

Monymusk School Parent Council Minutes – 29th March 2016

School notes are added at the end of minutes

Present:

Matt Lewis, Fiona Esson, Gillian Watt, Naomi Stark, Fiona Withey, Jan Watt.

Apologies:

Heather Murray, Peter Murray, Annie Hudson, Aileen Strachan.

ML thanked everyone for coming.

Matters arising from previous meeting:

JW added more contact details to the parent council e-mail list. JW to send link to ML and GW of Monymusk Parent Council Facebook page.

NS to lop willow tree and arbour during the Easter holidays. GW is keen for pupils to be involved in weaving lower parts of the tree after the Easter holidays.

JW is ready to collect the Goblin car now that there is space in her garage. DW to contact ML to arrange the pick up of it with ML's van.

The school blog is working and there was positive feedback about notifications being sent straight to parent e-mail addresses.

There was a discussion about the best way of sending out Parent Council minutes, school bags, e-mail, on the school website?

School notes

GW talked through the school notes, please see below.

Treasurer's Report

JW to ask about any additional funding the Parent Council could be receiving.

The current bank balance is £4767.17 of which approximately £3000 is a working bank account. ML to find out what the likely expenditures of the Muddy Run will be. JW to e-mail ML details of the monies taken to date for the Muddy Run. It was agreed that the Parent Council would fund the cost of the transport to swimming lessons which took place at Alford pool. JW to arrange a cheque for the school when GW confirms exact cost.

Debrief of Heartlands event

Thank you to AH and everyone who helped organise the event and helped on the night. The event raised £1700 profit for the Parent Council which was great. It was noted that ticket sales were slow until the last minute. The question was asked what a future big fundraising event might be.

Thrift shop committee grant

The Thrift shop has kindly given £750 to Monymusk School for P1/2 Active Learning resources. This is a very generous donation and ML will arrange to send a photo to the Thrift shop of the equipment bought in the near future. The initial grant request by the Parent Council was £1500 and it was agreed tonight that the Parent Council are going to fund the other £750 to match the Thrift shop donation.

Duck Race

The Parent Council need to find out who can organise it this year. The traditional date is going to clash with the Dunecht Dash and the school residential trip for the older pupils. ML is going to check the date with AB. JW and FW are going to speak to AB about the running of the Duck Race.

Monymusk Muddy Run update

All is going well with preparations for the Muddy Run.

School Fair

This will be held after school on Tuesday 28th June. The Parent Council will be happy to run the BBQ again.

Any other relevant business

GW said that the school are planning to organise a specialised music, dance and storytelling week in October. More details will follow but it was agreed that the Parent Council will fund it at a cost of £950.

A date is to be set for a separate Parent Council fundraising meeting.

Next meeting

Wednesday 11th May, 7.15pm at the school. (Suggested to change this to fundraising meeting)

Notes to Monymusk School Parent Council-Forum

Tuesday 29th March

1. Roll 51

2. Staffing and related personnel

The 2nd Year MA students have completed another placement with us. We will see them again in May. They have done very well and we look forward to having them back with us.

3. Quality Assurance

Parents have been issued with Monymusk School's 'Rationale and Curriculum Design'. The P7 pupils are designing an online version to be shared on our website and Social Media.

4. Improvement Plan 2015-2016

IP1 - Planning, Learning, Teaching and Assessment: Raising Attainment and Achievements.

The new iPads have arrived and once we have the covers they will be placed permanently in classrooms. They are currently being borrowed as required. The Apple TVs have been installed and we look forward to using them next term. We have been notified by the council's Technology Investment Programme that it is our turn in the council wide refresh of IT equipment, so we are currently identifying laptops/notebooks to be replaced.

IP2 – Planning, Learning, teaching and Assessment: Reporting Progress and Achievement to Parents/Carers: The Sharing Our Learning event this term focussed on Maths and Science. We were pleased with the turnout of parents. All schools in Aberdeenshire Council will be following this approach from August 2017.

Staff are currently linking and updating our existing frameworks with the national frameworks brought out earlier this year.

IP3 – HWB: Learning for Sustainability:

IP4 – Leadership and Management: We have identified areas of leadership for staff and pupils and plan to recognise this more formally. Teaching staff attended a twilight session hosted by SCEL (Scottish College of Educational Leadership) focussing developing teacher leadership.

5. Policy documents

Policies are gradually being added to the school website, as they are updated. There will also be a folder for specific Aberdeenshire Policies and Guidelines, although they can also be found within the Aberdeenshire Council website.

6. Alford Cluster Schools and Alford Children's Services Network (CSN)

Nursery/Playgroup to P1 and P7 to Secondary transitions have begun. Both groups have information and have dates in diaries for upcoming activities and information sharing events.

7. Budgets and Resources

Thank you to the Parent Council for sourcing funds from the Thrift Shop for the school. These funds will go towards upgrading resources in the P1,2 classroom.

8. Events in School (fund-raising for charities is included)

March 2016 African-themed Fairtrade Day for P6,7 pupils from Cluny, Dunecht, Echt, Midmar and Monymusk Schools

Reporting: Restorative Practice – assembly open to parents and friends of the school

Marco Nieto held sessions in Spanish cooking, followed by tasting!

Reporting: Sharing Our Learning open event – Maths & Science

9. Children in Events Outside School

<i>Feb 2016</i>	<i>6-week block of Swimming lessons began at Alford Pool Our team took part in the Netball Festival at Westhill Academy Whole school visit to Spring Show, Thainstone</i>
<i>March 2016</i>	<i>P5,6,7 tidied up litter in the village as part of the “Clean for the Queen” initiative P1,2 took part in forest activities in the woods near the school Sport Relief activities open to parents and friends of the school Cluny Fun 5z Netball tournament Church Service, Easter Monday P5,6,7 pupils took part in Alford Rotary Quiz</i>

10. Visitors to School

<i>Jan and Feb 2016</i>	<i>Shaun Conway, Science teacher from Alford Academy, conducted some experiments with P5,6,7 Susanna Balston, Food and Wellbeing Coach, talked about healthy eating</i>
<i>Feb 2016</i>	<i>Myles Edwards (Gathimba Edwards Foundation) and Graeme McCall (Active School coordinator) attended a Mindfulness Assembly May Hauxwell delivered Defibrillator training to P5,6,7</i>
<i>March 2016</i>	<i>Lyn Carmichael visited school for P1 & P7 dental checks Evening Express photographer for P7 photo</i>
<i>March 2016</i>	<i>Matilda Brown began Music & Mountains project with all classes</i>

11. Staff Training, Development and Professional Involvement

<i>Jan 2016</i>	<i>Dyslexia Twilight Course</i>	<i>Gillian Watt, Jane Veitch, Laura Journé, James Roulston</i>
<i>Feb 2016</i>	<i>Visit to Craigievar School re Active Literacy Mindfulness Planning Improving Attainment in Numeracy: Problem Solving Aberdeen Learning Festival Aberdeen Learning Festival (Outdoor Learning) First Aid CALM Reaccreditation Online “Equalities” and “Respecting Diversity” training Leadership Forum Cooperative Learning</i>	<i>James Roulston Gillian Watt Gillian Watt, James Roulston Laura Journé James Roulston Tracey Cheyne, Angela Tice Gillian Watt All staff Gillian Watt James Roulston</i>
<i>March 2016</i>	<i>SCEL Developing Teacher Leadership Club Golf for PE</i>	<i>Gillian Watt, Jane Veitch, Laura Journé, James Roulston, Esther Gooch James Roulston</i>

Staff Development Day

*Mental Health & Wellbeing Strategy
Soup Project*

*Gillian Watt, Jane Veitch, Laura
Journé, James Roulston
Gillian Watt
Gillian Watt*

*GILLIAN WATT
Head Teacher
Monymusk School*

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