

KILLERMONT PRIMARY PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes 20 November 2023 (Draft)

1. Welcome and apologies

Present: EM, CH, ES, SM, LM, CD, KT, CL, AM, SR, JT

Apologies: RD, JK, GS, Cllr Gallagher

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Agreed.

3. Other matters arising

SUMDOG:

- Usage was promoted at Parent's Evening.
- When subscription was last updated KPS were in top 5-10 schools in Scotland in terms of usage.
- Usage is impacted by the amount of usage in class, connectivity in school and at home, individual pupil motivation and competitions.
- P1-P2 generally has lower usage, usage peaks at P5 then declines in upper school.
- P5 has average usage of ~4 hours per week.
- 81% of questions are answered correctly, which is around the percentage the school would expect.
- Every class has 2 ipads, a desktop, and access to laptops.
- Information will be included in the next newsletter.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SERVICE

- Students can join this in P5, they get another opportunity to join in S1.

PATH FROM RANNOCH DRIVE TO KINNAIRD CRESCENT

- This will be update prior to Christmas. A final date is yet to be confirmed. The path will be resurfaced and the drainage will be fixed.

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4. Chairperson's report and correspondence

PARKING

- A meeting was held with Cllr Gallagher, the police, and council parking officers.
- It has been agreed that the faded white lines will be repainted and will be extended to the dropped kerb.
- The police suggested using a section of the playground near the parkour as a turning point could be an option.
- Some schools are taking part in a no-car zone pilot for a year (Clober Primary School is included). To be included in such a pilot would require clearing a significant amount of red tape.

- Other options such as residents' permits were problematic due to the challenge in enforcing such options.
- A local residents has contacted the school again recently to raise their concerns.
- Parent's Council members suggested placing a note from the JRSO (Junior Road Safety Officers) on cars parked problematically may help.
- Attendees mentioned the parking charter which parents previously signed and returned. It was thought parents could be reminded of this in the newsletter once the white lines have been repainted.
- The change in street lighting was noted. The new lights are LED lights and it is thought all new streetlights will all be of this type. There was a concern raised that this was not good for sleep.

5. Head Teacher's report and correspondence

OUTDOOR LEARNING

- Learning for Sustainability is a Cross Cutting Theme of Curriculum for Excellence and Outdoor Learning sits under this theme.
- The school has committed to a 3-year improvement plan related to Outdoor Learning.
- Many teachers have taken this on as part of their own personal development.
- Teacher Confidence can be a barrier and this has improved.
- In the 1st year of the plan the aim was to get more outdoor learning taking place, with the focus on quality to come in year 2. However, as this type of learning takes place more it has been noted that it is already of a high quality.
- HMIE Thematic Inspection commented very favourably on this. They watched P2 in the Eco Garden and P3 working with the loose parts.
- Feedback from pupils is extremely positive and they are keen for there to be more opportunities.
- Sustrans have supported activities in this area.
- Bikeability activities come under this theme.
- The Parent Council considered benefits and concerns related to Outdoor Learning. Members suggested it would be a good idea to encourage pupils to grow plants.
- The Parent Council would have 'Outdoor Learning' as the topic to discuss at the next Parent's Evening.

COMMENTS FROM PARENTS EVENING

- Parents were asked 'are you satisfied with the level of challenge in your child's learning'. 54 parents said yes, 7 parents said no.
- A suggestion was made that pupils in P1 not meeting early level be given support. It was confirmed that such support is given through support for learning assistants. This support would be highlighted in the next newsletter.
- Last week the attainment meeting with the Council was held to discuss what support is being provided to pupils not meeting levels.
- 'When the Adults Change, Everything Changes' book outlines the approach the school uses to giving awards. 'Over and above' awards are given at the school, but there not 'Star of the Week' or equivalent awards given. Parent Councils members were supportive of this approach, though thought

outlining the reasons for this in the newsletter would be of interest of parents.

- Attendees agreed with the comment that parents would appreciate less paper and Sellotape wastage in the infant area.
- There was a comment that there were too many emails being sent to parents from the school. Attendees were asked to bring examples to the next meeting of the types of emails which they thought could be reduced.

ACTION: Members

SPORTS DAY

- The date is yet to be confirmed, though it would not be the 31st May as this is expected to be an induction day at Boclair Academy.

5. AOCB

Scheduled dates and times of next meetings:

Monday 15/01/24 at 6.45pm at Boclair Academy

Monday 4/03/24 at 6.45pm at Boclair Academy