



Comhairle nam Pàrant - Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce Clàr-gnothaich Coinneimh / Meeting Agenda 17 dhen Mhart / March 2021, 19:15 – 20:15

1. Welcome and introduction from the Chairs

Apologies: Julie Gallagher & Susan Cameron
22 attendees

2. Matters arising from and approval of minutes of previous meeting

- **Elections:** The committee has space for a **Secretary** role (or 2). There is also a role for a fundraiser open. No-one volunteered for these roles at the meeting. If you can spare a couple of hours a month to support the PC, please note in chat or email the Chairs: chairs@parantantaobhnairce.org.uk
- **Treasury: Small Sums Scheme: Treasurer to circulate information on Small Sums Scheme.** Complete. Take-up to date has been slow, further discussion about small sums and promotion to be covered in the meeting.
- **Classlist: NLW to issue the Classlist proposal to families.** This went out with the agenda for this meeting and will be covered in more detail later.
- **Travel Safety:** Andy May would be grateful for support in collating the travel survey data. Please volunteer in the chat or email the chairs to help.

3. Aithris a' cheannard / Headteacher's update (see presentation slides)

- 3.1** The Head and Senior leadership team - Iona Brown and Karen Reid presented on the following: infection control, wellbeing, the core curriculum, and Parent Consultations. Wellbeing is the current focus, making sure the children are happy to be back at school and feel safe. The Parent Consultations helped staff understand further how children are feeling, and identify where extra support may be needed.
- 3.2** Assessments will go ahead as part of attainment reporting to give the council an indication of the effects of the lockdown on learning.
- 3.3** Non-core staff, Clarsach, Active Schools (one-off sessions, 2 bubbles a day) and Outdoor learning off-site will resume.
- 3.4** The pupils have established an Equalities Group, they have surveyed classes and identified areas they will explore in detail.
- 3.5** Children at TnP now have access to a counsellor based at JGHS, this is being administered by Laura Young and the Support for Learning Team.
- 3.6** IB thanked parents for their engagement with digital learning. A staff digital team is leading work in this area - the current focus is to evaluate digital learning and identify the long term development needs for digital literacy.
- 3.7** Update provided on **Edinburgh Council's Digital Strategy:** The council is aiming for all P6-S6 pupils to have access to a digital device 1:1. For P1 - P5 they aim to provide devices on a 1:5 ratio (Apple I pads). Any digital access requirements, including internet access can be forwarded to IB, the school is able to offer support to families through MIFI. Contact - admin@taobhnairce.edin.sch.uk
- 3.8** A new covered bike rack is being installed in the front of the school. Thanks to Andy May & Mark from Sustrans for their support.



- 3.8 Taigh an Dorsair** - There are plans to improve the Janitors House and make it more conducive to learning and use by pupils - KR leading, updates to follow.
- 3.9 Smallscale** Playground improvements are underway - re-surfacing tree areas, repainting the loose parts play, a new basketball hoop. The grounds will be marked out to include a track for the 'Daily Mile'.
- 3.10 Classing** - Draft plans were discussed, these plans will be kept under review until final pupil numbers are confirmed. AM to keep parents updated.
- 3.11 Staffing:** Ms Souter is leaving and will be replaced by Ms McDougall who is a Gaelic Speaker.
- 3.12** Principal Teacher recruitment is underway - COVID restrictions dependent.
- 3.13** The Council Senior Management team and Co-Chairs will work together on the Head Teacher recruitment.
- 3.14 Transitions** will be virtual. P1 weekly activities and supporting materials will be available to families, linked in with libraries. P7 transition Mhairi McPhail and the TnP team and JGHS are working together to effect a smooth transition within the current restrictions, with virtual elements. Updates to follow.

4. Aithris an Ionmhasair / Treasurer's report

- 4.1** Laura Irvine issued a Small Sums Scheme reminder. The application is short and straightforward and any parent, carer, or staff member at TnP can apply. The money can be used for a project, equipment, or to enhance the school environment. Kat Przybycien invites anyone interested in learning more about the scheme to contact the PC chairs@parantantaobhnairce.org.uk and she will guide you through the process.
Action: SSS to be promoted further including to school staff - AM / KP / LI

5. Parent Council Communications: Classlist Proposal

- 5.1** The Class Reps have been testing the platform. Andre, Sgoil-Araich Rep, gave his review. The general consensus is supportive of the proposed move to Classlist. Feedback received below:

Pro's:

- The App is as data-heavy as Facebook, requiring only 7.24MB of storage.
- The App doesn't access your phone contacts.
- Anything that makes communication easier and more effective is welcome.
- The App, it seems fairly easy/intuitive.
- Seeing the different school groups is really helpful.
- I like seeing the parents of children in my kids class easily and being able to contact them.
- I like that you can filter what you want to see/contribute to.
- I think you're less likely to miss things.

And con's

- The functionality of this site is a bit clunky; You can't edit a post, you can only delete it; If you change Apps part way through writing a message, the message appears to delete. If you write more than 10 lines of text it won't scroll, so it's harder to review longer posts. It doesn't behave quite like Facebook, so there will be some adjustment. (Apple users don't report the same issues).
 - PC enquired with Classlist support about this and were advised that improving Android functionality is a priority and the PC are maintaining dialogue on the issue.
- 5.2** NLW has been liaising with the Classlist Support Team and they are investigating the functionality issues. They claim to fix the majority of tech issues in 4 weeks. Classlist has information and tutorials available for parents on their website.



There was support for the PC Communications proposal. In summary, in terms of PC communication and school community engagement, Classlist should simplify and enhance communication, requiring less administration, be more efficient to operate and enable the PC to reach and engage a greater proportion of families. The PC remains keen to hear feedback, and assuming no strong objections are received the PC will proceed with the implementation plan as detailed in the proposal.

Action: PC to proceed with Communications Proposal Implementation

6. Acoustics update

- 6.1** Following the last meeting, technical data was sought from CEC officers relating to fire safety and acoustic specification of wall panels and sound clouds installed in the large classroom space. This has subsequently been received. We have also been advised that follow up will take place, budget dependent, around the Improvement Plan submitted to the Council.

7. GME Secondary School update (Sharon May Comann nam Pàrant - CnP)

- 7.1** The Council's draft response to the initial stage of informal consultation was published in the week of 15 February, followed by further parental engagement. The final outcome report is due to be published in the week commencing 15 March and to be considered by a Special GIG Education meeting scheduled for the 26 March. Thereafter the Council would be aiming to take a draft statutory consultation to a specially convened Education, Children and Families Committee meeting in April w/c 19 April, and if approved progress to a Statutory Consultation from April - November 2021.

A CnP meeting is scheduled for **25 March** to consider the Final Outcome Report, parents and carers are encouraged to attend the session and can sign up to the CnP mailing list <https://cnpduneideannblog.wordpress.com/contact> .

- 7.2** CnP is looking for volunteers, Gaelic speakers especially. Please email: cnpduneideann@gmail.com for more information.

8. GISBE / AOB

Events/ Fundraising - Parent Group to consider options for summer term events

9. Dèitichean nan Coinneamhan ri Thighinn / Date of Next Meeting

Wed 19th May (7.15-8.15 pm) - Parent Council Meeting (Microsoft TEAMS)