



PARENTS COUNCIL MEETING WINKDYKNOWE PS

DATE: Tuesday 8th December 2020

TIME: 6.00PM

VENUE: Skype call

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Rita Angus	Harry Cartmill
Gillian Norquoy	
Gayle Bowes (Chair)	
Jillian Jamieson (Minutes)	
Laura Weir	
Emma Douglas	
Lyndsey Stein	
Michelle Blackley	
Lorena Mombelli	
Jesmond Sathiya Kumar	
Donna McLeary	
Claire Anderson	
Rhona Tait	

INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Gayle Bowes welcomed everyone and Rhona Tait shared Harry Cartmill's apologies

UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

- **Nursery bubble photos** – Mrs Angus shared that photos of the nursery set up have been shared on the blog this term and that following consultation, the nursery parents have chosen the Remind app as their preferred channel of communication therefore in future, group photos and bubbles will be uploaded to Remind.
- **IPAY** – Previously the question was asked about using Ipay for donations, charity contributions etc. Mrs Angus advised that there is a cost implication to the school when using Ipay for that purpose. Currently all cash donations sent into school are placed in class pots and quarantined by office staff. Gayle Bowes asked about the possibility of a JustGiving (or similar) donation page for general use throughout the year. Mrs Angus will consult with Mrs Dowie to see if this is something the PTA have looked at.
- **Seesaw** – Following on from the pilot study, it was confirmed that replies to class announcements are visible to all but that replies to individual posts are private. Everyone using it agreed that Seesaw has been a good tool for engaging with children's work and class activities.



ITEMS FROM AGENDA

- **Outdoor PE/Wellies** - Gayle Bowes raised from parents, continued concerns over how muddy and wet kid's footwear gets with outdoor PE, and asked whether the activities kids do in PE are safe to do in wellies. Mrs Angus advised that staff take necessary precautions when children are doing PE in wellies and would plan accordingly. Following the recent announcement regarding Tier 3, indoor PE may be possible again, although this would also still be within current advice, regulations and limits. Mrs Angus confirmed that there are no school rules over the colour of trainers or wellies for PE. It was suggested that a spare pair of leggings/trousers and socks (which are in short supply within the school) are placed in children's bags, just in case and that space would be made in class for those without access to a cloakroom who want to take in a change of shoes.
- **Class bubbles** – These are still running as they have been since August. At breakfast club and lunch, children sit with their class bubble in the dinner hall. In class, P3-P7 have set seats due to Track and Trace advice and do not mix across classes. This means that if there is a COVID case only those sitting at the child's table need to isolate rather than the whole class. Outside, classes can mix with their stages and don't need to stay within table groups.
- **Teacher gifts** – This is not an obligation, however if parents wish to give, staff will follow sanitising and quarantine guidance to ensure safety.
- **P7 class splits** – Lorena Mombelli asked regarding the P7 class splits and how they were working as seemed to be a slight confusion. Mrs Angus advised that there had been a plan in place to reduce the class sizes however these plans have since had to be changed due to current staffing and absence. Things would remain as they are until Christmas and unsure regarding January at the moment as depend on staffing at that time.
- **Calendar dates** – Gayle Bowes asked for dates to be added to the Annual Calendar page on the school website. Mrs Angus advised that as there are currently so many ongoing changes, it is not advisable to put out dates too far ahead, for fear of them being changed/alterd. Dates and information is being issued and updated weekly (What's on this week in Windyknowe page on website) so that families can plan. Gayle asked if the letter that was issued with the Christmas activity dates on it could be added to the webpage.

HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

- **Foodbank donations** – Mrs Angus would like to thank the school community for their continued and overwhelming support of the food bank through the reverse advent calendar.
- **Christmas jumpers:**
 - Fri 11th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day (donation will go to Save the Children)
 - Tue 15th Dec – Christmas lunch and Christmas jumpers (donations will go to River Kids)
- **Christmas parties** – Mrs Angus advised that although they will be a little different this year, the staff have been working very hard to ensure that the children enjoy a fun afternoon of activities, whilst doing their best to keep everyone safe. *** The special visitor for nursery-P2 will visit outside this year, where he will wave to the children before safely leaving his sack of



gifts which will have been quarantined in advance. Staff have also planned a Christmas film afternoon for each class, where like at the parties, snacks will be provided.

- **Hearts for Homes** – Many classes have been preparing message hearts which will be taken to Meadowvale Home to be quarantined and safely shared with their residents.

AOB

- Simply Play – Rhona Tait shared the upcoming changes planned for Simply Play. Due to current factors, from January, children from WPS will be taken by minibus to Simpson Primary.

ACTIONS

- Mrs Angus to investigate, in conjunction with the PTA, the possibility of a JustGiving (or similar) online donation page
- Miss Norquoy to add the letter with the Christmas activity dates to the Annual Calendar section of the website

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Next meeting – Tuesday 9th February 2021
- Chair – Emma Douglas (agenda point can be sent to e.douglasphotography@gmail.com)
- Minutes – Lyndsey Stein