

Finzean School and Ballogie Nursery

Parent Forum Meeting - AGM

Tuesday 9th September 2014 7:00pm @ Finzean Farm Shop

Present : Andrew Farquharson, Catriona Tanner, Jane Bennett, Donna Duncan
Linda Byers, Dawn Lobban,
Sara Hunt, Wendy Hector, Moira Aiken, Julie Christie, Claudia Paterson,
Heather Cowie, Alina Stevenson, Fiona Carter, Tracy Jamieson, Sally Wallis,
Mette Cormack, Mark Bilsby, Shelley Farrar,

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

1.1 AF welcomes everyone to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies : Liz Clarke, Diane Hay, Stuart Gordon, Helen Bilsby, Andrew Douglas, Hazel Keir, Kate Farquharson. Mitch Stevenson, Maree Christie, Jane Douglas, Kirsty Morrison, Vicki Milne

1.3 AF asks for the last minutes to be approved. Approved by Donna Duncan. Jane Bennett seconds.

2.0 Treasurers Report

2.1 Donna tabled the Financial Statement to date and reported that the current balance is £4,585.79.

2.2 The iPads have not yet been paid for out of this.

2.3 DD notes that a grant is due to come in, the Nexen donation has not yet been included in this and the Buses For Bairns donation also due in.

2.4 Pantomime Tickets

Andrew explains that the PF need to vote annually on how much we should contribute to the Pantomime Visit. There are three options to vote on-

1 Parent Forum pay for all to attend plus cost of buses.

2 Parent Forum pay for all kids and staff only to attend, whilst parents, family and community members tickets are subsidized. Cost of buses to be paid for.

3 Parent Forum pay only for buses.

In 2013 Option 2 was agreed upon. DL confirms that a few more tickets have been reserved this year. Costs last year were £631 for the tickets and £410 for the buses.

VOTE - Unanimously for Option 2. All agreed that tickets would be sold to family and community members for £15.00.

3.0 Headteachers Report

3.1 Staffing

DL is happy to report that the school has a full complement of staff.

3.2 Parent Input

DL asks ALL to give input on recent documentation issued:- the learning leaflet, timetable, homework and Golden Time.

3.3 QIO Visit

Wednesday 17th is the QIO visit. There will be three officers in all day. The return inspection is now booked in for 1st and 2nd December.

DL requests parents to come in during the QIO visit to the school and nursery to talk to the inspection team. CT, SW,FC and MC offered to go in.

3.4 Class Trips

P5-7 Skiing Trip

DL confirms that the skiing trip for the P5-7,s will go ahead. Cost is approximately £250 per head. It is hoped that there will be a grant to help cover some of this. The cost of the buses would be £50 per head. It was agreed that PF to pay £50 per head.

It was agreed that perhaps the p5-7 children could also have a fundraiser to help contribute towards the costs of their trip.

P5-7 Edinburgh Trip

Tying in to their current Topic the P5-7 class plans to visit Edinburgh and in particular the Scottish Parliament. The bus is likely to cost £550 plus an additional cost of £5 per head to visit Dynamic Earth.

VOTE - ALL agreed to pay for the trip, on the basis that there is a commitment to all year groups in future years to be given a trip to a similar cost every year.

P5-7 Visit to Archaeological Dig at Crathes

This dig has been opened up to local schools. Finzean have applied and are due to visit on Thursday 9th October. it was noted this currently clashes with the school harvest Assembly.

3.5 I pads

DL confirms iPads have arrived in school plus an Apple TV and thanks all parents for their contribution to this.

3.6 Planters

This year it is suggested parents contribute plants and seeds and/or give money.

3.7 Finzean School Fund

This requires a top up. agreed this is on Andrew confirms that PF required by the constitution to top up the fund if it drops below £600.

3.8 Playground Equipment

DL notes that the children have been asking for more playground equipment, however she was concerned that the children were not looking after it enough snows not sure about how to proceed. This was discussed by all and FC suggests if children can raise money the PF will match it.

POST MEETING NOTE - it was agreed by the Parent Council members and Mrs Lobban after the meeting that the PF would give £100 towards playground equipment. Once purchased, if the children looked after it they would get another donation of £100. Mrs Lobban to make the decision.

3.9 Headteacher Role

DL notes closing date for applications is next Thursday. Interviews to be arranged for November. AF proposes that he writes a letter to Mrs Hughson to thank her for everything she did for the School and Nursery during her time as Head teacher.

4.0 Office Bearers

AF notes that all Office Bearers have been asked to stay on until the New Year to ensure continuity until after the return inspection on December. CT is required to step down by Easter 2015.

5.0 Parent Representatives

Since all communications are now disseminated via email and all parents are included in this, it was agreed that parent reps were no longer required. ALL present agreed to this.

5.1 Catering Coordinator

AF thanks all for their help at the end of Term BBQ. It was agreed that the role of cc should be purely to ensure that the PF cupboard is full of the basics - tea, coffee, sugar. It was agreed that for each individual event the catering is taken care of by the event committee.

6.0 Fundraising

6.1 Casino Night

Casino Night will be at the hall on 15th November . Last year profit was £1,400. POST MEETING note - changed to 22nd November.

6.2 Christmas Fayre

Christmas Fayre is to be on Sunday 7th December at the hall.

6.3 Burns Supper

Burns Supper is on Saturday 24th January 2015.

6.4 Halloween - parent helpers needed for this. Please get in touch.

6.5 WH suggests we have a fundraiser such as a horse racing night. This was great for families and could be held at the hall. This could happen on March 2015.

6.6 AF notes that with all the committed outgoings it would be wise to set a target for fundraising annually. DD to establish annual commitments. Eg Skiing money, buses and pantomime costs.

6.7 DL requests input from parents on the p3-4 Farming Topic.

6.8 WH notes that Braemar Interschool Sports was worth considering joining again.

6.9 Techfest- usually the school attends this event every two years, however this year Techfest comes to Finzean. this is a more cost effective option and kids benefit more.

6.10 Swimming Lessons - it is anticipated as last year that these will restart.

6.11 School Times - DL notes that the time has come to push this forward. there was only one parent with a concern about the change. Since the school finishes 15mins later that most other primary schools many children are having to leave school early to get to after school clubs and activities. Carolyn Christie is coming in to class most days now to assist with this. new school time proposed to be 9:00am to 3:15pm. DL to contact council to explore this further.

6.12 Connection of playground to community path. CT/AF to look into this with DL.

6.13 Active schools

SW queries why no P1/2 activities in this programme. DL suggests it depends on what is being offered. Often it is down to individuals offering activities and some are not suitable for younger children.

6.14 Cycling Proficiency

Training is now running, parents encouraged to get involved.

6.15 Defibrillator

It has been discussed within the community that one is bought for use and located at the Hall.

It was asked if the Pf would be keen to contribute. All agreed that it was a good idea but that FCA/FCC should lead on this as it is to be located at hall.

6.16 ECO Group

Eco week starts next week with various events and workshops for the children including an Apple Tasting and information session.

P1/2 are having a book swap morning on Tuesday. parents reminded to get children to take in a book for this.

Litter pick is on Wednesday.

Friday is Garden Action days at the nursery in the morning and the school in the afternoon. Parent helpers needed for this. materials are needed for this and list will be issued.

7.0 Next meeting

TUESDAY 28th OCTOBER AT FINZEAN FARM SHOP AT 7:00PM

NOTE - Thank you AGAIN to Finzean Farm shop for hosting our meeting and providing refreshments!