

FRIENDS OF DURRIS and CROSSROADS NURSERY
Minutes of Meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 22nd January 2021

Present: Lynne Giles, Sarah Stewart, Dawn Rippiner, Aynsley Watson, Catriona Woodburn, Bridget Rhodes, Yi-pei Turvey, Claire Stutter

Apologies: Elaine Ingram

	<u>Actions</u>
<p>1. <u>Minutes and Correspondence</u></p> <p>Minutes from last meeting approved and no correspondence was noted.</p> <p>2. <u>Head Teacher Update</u></p> <p>Covid-19 update LG attends weekly virtual HT meetings lead by Laurence Findlay and one hosted by NHS. Restrictions extended until mid-Feb, review date on 2 February by First Minister. Holiday/inset dates will continue as previously agreed. Provision of school places for Key workers (categories 1 & 2) and vulnerable children is a last resort New variant of Covid 19 – can have some different symptoms – extreme tiredness/light cough. Durris is open every day and there are children attending.</p> <p>Marvellous Me update Staff to undertake training virtually – aiming to start using it following Feb mid-term. It is a one-way system though. In school, will be sharing learning as we did with Seesaw. Will also be easier for sharing videos/larger files – especially if lockdown continues.</p> <p>Playground update Tesco funding bid was successful - £1000, will buy a mobile waterwall with this Funding from parents bid and match funding – storage shed and other items agreed. Also managed to get council funding for two planters</p> <p>School Engagement Piece in the paper show casing work in schools, our Parental Engagement work done with school, parent council and wider parent forum on policy, Durris Deal, 3 values, questionnaire etc was featured. https://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/fp/news/local/north-east-lockdown-learning-showcased-at-national-level/</p> <p>Home-Learning update Good to hear how it is going – 19 families responded to questionnaire this week, representing 29/45 pupils.</p> <p>Predominantly positive – Sway day before, layout of work on Sway, screen free day, joint sibling tasks and Google meets across the stages</p> <p>Some comments included some reporting enjoying the screen free day – others that it caused issues, some love that they can plan their day around other commitments and others want more structure</p> <p>Staff working are also predominantly working parents – all doing the same juggle. Home learning is not just online learning – far wider range of skills being taught and learned – more rounded.</p> <p>Live learning: No plans for this as difficult to organise, we all have other obligations, time taken to plan online takes significantly longer than normal/face to face planning. Gayle Gorman, Chief Executive of Education Scotland, has also stated there is not an</p>	

<p>expectation for it to be taking to place in schools.</p> <p>Mixed responses for work being sent in – sizeable minority nothing, majority sending in one or two tasks or engaging with Feedback Friday, very small minority sending in all work.</p> <p>Investigating verbal feedback on Google class – you can do it, but Shire don't currently have access to it – LG investigating this with Jim McLean (Education Text Support) – he is waiting to hear back from company TextHelp</p> <p>Nursery will continue with their weekly Sways and are aiming to have a Teams meeting for pupils in the coming week.</p> <p>Going forward the School will continue with Sway and two Google meets a week for each class. Teachers want to encourage daily submitting via Google classroom for all classes or use of email with photo attachments. School does monitor who is visibly engaging and getting in touch when we are not hearing/seeing anything. This allows for regular teacher feedback for children.</p> <p>Use of Marvellous Me – for more videos from teachers, following Feb mid-term/if still in lockdown.</p> <p>Encourage use of Feedback Friday – especially for those not engaging throughout the week.</p> <p>Parents will be invited to attend first part of Google meets this week – to see how to use Google Classroom. Will also upload a help power point/video to assist parents.</p> <p>3. <u>Parent Council Payment</u> DR advised that this years payment had been made, she was trying to get a bank statement but the balance must be around £500. Need to consider how this is to be used as we have to demonstrate it is being used.</p> <p>4. <u>Insurance</u> DR advised she has investigated and this covers most sports and we don't need the additional insurance because we are a small school with less than 10 activities. Not sure if it covers swimming yet, being looked into further.</p> <p>5. <u>Nursery</u> YT advised parents generally happy with what is being done for the children. Teams call is being planned for the next few weeks.</p> <p>6. <u>AOCB</u> CW gave update on her correspondence with Council in relation to green area behind school. Council advised they had someone out and it looked green. CW has responded to say this is not grass but mostly weeds. Council have advised they have been in touch with Kirkwood who have promised to do the work so the Council have closed the complaint. CW has tried to argue that the complaint cannot be closed until the work done but is getting nowhere. To be reviewed in April having given Kirkwood chance to do work in better weather and raise further complaint if needed. Councillor Dennis Robertson has been a go between but appears to be getting told things which are untrue.</p> <p>7. <u>Date of Next Meeting</u> TBC, members to email DR with availability for week of 1st March 2021.</p>	<p>LG</p> <p>DR</p>
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