

**Balmuildy Primary School
Parent Council Minutes
Tuesday 15th November 2022**

Apologies: Melodie Crumlin, Lynn Henderson

Present: Marianne MacLeod, Susan Anderson, Stephanie Fowler, Atif Rashid, Heather Glass, Hazel Fisher, Lorna Kenney, Kelly O'Neill.

We started the meeting with introductions and reflections on last sessions PC meetings. Our last chair resigned in April/May of this year and we discussed the option for new appointments.

Head Teacher Update

LK shared the school improvement plan and standards and quality report with PC members prior to the meeting. One member asked for some clarification around the documents and their use. The improvement plan runs on a 3 year continuous cycle and self-evaluation is used to set priorities for the year ahead. All stakeholders are involved in the self-evaluation with a particular focus on pupil voice. The standards and quality report is published at the end of each year and is a summary of the year's progress.

We discussed the improvement plan and the ongoing focus on areas such as:

- **Inclusion, wellbeing and equity**
 - o Autism adviser – Debbie Scott (organising CLPL and awareness raising)
 - o Compassionate and connected communities/ACE awareness
 - o Preparation for move to the new school building and supporting the school community through this change. (school is the people, not the building)

- **Literacy**
 - o Reading – refreshing strategy. Currently using a variety of resources including active literacy from NLC and skills based planners.
 - o Development of reading skills
 - o Refreshing reading texts
 - o Supporting dyslexic learners

The above areas will be the focus in year 1 of the plan, with STEM and writing being added for year 2 and 3.

One PC member asked a question regarding differentiation with regard to reading activities within the school. LK provided information on supports such as Bug Club, increasing the range of texts available and supporting pupils with both reading for pleasure and comprehension skills.

The school currently have 2 education support teachers allocated for 1 day each per week. This staffing is used to support and challenge young people in smaller groups where possible. Last session this was still focussing on covid recovery.

PC member asked if more info could be provided on what is required of the reading homework issued as within their child's class this is currently on a 6 week cycle.

School Build

PC asked LK if the school had any further feedback on the progress of the new school build. LK stated that she had received no further info to date. There had been some work carried out with the pupil council before summer but nothing so far this session.

The PC asked if further info could be sought as we are keen to ensure that views of the Balmuildy community are taken into consideration. AR and HF asked if timescales can be made available and if feedback was made available following the consultation last session.

AOCB

Wet Play

A member of the PC asked for clarification around what happens on wet breaks and if children are still allowed outside. LK said that children would be outside as much as possible in the winter months and would only be inside where necessary. Sometimes they may have minimise access to grassy areas when it is particularly muddy. There still remains a big focus on outdoor learning at Balmuildy and children are outside as much as possible.

PC roles and meeting structure going forward.

KO has agreed to remain as the clerk but the PC are still looking for a new chair. LK will send out info on the role of the PC before the next meeting, to help people make an informed decision. The PC are always looking for new members and LK will email parents/cares with info on the next meeting,

We agreed that going forward we would like to hold some of our meetings in person. Lets at Balmuildy cannot finish any later than 7pm so we agreed that our next meeting would be on Tuesday 29th November from 6-7pm. LK will inform parents/carers that this will be an informal meeting and chance to pop in for a chat and cup of tea.

