle will speak to Lyndsay Scott about it.

5. AOB

Some parents who couldn't attend the meeting tonight have sent Lisa Meikle their concerns and queries:

SCHOOL AND TOILETS HYGIENE: several parents are worried about how clean school floors and toilets are as their children come home saying there was no soap in the toilets, food on the floor after lunch and taps not working. Mrs Angus said she has been talking to the Head Cleaner about this subject and that after sending a group of P7 pupils to check the toilets and not finding soap in the dispensers, that the confusion could come from the colour of the soap as they are using a clear one instead of pink one like it was before. Mrs Angus wasn't aware of taps not working and advised it will be revised as it will be the thermostat for the water heating. Mrs Angus also confirmed that at least 1 hand dryer is working in each toilet.

The school also advised that they will focus on hand hygiene on the next health in the hall session. Also school will ask children to report to the office when supplies are finished so they can be replenished.

Mrs Angus said school floors are washed at night and they get swept after lunch.

The school only counts with 3 cleaners and 11 hours have been cut off the budget by the council.



School will look at the possibility of installing hand gel dispensers around the school.

Mrs Angus said some of the toilets are due a refurbishment and Windyknowe is on the council waiting list.

SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM: after Mr Brown's departure there is uncertainty about who will take over the school football team. Mrs Angus said Mr Kerr is looking at alternatives.

PARENTS COUNCIL PURPOSE: Lisa Meikle suggested that from now on the meetings should be more focused on how parents can support the school on their children's learning journey and education topics.

Mrs Angus wants it to be very clear that the school is open to anyone who wants to talk to teachers or management team about any other issues, such as parking, toilets/cleaning etc. Members of the leadership team are always in the playground at the end of the day and more than happy to discuss any issues with parents.

We want to make use of our PCA meetings and really focus on our children's education and development and any adhoc topics that affect our children or teachers.

6. NEXT TIME AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING

Meetings will be starting at 18.30 from the next meeting as a trial. Everyone is welcome, we love seeing new faces.

Dates for parents council meetings, until the end of the school year.

23/10/2018

04/12/2018

15/01/2019

26/02/2019

30/04/2019

11/06/2019