Minutes of Inchture Parent Council Meeting 20/11/24

Present:

Jo Bell (Headteacher)

Fiona Bienkowski

Claire Brough

Fiona Callaghan

Louise Chalmers (Deputy Headteacher)

Jenna Gallazi

Laura Malloch

Emma Mathieson (Secretary – Minutes)

Adrienne Miller McLaughlin

Dawn North (Chairperson)

Tasha O'Hare

Jordan Russell

Apologies:

Sara Cassidy

Scott Headley (Treasurer)

Treasurer's Report:

In Scott's absence a written report was provided.

Parent Council Treasurer's Report November 2024

Balance at end of last update (10th September) = £5,005.83

Funds on hand 20th November 2024 = **£5,314.29**

Events/Miscellaneous Income:
Halloween Disco = £730.00
Easy Fundraising = £88.12
Total = £818.12

Expenditure
Décorations for 50th Célébrations (Jo Bell) = £132.45
Christmas Books (Dawn) = £90.00

Bonus Ball = £100.00
Halloween Stock (Dawn) = £26.99
Haribo Xmas (Dawn) = £5.97
Partial Funding of IT Equipment = £395.25
Petty Cash for Nursery Loose Parts = £100.00
Lottery License = £20.00
Total = £870.66

Bonus Ball: All balls now sold!!
September – £147.00
October – £147.00
November (So far) - £130.00

- Bonus Ball continues to run smoothly and is bringing in a steady £97.00 profit each month that we can use to help support the school

Actions/Notes

- Need to add another signatory to the bank account as Tricia is still on the account
    - Emma is happy to be added on, I will aim to progress this as soon as possible.
    - **This will be my top priority in the new year! 😊

- Funds for the "Boombox" still to be transferred. School has not been charged yet but the total will be £346.00

- Remaining funds for iPads and Laptops still to be transferred. School has not been charged yet. Total still to be transferred is: £1,309.15

- School was successful with it's grant funding for outdoor socket and was awarded £900.00. It is hoped this will cover the total cost and that there will be no additional funds required.

Headteacher's Report:

The Decider Skills parent workshop was very well received and is being repeated early next year. Decider skills is part of the School Improvement Plan and work with children and staff within school is ongoing.

There has been a high level of staff sickness this term, although less than Dundee schools who have been affected by a lot of bugs and sickness. The focus has been on providing continuity of care in the classrooms and this has led to difficulty getting other things done, including responding to phone calls.

Technology purchased by Parent Council has arrived. Ipads and the sound system are already in use. There were some items missing when the sound system arrived but that has now been resolved. The missing Ipad from Primary 2 has unfortunately never been found.

Inchture 50th Birthday Celebrations were great fun. The sponsored walk raised £500 and the street party raised a further £260.

The Community grant application was successful and we received funding for the outside double socket which has a key. This will be used at the Inchture Community Christmas light switch on on 28th November. In relation to this Perth and Kinross events team, risk assessment and property teams have all approved plans. The police and first aiders are coming with an ambulance. At the Light switch on there will be real reindeers and Shetland ponies. The children have been doing artwork about what Inchture means to them and making things to sell on the night. Livvis will be providing soup, empire biscuits and hot chocolate.

Funding requests – Presents and snacks for Christmas parties. Presents are already purchased and there is sufficient food and juice left over from the Hallowe'en disco to be donated for the parties. Tesco have kindly donated 50 selection boxes.

Chairperson's Report:

Thanks was given to Emma, Fiona and Dawn who organised the Hallowe'en Disco and to all of the volunteers who helped on the night. It was a successful event , making £743.50. Thanks to Gav from Creation Sounds who generously donated his time free of charge. Volunteers had been thanked and asked for feedback, but none was received. In relation to the numbers, it was noted a lot of adults stayed at the younger disco, not just parents of Nursery children. It was suggested to consider this next year as the first disco was very busy, although it would depend on the composition of classes. We had received pumpkin carving sets from Asda which we were unable to use at the party but had managed to sell some to the community. There are more available for next year.

Movie night for P1-P7 is planned for directly after school on December 12th. The film "That Christmas" (PG) has been chosen. It is an adventure comedy and it is hoped that most children will not have seen it as it is only released on 4th December. Scott will send out the permission form, Jordan will look at the risk assessment. Admission needs to be reviewed so that it is easier to complete the register. Children are welcome to bring blankets and an extra snack from home if they should wish, in addition to their water bottle. Crisps will be provided as we have plenty left (in date) which were purchased for Hallowe'en. Laura is willing to be first aider again as she will be working in the school at the time.

The presents for Christmas have been purchased and wrapped. In addition to the 50 Selection boxes donated by Tesco Kingsway and Riverside, Dawn has purchased Haribo as an allergy free alternative prize for use at the parties. Nursery are planning to sell raffle tickets in the playground the week of December 2nd and these are available for parents of all children in the school. Activities are planned for 10th December. More details will be available following the "Nursery natters" meeting.

Parent Council will have a stall at the Christmas Light switch on. Pre-loved Christmas jumpers will be sold at £2 each. There are more than 100 available. The Eco-Committee have helped make posters to advertise. Mrs Bell has highlighted that Christmas jumpers will be allowed to be worn throughout December, so people will get more use from them.

Fresh Inc Medispa have donated a voucher which will be the prize for a bonus ball competition. There will be Santa themed lollies for sale and a spin the wheel game with Haribo left over from Hallowe'en used as prizes. There are currently only 4 volunteers, more would be welcome. The event has been advertised in businesses around the village but Fiona B will put up posters on lamp-posts for more visibility. It is a community event, not just for people associated with school.

In the run up to Christmas, Parent Council plan to advertise that we are looking for small items from crackers or similar which can be re-used as prizes for lucky dips. Fiona B has kindly offered to have the collection box outside her house after Christmas.

Fundraising for terms 3 and 4 was discussed and it was decided to run an adult only Quiz Night on Friday 28th March 2025. Hopefully this will take place in the Village Hall, availability will need to be checked. Jordan and Adrienne will take the lead on this. Sports Day raffle will be organised, this has been very successful in previous years.

Parent Council had been asked by parents to feedback on School photos this year. It was felt that the photos were not great and were much more expensive than advertised. However, within Parent Council parents there was mixed feedback. Some really liked their pictures, others did not. Mrs Bell said that it is difficult to please everyone, in previous years there has been complaints about photos as well. A questionnaire about photos was sent out to parents last year and this was discussed. Mrs Bell is concerned about the cost to parents. Fizz Photography gave the school inaccurate information about pricing, school were under the impression that the starting price was £7, but it was more than £20. Mrs Bell reminded us that parents are under no obligation to buy photos and are welcome to arrange school photos privately, should they so wish. From school's perspective Fizz was a much quicker option, took only half a day to photograph all the children, whereas it was done over 2 days previously. It is a time-consuming exercise and logistically difficult as the hall is not able to be used for other things during this time. Mrs Bell said other options can be considered.

It was agreed that Parent Council will fund an award for the end of year prizegiving. This is to be a “Skills for the future” prize, two will be awarded. One for P1-P3, and one for P4-P7. The trophy design is hoped to be “futuristic”. All members present agreed to fund these with expected costs of around £75 per item, including engraving.

It was confirmed that the Community grant is available every year, applications open in the summer so it was hoped some ideas could be discussed at the next meeting to allow putting applications together prior to the holidays. Previously we have been awarded funding towards the Ruby bench and the outdoor socket.

Mrs Bell reported that the recent football tournament was a success and enough money was raised to buy the football nets and balls.

ASDA cashpot is still active and so far there has been over £411 raised.