

Williamston Primary School
Parent Council Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday 30th March – 7pm

MINUTES

Mrs Livingston provided an update on P1-3 and P4-7 for after the Easter holidays and the focus will be on Literacy and Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. We have received additional funding from the Government for H&WB and we will be targeting the P6 & P7 year group for this for a few different reasons.

Bookbug online has been ordered and will be available soon.

This was covered in the HT report which Mrs Livingston sent round. It will be for the whole school.

- We have bought Bug Club for upper school. With the success in P1-3, we want to build on this resource and with the online access, we can limit items going home.

“Anytime Anywhere” Learning enables Students to create, track and manage their own **learning** through the use of ePortfolios. It almost becomes like a Blog and is instead of using printed workbooks, students can access current information.

HT Report...

Arrangements for Remote Learning and ICT Skills Development

- We currently have AAL (Anytime Anywhere Learning) in place as an option for P5-7. We are hoping to move this to include P4 pupils as a choice. Given the amazing work on Teams and the skills P4 have developed, we are keen to offer this as an option. Agreements are required but we are keen to consult with parents and pupils for their views.

Covid Update –When there is a confirmed positive Covid case within a class the decision has now been taken for the whole class to self-isolate for 10 days. It was proving difficult doing contact tracing where children and been at breakfast club/the bus/Simply Play. Pupils who are self-isolating or on the shielding list will be provided with remote learning.

Staffing Update – There is ongoing staffing absence and classes are covered by staff who are in school on that day. This has meant Mrs Young and Mrs Livingston are also having to cover classes where there is a need. We do have a supply list of teachers where we can request assistance when needed, however due to the current climate this approach hasn't been effective. There is a new Janitor who starts with us on 1st April and he will be prioritising the two new picnic benches and wooden seating areas and he will also be setting up Basketball Hoops in the playground.

The infant area has been re-built with more structured, set areas for play and a SWAY will be sent out to parents of this progress so we can see what it will look like.

92 families joined in with our Virtual Pirate Camp and we received lots of very positive feedback from this. Mrs Livingston emphasized how much she felt like what a wonderful

school community Williamston is and how everyone came together, enjoyed themselves and had fun! We may plan to do further Virtual events like this in the future but nothing has been planned just yet.

Parental Consultations will now be held two weeks after the reports have been issued at the end of May. It was agreed that it would be more beneficial having the consultations after the reports have been issued.

Transitions to S1 and P1 are ongoing and have already begun behind the scenes. At the moment we are planning on Virtual transitions (like last year) however we are still awaiting guidance for this changing.

We have been advised from the Education department that Williamston will have 15 classes for next year but the structure as to how these look is unclear however we do foresee the need for more composite classes based on the numbers that have been coming in. The new housing developments in Murieston are adding more numbers to the school however we are the Catchment school for these developments. We don't have a 'capacity number' at present but the school role is currently sitting at 400.

Works are still underway within the school to re-configure the existing set up to allow the school to have 15 classrooms and a Support For Learning Room.

The school have had a lot of extra costs due to Covid e.g., handtowels, sanitisers and every time a GroupCall Text gets sent out.

Fundraising is on hold at the moment; however, the School App has been funded for another year by the Parent Council.

Mrs Livingston thanked the Parent Council for the support she and Mrs Young have received so far from the whole school community.

Year Rep Updates...

Nursery: Elaine

Q. Artwork – When is this coming home?

R. Mrs Young – All uploaded to Learning Journal. Guidance is to avoid taking things home. This had been communicated to parents.

P1: Jennifer

Q. Seems to be a lot of communication using different methods Email/App/SeeSaw – Can this be streamlined? The School App was supposed to be main point of contact?

R. Mrs Livingston – App should be the predominant area for comms.
SeeSaw – Should only be for learning.
Mrs Young – Everything should be the app.

LT to re-iterate this to staff.

- Q. School Photos? Instructions is that there should be no photos at this time?
R. Mrs L to speak to teachers to see if something bespoke can be sorted.

- Q. COVID Updates – Can they mention the class?
R. All staff have opportunity to do lateral flow test twice a week. These are optional. Positive lateral flow test treated positive. Can only be reversed by negative PCR test. School provides information to WLC who take care of all communications to parents. H&S on site yesterday – Report states they are happy. Children not symptomatic. Only testing proves.

- Q. Jane – COVID Emails
Is each letter in regards a confirmed case?
R. Mrs L – Yes

P2: Nat McGowan

- Q. Toilets – Are toilets 1 in 1 out?
R. Mrs Livingston – Yes. Entrance and Exit are monitored.

P3: Jane Dunlop

Issues to be raised were already covered by update and other year group rep questions.

P4: Gemma Taylor

- Q. Toilets – Asking about state of the toilets.
Parent had raised concern about state of the toilets as their P2/P4 will not use toilet at school unless they are desperate.
R. Mrs Livingston – Nothing raised by cleaners but will raise with classes.
- Q. Feedback on Pirate Camp
Loved it. Lots of effort was obvious. Thank you very much. Happy for another one.
R. Mrs L – Thank you. Teachers delighted.

P5: Lesley Dunlop

- Q. Increased time on mobile devices during class hours. Not sure if is the new way of learning or something teachers need to keep an eye on. How is this being monitored?
R. Mrs Livingston - Integral to learning. Pupils not on them all the time. All access is guided by teacher. Only specific to the actual task. It's not a free reign.
Mrs Young - Teachers own knowledge and confidence has increased so they will be trying more tasks online but all pertinent to learning.

- Q. No communication from school regarding teacher being off during home-schooling until the last day, email came out just before children were due to go back to school.
- R. Mrs Livingston - Unfortunately, absences were difficult to juggle due to availability of other teachers.
- Q. Are all pupils getting PE each week?
- R. Due to COVID rules physical exercise is carefully managed across different groupings to minimise risk.

P6: Jennifer

Points to raise had already been covered.

Pirate camp was excellent.

P7: Alison

- Q. Will there be group photos
- R. This was covered earlier. At the moment the instruction is no but if there is some way to facilitate this consistently arrangements could be made. Will need to wait and see.
- Q. P7 Leavers Events
- R. Mrs Livingston – Expected rules around gatherings will make any sort of on-prem event unlikely. Previous events which had to adhere to social distancing were felt to be very sterile and not overly fun.
Andy to arrange meeting with P7 year rep, LT and P7 teachers to discuss what could possibly be arranged.

Pirate camp was great 😊 Really enjoyed it. Lots of Hard Work put in thank you.

AOB

Rob - Community Garden Project

Looking to dedicate bed and get PC involved.

Send out link on School App (This has been done)

Claire

- Q. Lots of new houses being built in surrounding area, presumably many with children of primary school age. Is there a limit to people coming in? Is there a limit?
- R. Mrs Livingston - 6 new families moved in since January, but the numbers overall remain static due to some families moving away from the area. Currently there are approximately 400 pupils at the school.
- R. Parents – Previously the school limit was believed to be around 425 pupils.