

LPPC Meeting - Wednesday 19th January 2022

Minutes

Present: Emily Williams, Fiona Craig, Fiona Lamb, Laura Cogan, Lauren Sweeney, Nikki Dunne, Rachel Andrew.

Apologies: Veronica Melichar, Gayle Blair, Ali Wiseman

Chair Update

- Welcome and many thanks for coming.
- We were hoping this meeting might have been able to be in person but unfortunately not. However, we are very hopeful that the next one will be possible in person :-)
- Minutes from the last meeting are officially adopted. This should happen at the start of each meeting so please read meetings after they are published and we will make this the first item on each agenda from now on.

Headteacher Update

1. Talking About Learning

The focus in school just now is on improving pupil's ability to talk confidently and knowledgeably about their learning. Successful learners know what the purpose of their learning is and what they need to do to be successful. The lesson focus shifts from the task the pupil is doing to the skill or knowledge they are learning. Skills can be transferred into other contexts and built upon. We are encouraging pupils to talk about the steps they took to be successful in one context and apply or adapt them to a new context. This is increasingly important for the fast-paced changes in the future world of work. We are encouraging parents to ask pupils about their Learning Intentions and their Steps to Success. Try asking:

- "What did you learn in maths (reading, writing, spelling, PE, art) today?"
- "What steps did you have to take to do that successfully?" or "What did you have to remember to do, to do it well?"
- "What do you need to do to get better at X?"
- "What do you think would help you to get better at X?"

2. Progress Jotters

- This week, pupils are completing all tasks in their progress jotters. These are used four times a year and support progress discussions with their class

teacher and classmates. It highlights which aspects of learning pupils are improving on and which aspects they still need to practice. It supports pupils, teachers and parents/carers identify individual targets to focus on and recognition of progress.

- We are not sure yet whether the next Parent Consultations will be online or in person but when they are in person, the Progress Jotters would be available for parents/carers to see and parental contributions to the jotters would be welcome.

3. Parent Wellbeing Hub

- We hope to repurpose the old infant cloakroom into a parent and carer wellbeing hub. This would include the Pantry (food bank), pre-loved and new clothes, internet access and support with eg; ParentPay or selecting lunches, first language support for families new to Leith/Scotland and a venue for parent groups – LPPC use (could use for prep for School fairs / meeting space for sub groups etc) ? There is separate access (EWO door) and it is buggy accessible. Happy to hear suggestions for anything else that would be useful in here.

Lauren and Emily suggested that LPPC could help the Family Support Workers Dani and Liz with this - they will contact them to see how this could be progressed

4. Ski Trip and Benmore

- We look set for going on our trip to Lagganlia at the end of February which is great news. Some parents have indicated a late interest via email. Mr Stuart has added those names to the list and will be in touch by the start of next week. Just waiting for final confirmation from Laganlia.
- The trip to Benmore for P7 also looks good for the end of May. Information will be sent out in due course.

Crossing Patrol

- At the last meeting we asked for help to publicise the Crossing Guide positions and posts were put on Facebook including the I Love Leith page. We are delighted to announce Steph Mason (a parent at school) has started on the Duncan Place crossing this week and another male Crossing Guide will be starting on the Academy Street/Wellington Place crossing soon.

School Curriculum Group

- At the last meeting parents were asked to get in touch if they would like to join this group. Lauren, Emily, Ali and Laura attended the first meeting in December.
- Anyone else who would like to get involved please get in touch with Lauren/Emily - the more involved the better.
- Currently the first project is to look at the School Vision which was attached in the last LPPC email. It is currently quite long and it would be great to come up with something snappier
- Any suggestions please get in touch **Lauren/Emily to post on FB again for ideas**

School and Parent Communication

- School would also like to hear how parents/carers would like to be contacted/informed about the things the kids are getting up to in school. We know a lot of lower school parents have only had the 'Covid' experience of school with no chance to go into classrooms and see for themselves. Are Newsletters, Twitter etc good ways to do this? Are there any other good ideas?
- A post on Facebook received comments that the newsletters were good and maybe short videos to show what kids had been up to but parents didn't want any updates to be too much extra work for teachers
- **Lauren/Emily to set up/post a quick easy survey to see if there are any other ways parents would like to be kept informed.**
- Learning Journals which were used by the whole school for 3 years, particularly during homeschooling, were not used by all and because there is a cost for it, is not thought to be financially viable. FC is happy to look at this again however, possibly towards the end of the year to see if it is an option most parents would like. It was mentioned that as it is used in most Nurseries, parents of children coming up to school may well already be used to using it.
- Seesaw is a free option but not suitable for Edinburgh CC due to the data protection rules (data held on a US cloud). CC recommends LJ for lower school and Teams for Upper school but Teams is really for the children and not for parental contribution/communication.
- Twitter posts are thought to be good but not regular posts from all classes - some more than others. **FC to follow up with class teachers to make sure all classes are getting regular posts.**
- If you have any ideas of other good ways to communicate what the kids are up to, please do get in touch.

Class Reps

- As has been discussed previously it would be good to get a class rep for each class or even each year group - a contact point that other class parents could get in touch with to bring up points at LPPC meetings, make sure their viewpoints are put across.
- Class List app was set up for this a couple of years ago but has been a little neglected - we need to publish how to join for P1 parents and remind others.
- FC is planning to put out a flyer - **Nikki to send on a Class List invite that can be included.**

Class Trips

- Guidance has not yet changed but as soon as it does school are keen to get going with trips. They have lots of lovely enthusiastic support staff at the moment, so that will not be a barrier as it has sometimes been in the past :-)
- The Trinity House P6 tour guide project is a great one and we are one of only a few schools in Edinburgh that do this. They are currently looking at a filmed version but will keep parents posted if in real life option becomes possible.

Fundraising

- Any ideas for fundraising / social event now that we can maybe start planning these again?
- It was thought a raffle 'Streets of Leith' option could be done for Easter as we did not do it at Christmas.
- Possibly an outdoor event on the Links / using the Croft with Easter egg hunt? Bonnet making? Obstacle course? Treasure hunt?
- All ideas welcome, it would be lovely to do something in person again!

AOB

- Library? Parent helpers obviously still not allowed into school yet but kids are using the library in their classes and as soon as it is possible for parents to help again FC will advise.
- There was a meeting on Monday evening instigated by Trinity with the Council but opened to all regarding parents in schools. It is not yet know what the outcome(s) were but Emily will try to find out more.

Future LPPC Meeting Dates

- Wednesday 16th March
- Wednesday 25th May - AGM