



**Foveran Primary - Parent Council Meeting**  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – 7.45pm (via Teams)**

**Present:** Jamie Ferguson (Head Teacher – JF), Sarah Williams (Chairperson - SW), Lynn Bowman (Vice Chairperson - LB), Rachael McClintock (Treasurer), Ruth Stannard (Secretary – RS), Jennifer McLoughlin (JM), James Carter (JC), Calaidh Reid (CR), Lisa Proud (LP), Tommy Hart (TH)

**Apologies:** Eilidh MacKechnie (EMK)

Item	Description	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Introductions and Apologies</b>	
	Introductions and Apologies were made	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	
	Minutes of the previous meeting approved	
<b>3</b>	<b>School Update from Head Teacher</b>	
	<p>Mr Ferguson has had a busy few weeks supporting other schools resulting in parents not having usual level of communication, particularly regarding dates etc. However, things are going well at Foveran. New teacher, Mrs Allen, has enjoyed her first few weeks in the upper stages class and has got to know the pupils well already. Several new starts have taken the school roll up to 47 meaning that it is at capacity for the time being.</p> <p>Things are in place for the new classroom to be added over the summer. Furniture and CleverTouch board are ready and curtain divider to be installed in the coming weeks.</p> <p>The teacher for the additional class is likely to be a probationer allocated by Aberdeenshire Council. They will be supported through the probationer induction programme and a mentor in school who will cover the class 1 day per week. Parents will be updated on staffing and class configuration nearer to the end of term.</p> <p>Upcoming dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- P1 Transition starts on 23/05 for information evening (7pm) followed by new P1s visiting on subsequent Thursdays.</li> <li>- P7 Transition starts 24/05 with a visit to the academy</li> <li>- Written reports out to parents on 26/05</li> <li>- Parents Evenings 30/05 and 31/05 (In person/Teams option)</li> <li>- Trip to Techfest 02/06</li> <li>- Trip to Macduff Marine Aquarium – date TBC</li> <li>- Sports day 07/06</li> <li>- Talent Show 05/07</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- End of Term Celebration 07/07 (parents invited)</li> <li>- Litter pick TBC</li> <li>- Potentials of Movie Night/Disco/Community Café?</li> </ul> <p>Parking has improved around the school this term. Living Streets Walk to School program has started with pupils now selecting how they got to school when they do their lunches. Each pupil accrues points and earns badges. Pupils who come on taxis can walk around the playground when they arrive instead. (£85 annual charge to be covered by Parent Council).</p> <p>A P7 residential trip (along with other cluster schools) is planned for Abernethy next session. Information will be coming out to current P6 parents soon. The estimated cost will be over £400 per pupil with payments spread out over the year. Various grants are available to support families who may struggle to cover this cost. Perhaps Parent Council and school could work together to raise funds towards this.</p> <p>The use of Seesaw has been discontinued in Aberdeenshire with Just2Easy being recommended as a similar replacement. Parent Council will form a trial group prior to it hopefully being rolled out across the school this term.</p> <p>The playhouse is to be assembled and painted this term by the upper stages class.</p> <p>Thank you to Parent Council for recent funding opportunities secured from Tesco and Rotary. Kilt Walk sponsor forms have gone home this week. The school will continue to access Parent Council funds to support trips and experiences for the pupils.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Treasurer Update</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance continues to be healthy</li> <li>• 2 leavers hoodies and 10 additional smart sacks have been purchased</li> <li>• £450 received from Ellon Rotary (asked for £300 so extra £150 will cover cost of bus to TechFest)</li> <li>• Tesco community grants ongoing this month, we will receive minimum amount of £500</li> </ul>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Fundraising</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tommy Hart may be able to secure additional funding via SSE</li> <li>• Apply to Jo Walters Trust</li> <li>• Apply Magic Little Grants</li> <li>• Disco – Parent Council to organise this to raise funds</li> <li>• Welly wanging fundraiser – tie in with sports day</li> <li>• Possible refreshment stand at sports day</li> <li>• Lucky square for end of term celebration/community cafe</li> </ul>	RS RM  JC  LB

<b>6</b>	<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
	See above	
<b>7</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	<p><b>Homework</b> Some parents are concerned that there hasn't been consistent homework for the upper stages class. Mr Ferguson explained that homework can cause unnecessary stress for families and there is almost no evidence to suggest that it impacts attainment in primary school. The school appreciate that some families enjoy homework and will try to provide optional homework/signposts for those who would like to be doing more. Reading is an exception to this and will continue to be given as homework regularly. This hasn't been quite as consistent as usual in the upper stages class and will improve now that they are settled with Mrs Allen.</p> <p><b>School Meals</b> Some children are commenting on reduced portion size and quality. There has been a change to portion size and sugar content since April last year in line with government guidelines. Giving out 'seconds' is now strongly discouraged. Mr Ferguson has raised this with catering. Some localised issues have been as a result of staffing pressures at Balmedie school kitchen. Parents should raise concerns directly with Aberdeenshire catering department via their e mail address.</p> <p>Toast-tastic has been going well – pupils enjoying this and learning from the enterprise experience.</p> <p>Parent Council planning to support with P1 parents induction evening.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 7:45pm	