

Crudie Parent Council AGM Meeting 9th September 2019

Present – Mrs Rickard, Pamela Bartlett, Jayne Watson, Diane Paton, Jenni Smith, Nicola Davidson

Pamela chaired the meeting and thanked everyone for coming, she read the chairpersons report as below

Chairperson Report

The Parent Council seem to have had a steady year. Our Aim was to try and make our events more community focused and continue some events from 2018.

We had a Halloween family event(31st) which went rather differently to the usual disco – it was more of a free play event with activities laid out and families could move about as they wished. This made it fairly hard in the respect that come the end (structured part) people had left before the planned disco/games and when Wilma came to do our Halloween dance there wasn't many left. This event attracted mainly the little class and pre-schoolers. (£103)

Our rag bag collections continue to be a good source of income. (£182.80 – November, £95.60 – Feb, £142.40- July)

Cash Bingo has been good – people coming along seem to enjoy it and the children do too, Some of the littler ones do get a bit restless toward the end and if this event was to be done again in future maybe we could have some colouring bits on the table the children could sit and draw or something until the end. (november£470) – smaller cash prizes. (£159 larger prizes and less people.)

Easter event was good but not as many people as the previous year. We tried starting sunflowers for the community garden, but theses didn't really grow in time. As usual lots of lovely donations of home bakes, our craft table and egg hunt. We also had a bale up the pitch which was great fun, but messy. Thanks to Duncan eggs for donating the eggs.

We are fundraising to purchase a new smart board for the little class, also support with anything else needed as and when. Some of the things we supported this year include, swimming lessons, Christmas parties, pantomime trips. We also pay for materials needed in the classroom and a new sound system.

We have recently received a donation from Muirden Energy for £350 this is to be used towards purchasing a new smart board for the little class. Muirden would like to be kept up to date and notified when this is purchased with feedback on how this has made a difference.

I'd like to thank the committee for their support and hard work this year as without them this would not be possible.

Treasurers Report

The balance as of the 9th August 2019 is £4017.68. Cost of the Swimming Lessons still to be paid from this Balance.

Committee Members

Chairperson – Jenni Smith

Vice Chairperson – Nicola Davidson

Treasurer – Jayne Watson

Secretary – Diane Paton

Head Teachers Report

Mrs Rickard reported on what is happening in the school as follows:

Session 2018/19 was a very busy yet successful year. We were delighted to win an award for our robot. Excited to get recognised for the second year in a row for our Doric poetry writing. We had a good uptake for all of our after schools clubs and were able to offer a wide range of clubs including storytellers, animation, robotics, street dance, stay and play, and music. It was great that pupils were keen to run their own lunchtime clubs also. Assemblies, community cafes, the open afternoon and share the learning sessions were all well attended. Money from Community Café's benefited a range of different charities. Learners have been able to take part in a number of different trips throughout the school year and have had the benefit of lots of different visitors to the school to enhance their learning experience.

Our school roll has increased from 25 to 28 this session with a healthy intake of 6 primary 1 pupils.

Staffing remains stable. Miss MacPherson completed her probation year and moved back down to Fife to be close to her family. Mrs Barska has completed her teacher training and is undertaking her probation year at Crudie. I continue to teach in P4-7 all day Friday and most of Thursday. I am in P4-7 for some of the morning, assembly for part of the afternoon and then P1-3 until the end of the day. Mrs Cruickshank joins us again to teach PE on Tuesday afternoons.

Improvements

Last session our improvement focus was on literacy and numeracy, health and wellbeing and Developing the Young Workforce.

Mrs Parker and I attended training on Emerging Literacy throughout the year. Mrs Parker then disseminated our training to Mrs Young and the PSAs. We offered an emerging literacy workshop for parents to show what we are doing and why we are doing it. Initially there wasn't the interest but when we offered it again later in the year in conjunction with our P1 parent workshops, we got a good turn out.

From P2-7 we introduced Accelerated Reader. Throughout the course of the session staff undertook training in order to understand how to use the product and implement it in the school. Looking at the data over the course of last session, overall this has shown a positive impact.

Maths rotations continue to work well in class. Training in maths mastery was done last year by myself and Miss MacPherson. We were then able to apply mastery techniques to our teaching and saw pupils more readily talking about their thought processes. An in-service

day was also spent on Numicon training. Numicon can be used right the way up the school and provides concrete materials to scaffold learning. It is particularly useful to help learners visualise a problem. We now have a range of resources from Numicon and maths mastery training that we are using in conjunction with the maths scheme that we have in place already in the school.

In health and wellbeing, we purchased a one year subscription to PASS which is a health and well being assessment tool. The idea behind this was that it would help us to identify pupils that needed a little extra support with their emotional wellbeing. The programme backed up our own judgements of who would benefit from interventions. This year we will not continue with the subscription as it didn't really give us any information that we didn't already know. We ran Seasons for Growth programmes and Happy to be me programmes again and we also ran a series of confidence building sessions. PSAs attended training on Positive Playtimes and have implemented a number of changes within the dinner hall.

For Developing the Young Workforce, we worked closely with King Edward and Fintry Schools. We are working through the Career Education Standard together which is helping us to identify where we are at and areas we need to focus on. We have developed a bank of expertise within our parent body that we can call upon when relevant to do so. However, we didn't get back as many responses as we would have liked. We made valuable links with Siemens and are taking part in their Rollercoaster challenge this session with Mrs Barska setting up a STEM club for this.

Inspection

A major part of last year was our inspection from Education Scotland. They focussed on 2 core quality indicators: 2.3 Learning and Teaching, and 3.2 Raising attainment and achievement. The inspection process was rigorous and very thorough. The school was delighted to be awarded "good" for both areas and our next steps were ones that had already been identified by ourselves and were a continuation of what we have already started. I have to make a report to the Banff and Buchan committee tomorrow about it.

Improvement planning session 2019/20

Our improvements for this session stem from what we have started last session and what had been identified from the inspection.

We want to continue to raise attainment in literacy. We will be having a particular focus on writing but will continue on the work started with Emerging Literacy and Accelerated Reader to get this embedded fully. We will look for gaps in our library and use some of our PEF to purchase new books. For writing I have booked Anne Glennie of The Learning Zoo to provide training during the November in-service days. She will spend the first day looking at Reflective Reading and then the second day looking at The Story Kitchen. This will be paid for using PEF. We will develop Learning Together Packs and re-visit our homework policy. Homework survey's have gone out to parents and close at the end of this week. So far there have been 12 responses back.

For health and wellbeing, the cluster is looking at redeveloping the sexual health and relationships programme. We also want to look at our equality and diversity programme and aim to do this during the October in-service. 3 members of staff have already started a Basics of Getting Outdoors course in which we are learning how to use the outdoors to support emotional wellbeing. This is paid for using PEF.

For Developing the Young Workforce, we shall continue to work with Fintry and King Edward schools, working our way through the career education standard and sharing good practice. We are looking at planning a careers fayre type event and have made links with the academy to begin to set up buddies for older pupils to look at the My World of Work site. We continue to discuss skills for learning, life and work in the class but we need to focus on getting these really embedded. Mrs Barska is kick-starting the year with an Enterprise project. Pupils will run their own company and have decided to put profits towards some new equipment for the playground.

Other points to mention

Seesaw is up and running in both classes as a more effective way of communicating what pupils are doing in school to their parents. There are still some parents who have yet to sign up. So far, staff are finding it very simple to use and much less time consuming than Glow blogs. It's an easier way for pupils to talk about their learning too.

The crisp packet recycling scheme has changed the way it is doing things. We now only get money for every 5kg we send in. After discussion with the Pupil Parliament it was felt that it would take forever to raise any money however, we still do want to recycle crisp packets. Instead we will take the packets to collection points at the Deveron Centre or Turriff hospital where they are collecting them to give to the air ambulance.

In P4-7 we have gone through the homework diary and added in important dates. On Tuesday the 8th of October we will have our Harvest assembly followed by a Share the Learning session up until break time.

Dates for Diary

Halloween party/ Trick or Treating – 31st October 2019

AOB

Meeting to discuss Halloween Party 3rd October 2pm

Next Parent Council Meeting Scheduled for Monday 4th November – 2pm

Pamela Closed Meeting