

Bruntsfield Parent Council meeting 19 May 2021 via Zoom (19:30)

- **Apologies** – Carol Kyle; Shanda Doherty; Katy Bromberg
- **Minutes from 31 March** – approved
- **CK update**
- **Clubs (Alison and Jess)**
 - Challenging at the moment to predict when clubs can be run.
 - No Lets available, not clear how space will be used in school, not clear how bubbles will need to be retained, will we need to run track and trace etc
 - We are working on a process to target clubs we can run from August
 - Focus will be on outdoor clubs.
 - Also, establishing relationship with Tony Seagall – active schools co-ordinator - but access to space is challenging as school is using spaces as breakouts.
 - Football: keen to get it restarted. KG will take issue offline to respond to queries. Football is a different style of club in terms of parental reasonability and drop-off/pickup and this needs to be made clear if football is to be restarted.
- **Finance (KG on behalf of Shanda)**
 - Healthy balance (£21,000 of which £13,900 is unallocated and, considering reserve we would like to keep, £9,000 is available for projects).
 - Good position but lowest we have had for many years (due to lack of events).
 - Changes to clubs/clubs structure may impact funding.
 - Details of spending available on website.
- **A+ group - proposal from Zaki El-Salahi (see website for full details)**
 - School management have been reaching out to parents including Zaki to take their views on school curriculum, policies, engagement and experience trying to embrace the momentum of recent events such as Black Lives Matter.
 - Previous efforts in this area have sometimes fallen away and so we want to make sure that that doesn't happen again.
 - One good example of the importance is to make sure we translate information (e.g. on road safety) so that all parents have access to the same information.
 - Proposal from Zaki – The 'A+ group' for Parents & Carers will offer a 'positive action' forum for BPS families to:
 - raise & discuss matters that are of importance to them & their child, relating to their experiences of BPS
 - identify positive practice and improvements, with a group of their peers develop ideas and recommendations for how improvements can be made
 - consider their own strengths, capacity, skills & informal education opportunities for contributing to these improvements.
 - Run 9 sessions from June 2021 plus translation services.
 - Important to involve Parent Council.
 - Funding (£1,490) from PC and group will report back to ensure governance.
 - Initial suggestion is a one-year pilot.
 - PC very supportive and particularly keen to get project started before end of term.
 - Vote circulated to PC members for formal approval.
- **Events (Jenni)**

- Art Auction (update from Elspeth)
 - Many thanks to our organising team Elspeth, Cassandra and Fiona.
 - Campaign starting in next two weeks
 - Drop off in Project Coffee.
 - If anyone knows any professional artists that might donate pieces let Elspeth know.

- **Parent Council discussion**
 - KG shared her thoughts (available on website) on what the Parent Council is designed to do and the opportunities available.
 - The meeting discussed rebuilding and refocussing the Parent Council for 2021/22.
 - Themes emerging included:
 - Need for an inclusivity function (possibly paid)
 - Informal/discussion meetings with sub-groups to generate ideas
 - Partnership working with other groups could be shared
 - Making sure disabled children and disabled parents are included.
 - Other ways to generate discussion and get feedback from parents e.g. whatsapp groups
 - Decision-making and dialogue to be widened out
 - Additional resource and support for class reps

Meeting closed

Next Meeting - 16 June