

## **Bruntsfield Parent Council meeting 16 June 2021 via Zoom (1930)**

- **Attendees (meeting quorate):**
- Karen Galloway; Jenni Fuchs Madine; Kristin Pedroja; Shanda Doherty; Jay Feeney; Zaki El-Salahi; Rosalyn Claase; Alison Redpath; Stefan Santjer; Alison Kerr; Jae Fassam; Katy Bromberg; Stefanos Papanicolopoulos; Daria Narog; Susen Rabold; Jules Goodlet-Rowley; Dimitris Anagnostou; Alicia MacGonagall; Catriona Penny; Neil Thomas; Susana; Agnieszka
  
- **Minutes from 19 May** – approved
  
- **Chair's update**
  - Informal meeting for end of term. No fixed agenda.
  - Huge thanks to Carol and the staff for navigating a hugely challenging year.
  - Well done to the children too.
  - P7s – need to recognise it is challenging for them as they leave school with no real celebration given restrictions.
  - Need to be respectful of community towards end of term as many in the community will be anxious and will not be vaccinated.
  
- **Headteacher's Update**
  - Standard and qualities report is on the website.
  - Challenging year but wider achievements with families were fantastic.
  - Wifi access is being improved – work has started.
  - Relationship and sexual health programme being launched/refreshed by CEC to be delivered next year.
  - Work on equalities will continue
  - Accelerated reader programme budgeted to be expanded to P3 and P4 next year
  - Inclusion agenda continuing and lining in with Zaki's A+ work
  - Rights Respecters Silver award achieved – go for gold next year.
  - P1 welcome meetings worked well on Teams again.
  - P7 transitions – high school lessons shared have been very good.
  - Thanks to Jules for the yearbook
  - Staffing update – teachers announced on website next year, reports on Teams from Friday.
  - Start of Term – keep school running as now (i.e. with bubbles) – not expecting changes until October review.
  - Teachers meeting new classes towards end of next week and showing children where to line up.
  - Plans in place for yearbook distribution and for P7s to leave with some ceremony (within rules). Parents do need to leave after P7s come out so everyone else can come out.
  
- **Clubs**
  - With school returning in August still with bubbles in place and different times for leaving school it is challenging to run clubs.
  - Areas where would have run clubs may still be sued for breakout teaching.
  - Proposal is to run clubs for P6s and P7s only in MUC from September until October half term
    - Children can get to MUC safely without chaperoning (with parental consent)
    - Consider craft clubs, science etc
    - Need more people
    - Alison has been assisting but we need more help to support Jess for next year.

- We need to take small steps to make this work given we have lost all our infrastructure and have a new booking system which we have not tested.
  - KG working with TS at Active Schools to give support for Active Schools starting activities again.
  - Football – remains challenging as there are different organisers etc for different year group but it is being explored.
  - Need to re-engage with tutors and find new tutors and build teams around clubs.
  - Plan to have informal meeting around beginning of summer to get ready for August meeting.
- **Engagement and the future of the parent council**
    - KG to step down at August AGM
    - RC is working on how to reach out to more people and improve engagement, moving away from dry, constitution-based perception.
    - Want to use the first meeting at the next academic session to understand what people want from the PC, where should our focus be?
    - Also looking at how to improve engagement across school community and throughout year groups.
    - Move away from formality as far as possible, rename, and improve inclusivity.
- **A+ group - update on proposal from Zaki El-Salahi (see website for full details)**
    - Zaki thanks PC for its support
    - Zaki walked through his proposal on how to improve engagement across the school community
    - First session was today and it went well:
      - Focus on having a safe space to bring thoughts and ideas
      - Focus on children names and culture in terms of teaching experience, some positive feedback and some learnings.
    - Next session late August/early September.
    - Baseline survey response to be looked at and re-run at regular intervals.
    - Zaki very pleased with the start and is speaking with CK shortly to engage school support. CK very appreciative of Zaki's work and efforts in getting A+ group going.
- **Events**
    - No current plans for Teddy Bear picnic – we are looking at small group options and will do what we can.
    - Art Auction underway and going well
    - Artwork looked great on the school gates. Thanks to Elspeth, Cassandra and Fiona for all the organisation and Jenni for the promotion.
    - Jenni reported that having the event outside really engaged the community.
    - Susana stepping down from events role - thanks for all her help.

## **Meeting closed**

### **Next Meetings (provisional)**

- 25 August 2021
- 22 September 2021 (AGM)
- 17 November 2021
- 2 February 2022
- 30 March 2022
- 18 May 2022
- 15 June 2022