

Friends of Maud School Parent Council

Minutes

Wednesday 15th June 2016

John Curno (Chair), Kenny Westmacott (Vice Chair), Louise Cran (Treasurer), Kath O'Connor, Louise Catto, Mrs Moir, Mrs Steel, Mrs McCue, Sonia Will, Miss Portsmouth, Miss White, Carol Fleming, Stuart Wood

1. Welcome

John welcomed everyone.

2. Apologies

Louise Bisset (Secretary), Katie Fordyce, Lynne Adams, Yvonne O'Neill, Helen Ritchie, Cat Anderson

3. Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting were summarised and approved by Carol Fleming, seconded by Louise Catto.

4. Head Teachers Report

It has been a busy and successful term. The children are making continued improvements and the staff are proud of their achievements in school and in activities outside the school.

The Active Schools Passport Scheme has been a great success for the school with an individual prize and a school prize being won. A day of Yoga for the school kids will be happening on the 16th June.

Four classes have shared their learning through assemblies, with P1 next week.

The P7 children and Mrs McCue had a great time at their Compass week and their transition to the academy is progressing well.

The coffee evening was a great success and the school wanted to pass on their thanks to the Parent Council. Many positive comments had been received. The conversation café, held in school, was also a success with the community being welcomed into the school, and the recorder group and John providing entertainment and the School were keen to do it again.

The donation received from the Parent Council last year went towards the reading books fund and the school trip to Cordona, booked for the last week of term. The School would not be able to treat the children like this without the donation so are very grateful for the work the Parent Council puts in to raise the funds. New reading books are due to be purchased at the beginning of next year.

The class formation for next year is still being worked on and will be cascaded to parents as soon as it was available. The new P1s have been visiting the school in preparation for their start in August.

Recent feedback from parents, pupils and staff are being used for continuous improvement and achievement and deciding on priorities for next session.

School thank the Parent Council for their ongoing commitment and support to the school over the course of the session.

5. Classes/Staffing for 2016/2017 Session

There will be 5 classes again next year and they are working with assessments and the local authority to form these classes. Confirmation is still being waited on and it was hoped that this would be formalised early next week and parents would be informed asap. There is an intake of 16 new P1s with 9 outgoing P7s.

6. Draft School Improvement Plan

The draft improvement plan for next year is being prepared, with priorities being set. The authority has already defined 1+2 languages as key, so each child will have access to a foreign language, and by 2020 two foreign languages. Currently they are working on introducing French throughout the school, adding words to routines for the lower classes and increasing this through the school with conversations for the higher ones. The kids enjoy it and are excited to learn, and this will be helped with increased resources from the authority.

Also in the plan is shared learning in coordination with parents, adding to what is already done so parents are kept informed throughout the year and not just on one big report each year. The format of this will change also with the staff all having input.

Areas within the curriculum are already in the plan and suggestions from parents and carers are welcomed.

7. Treasurers Report

We have a healthy balance at the moment, £3055.17 with a few cheques to be cashed still leaving available £2937.40.

8. Coffee Evening Roundup

It was a successful evening taking in £2322.00 and less expenses made a profit of £1704.63. The profit from the raffle was almost 3 times as much this year which was a real bonus. It was thought the £1 per ticket was a good idea but next year we need to ensure the raffle table is in a room off the hall, well signed, and with higher tables to make filling in the tickets easier.

It was thought 2 prizes for the xbox racing game would be beneficial as it was a more boy-ish prize which perhaps put girls off wanting to win and therefore have a go.

Other suggestions had been made and would be written up for next year.

It was suggested that we move it from a 6-8pm timeslot to 5-7pm, allowing the younger classes more opportunity to attend. This would be considered for next year.

9. Splitting Fundraiser/Secretary Duties

It had been mentioned previously that the duties are too much for one role. It was agreed that perhaps we could look at also splitting more roles, so jobs do not seem too onerous to take on.

Role descriptions would be devised, along with why we need people on the committee/how the Parent Council help the school, which could be issued before the end of term to inform the parents of how they can help by attending the meetings.

It was agreed the AGM should be combined with a wine and cheese evening to help encourage attendance.

10. Date for Wine and Cheese AGM Evening

Wednesday 7th September 2016