

# CORNBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

**Minute of Meeting on  
Tuesday 8 March 2022 at  
7.00 p.m. via Zoom**

## **Present**

Lucy Brown (Parent)  
Gillian Cairns (Parent)  
Laura Cameron (Head Teacher)  
Susan Cochrane (Parent)  
Lesley Deas (Principal Teacher)  
Andrew Drysdale (Depute Head)  
Mary Hadwen (Parent)  
Carol Hodgkin (Parent, Treasurer)  
Elena Leonard (Parent)  
Jodie Macdonald (Parent)  
Nicola McEwan (Parent)  
Claire Muir (Parent)  
Fiona Neil (Parent)  
Lynsey Weir (Minutes Clerk)  
Steph Wright (Parent, Rotating Chair)  
Lyn Young (Parent, Secretary)

## **Apologies**

Lorna Glasgow (Parent)  
Yvonne Scott (Parent)

### **1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES.**

Steph Wright opened the Zoom meeting by welcoming all, great to see so many faces. Apologies noted. Introductions were made.

### **2.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTE & MATTERS ARISING.**

Minute of meeting on 23/11/21

- 1) Minutes approved.

### **3.0 SCHOOL UPDATE.**

#### **Covid-19 Updates**

- Impact on staffing
- Responsive to outbreaks
- Dinner Hall reopened
- Twice weekly asymptomatic testing for staff continues
- Contact Tracing procedures
- Updated school contingency plans for class/school closure
- Easing of restrictions

#### **Staffing:**

- Staffing has been challenging due to impact of Covid
- Head Teacher recruitment is ongoing - job advert extended due to internal processes. Depute Head Teacher post is currently live.
- We marked the retirements of Lesley Capaldi and Anne Selfridge.

- Welcome to Anne Grant, Maxwell Drummond, Christine Martin, Aneta and Laura Robertson in P1-7. Welcome to Kim Cockburn in Nursery.

#### **School Improvement Plan:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Eco Schools Green Flag achieved
- Nurture - focus on 6 principles of nurture - these are being introduced at assemblies
- Literacy - developing Signalong and resources
- Numeracy - assessment activities for pupils looking at developing skills across the curriculum, Maths Moderation
- Digital Learning - how to use QR codes, digital deployment
- In-Service looking at Nurture and Digital Learning in January

#### **What's Been Happening Since We Last Met:**

- Support for Others - Children in Need
- Drumming for P2 and P3
- Focus Times - Christmas (Panto, Virtual Nativity, Parties, Church Service) and Scots Focus
- P6 Maths Support from Jonathan Weedon
- Support Meetings for pupils with additional needs
- Virtual Sportshall Athletics
- Lunchtime Basketball Clubs for each stage - thanks to Sports Group
- Fairtrade Focus

#### **What's Coming Up?**

- Penicuik High School Sports Leaders
- Parents' Consultations - format to be agreed
- Pupil Conference
- House Assembly

**Support:** Thank you for the funding towards our Christmas Parties.

Update - Midlothian Council have confirmed that school pupil consultations will again be via telephone this term.

Lesley - school camp, no requests for funding at present as pupils are currently doing fundraising opportunities.

#### **4.0 TREASURER REPORT.**

- 1) Carol Hodgkin reported that the balance of the account is £3,720.22.
- 2) Carol advised that we are in the process of changing the bank signatories to Carol Hodgkin, Lyn Young and Yvonne Scott.

#### **5.0 EASTER EVENTS.**

- 1) Lyn Young highlighted that we have limited time for organising any Easter activities. Unfortunately we won't be able to hold an in house Fair again this year, however, it would be good to do some kind of activity to raise Partnership awareness and not necessarily funds. Ideas discussed were Easter quiz; name the Easter chick; colour an Easter picture; draw an Easter picture; spot the difference sheet; decorate an Easter bonnet; scavenger hunt; decorate an egg picture.
- 2) It was agreed that family orientated activities would be great with prize

incentives. Andrew Drysdale suggested announcing the winners at the last day of term assembly. Donations for charity were discussed and it was agreed to ask for a food donation for Food, Fact, Friends in lieu of payment for the answer sheet. These donations should be handed into school and will be collected and delivered to FFF by the Partnership.

- 3) After more discussion it was agreed to send home a decorate an egg picture with Easter wishes from the Partnership and a quiz sheet. Jodie Macdonald agreed to action this task by the end of the week and send to Lyn Young for posting on the FB page for approval. One entry will be drawn from each class and the nursery by the House Captains to be presented with an egg at the assembly. 14 easter eggs to be purchased for prizes.

JM  
LY

## 6.0 PARENT QUESTIONS.

- 1) Steph Wright – Is the school doing anything for Earth Day? – Laura Cameron confirmed this is on the school calendar for staff to pick up related activities with each class.
- 2) Susan Cochrane – Teddy bear fundraising stall at Penicuik Fair on 28 May? – Could we run a stall at a cost of £10 to raise school funds? Teddies can be adopted and go to a new home with an adoption certificate. Susan Cochrane is happy to progress this idea. All agreed this would be a good fundraiser and also help raise awareness of the Partnership. Susan suggested purchasing a banner to promote the Partnership. Susan will investigate banner options and costs and feedback for approval.
- 3) Jodie Macdonald – Provision of PE in the curriculum? – How does this fit in with the curriculum? Who takes PE? How often should it take part? – Laura Cameron confirmed this forms part of the weekly curriculum and that all staff are qualified to take PE lessons. Sometimes a visiting specialist is present to lead classes. PE is also held outside when possible. Sometimes timetable variations will occur.
- 4) Claire Muir – Can we reinstate the tuck shop? – Laura Cameron advised that this was not operated by the school but will talk with the Catering team to see if it could be re-instated on a Friday after the Easter holidays.
- 5) Whats happening with house points? – Laura Cameron advised that we still operate our Houses but we haven't done too much with house points recently. We are more focussing on positive approach behaviour and relationships.
- 6) Yvonne Scott – Do the Nursery or P1/2 need any educational items such as games, stencils? – Laura Cameron advised that donations are always welcome and will be handed to the age appropriate class.
- 7) Are the kids learning about the importance of hydration? – Laura Cameron advised this is promoted to pupils throughout the day and the water fountain for filling up bottles.
- 8) Susan Cochrane – Can we hold a Summer BBQ – Laura Cameron advised that it would be the Partnership who would organise and run this event. Obviously it would be covid restriction permitting at the time. Lucy Brown ran through how the event has run in the past and how much organisation is involved, prior for organisation and at the event. It was agreed that a sub committee to take this forward would be required. Susan Cochrane to post on the FB Committee page for any interested parties to join the sub committee in order to take this fund raising idea forward.

SC

LC

SC

## 7.0 PARTNERSHIP GOING FORWARD.

- 1) Steph Wright asked for ideas going forward for the Partnership – organisation;

roles; communication; recruitment of members.

- 2) Steph Wright suggested creating a Google account specific for the Partnership to run meetings on and upload documents rather than using personal zoom accounts. Should we hold the meetings more regularly? Is the Rotating Chair working? Could we introduce a school App to improve communication? How can we be more visible and accessible? Should the Partnership be focussed on Events and Fundraising and the School communicate via another method? These are all questions just to get people thinking and discussing ideas.
- 3) Laura Cameron highlighted that there was a delay between meetings hence the longer agenda on this occasion. We schedule the meetings for the course of the year in June and form the school calendar around them. They are only altered if for instance the Partnership are aware that we have received many apologies. Laura Cameron suggested going out to the wider parent body for opinions.
- 4) Gillian Cairns suggested sending out a survey monkey to the wider parent body.
- 5) Mary Hadwen advised this has always been the case, it is not a new thing and not just Cornbank related and there are often parents who can't commit to meetings but are willing to help at events. We now hold meetings on different nights of the week to try and attract different faces.
- 6) Elena Leonard suggested there is a fear from parents who attend a meeting that they will get signed up for a job.
- 7) Steph Wright agreed to put together a Survey Monkey and liase with the Committee regarding questions. Once agreed this can then be sent out to the wider parent body.

SW

#### **8.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

- 1) None noted.

#### **9.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

- 1) The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4 May 2022, at 1900hrs via Zoom. Jodie Macdonald will Chair this meeting. This meeting date is TBC as previously Wednesday nights have not proved popular for attendance levels.
- 2) Future meeting dates are set as follows – Wednesday 15 June 2022
- 3) Venue confirmed as Cornbank Primary for all meetings Covid-19 restrictions permitting, otherwise via Zoom.