

BREADALBANE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL**MEETING 29th April 2015**

Present: Emma Burtles, Lesley Chalmers, Susan Dickson, Elizabeth Leighton, Andrew Pointer, Tommy Pringle, (Treasurer), Fiona Macdonald, (Vice Chair), Sandra MacKinnon, David Macluskey, Elizabeth MacPhee, Alistair Mathieson, David McClean, Andrew Rae, Vicky Marshall, Lorna Ross, Alison Steele, Joanne Taylor, Richard Taylor, Cllr Barbara Vaughan, Sarah Yearsley, (Clerk to the Parent Council, Chair for this meeting)

Apologies: Dave Ashcroft, Karen Brown, Gill Steele, Linda Swan, Avril Taylor, Karl Wright, (Chair).

Agenda Item	Action Noted	Action required	Action By
1. Welcome & Apologies	As above		
2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	Item 6. Proposed Changes to PKC's Instrumental Music Service. There was no more news on this. More information will be posted on the PKC website in June. Thrift Shop update – has raised over £1000. Fiona Macdonald has several bags of clothes at her house and would appreciate help to take them into Perth to Cash 4 Clothes. All other matters arising are dealt with under the agenda.	Contact Fiona Macdonald if you can help take bags of clothes into Perth	All
3. Presentation by Kari Cowan and Lesley Simpson on afterschool childcare proposal for Breadalbane Academy	Kari is already running afterschool childcare in other communities in Perthshire and has had enough interest from parents at Breadalbane to consider setting up an after school childcare service from August 2015. The service would be based at the campus and would run from 3.30-6.30pm, (timings tbc), probably Mon –Fri during term time, depending upon demand. There may be an option to run holiday provision. They aim to employ local people if possible and would run an open evening for parents to come to talk to them. Fees would be £12.50 per session, with an initial registration fee of £20 per child. There would be a 10% discount on fees when families send more than one child to the service. Child care vouchers would be accepted. One parent asked if children with Additional Support Needs would be able to use the service. Kari confirmed that they would. The next steps are to find out how many parents will use the service. BA will	BA to send out booking form to parents of children in Primary School	BA reception

	send out a booking form for parents to indicate what their needs are.		
4. Parent Council launches group for parents of children with additional support needs.	Parent , Jane Carmichael, is setting up a group for parents of children with additional support needs. She is keen to find out what people want, The aim is to offer information, knowledge, support, share experience and possibly undertake fundraising. The group has been advertised on Facebook and Jane is interested in setting up a small committee of around 2/3 people and undertaking a survey of parents. The aim is that the first meeting could take place in June with a view to be up and running by August.	Draft email about the group Send email out to families	Jane Carmichael DMcl/BA reception
5. Creating a parents' letters page on the school website	From now on school letters and forms are available to download on the school website. Paper copies will still be sent out and Groupcall will be used to text parents to let them know that letters have been sent out.		
6. Presentation from Mr McCluskey (depute head, school improvement) on tracking and monitoring approaches used by Breadalbane Academy	Mr McCluskey talked through several approaches to monitoring and tracking used by Breadalbane Academy. These included Cognitive Attainment Testing, (CAT). The information from CAT tests is used by the school and teachers to ensure that pupil attainment is on track but is one of a range of tools used, alongside teachers' own knowledge of pupils and their performance. Parents can access more information about BA's performance on The Education Scotland website - http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/ Parents asked how they could get feedback about their children's progress, informally. The best route is to go through the guidance teachers. Parents asked if guidance teachers' names and email addresses could be made available on the school website.	Make copies of DMcl presentation handouts available on Parent Council website	DMcl/KW
7. Update on open evening for senior-years parents on university admissions,	Elizabeth Leighton has organised an information evening for parents and pupils bringing together speakers from Scottish universities and other organisations. The event is open to all and will cover areas including course selection, costs, gap years, admissions process. John Devine, Quality Improvement		

Tuesday 5th May 2015	Officer for BA and our new Headteacher from August 2015 will attend.		
8. Fundraising Group update	<p>Emma Burtles updated the meeting on the setting up of the school's fundraising group which will be known as FOG. The aim is to support extra-curricular activities, projects, school trips etc. They need more people to help and will meet monthly to begin with. Tommy Pringle gave us the current financial position: Parent Council bank account - £3,274.36 (some of this is ring fenced to cover PC admin costs, clerk's fees etc), Friends of BA account - £1,327.46. Staff need to apply to the PC for funding – pupils and pupils' clubs can apply to the PC for funding too. Gina Wallace has written to all staff to ask them to propose projects that they would like funded. Three bigger projects are seeking funding at the moment – Formula 24 project let by Mr McClean, improvements to the Primary playground, and a proposal by Karl Wright to buy equipment to enable PC meetings to be filmed and streamed live online so that parents living remotely can join more easily.</p> <p>At the last meeting Alison Steele suggested that having a parent rep for each primary class could work well. Teachers are happy with this idea. Alison has made good progress and got several volunteers involved already. She has drafted a letter to go out to the Primary parents by the end of the week.</p> <p>Emma said that FOG are keen to ensure that PC funds are replenished and suggested that there are sources of funding that could be approached including Griffin. Proposed fundraising events are: Summer Fair/end of term celebration, Wednesday 1st July, 4.30 – 6.30pm, with a BBQ, bouncy castle, activities, raffle etc at Aileen Cragghan. Volunteers are needed to help. Other events include:</p> <p>Children's Art Exhibition Pub Quiz</p>	<p>Volunteers to help on 1st July to contact Emma Burtles fundraising@breadalbaneparents.com</p> <p>Next meeting of fundraising group 21st May.</p> <p>Someone needed to take on 50/50 club</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>

	<p>The next meeting of the group is at Gina Wallace's house on 21st May.</p> <p>The 50/50 club is still running but needs a boost. It was suggested that the monthly draw was made at Parent Council meetings.</p> <p>A bag pack at the Coop was suggested as another fundraising idea.</p>		
9. Preparation for Parent Council AGM on 28th May	<p>Sarah explained that the May meeting will also be the Parent Council's AGM. All office bearing roles on the PC committee are open for re – election and the PC's accounts will be presented and will need to be approved.</p>	<p>Let Karl Wright know if you are interested in taking on one of the following roles:</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>Vice Chair</p> <p>Treasurer</p>	ALL
AOCB	<p>Sarah welcomed new parents to the meeting.</p> <p>The meeting agreed that £349 from the Thrift Shop income should go to 6th Year towards the Prom.</p> <p>Sarah told the meeting that 10 families from Bankfoot are clubbing together to buy a minibus to bring their children to and from school from August 2015 when the 823 bus service that they currently use will be withdrawn.</p> <p>Sarah passed on details of the Aberfeldy Scarecrow Festival taking place from Friday 22nd May. More information is available from Peter Butter or Veronica Lynch at school, Tel 01887 822300.</p> <p>Jason O'Flynn, National Parent Council Rep, reminded parents about all the helpful resources available on the National Parent Council website.</p> <p>Gina Wallace told the meeting that she and Nicola Thomas have been working on developing Outdoor Learning childcare provision during the summer holidays. This would operate 1 day a week on a paid for basis, taking place in the Birks for P1 – P7 pupils.</p>		

	<p>A parent asked if there would be a summer trip for primary pupils. Mrs Marshall said that there would.</p> <p>A parent asked for clarification on class sizes for the new S2 pupils. Mr McCluskey confirmed that the school roll has fallen and so the school has lost one member of staff, this means that the class sizes in S2 have increased.</p> <p>One parent raised a serious ongoing concern about poor communication from the school with parents. As this was at the end of the meeting it was agreed to add this to the agenda for the next meeting. Sarah reminded the meeting that specific concerns should be raised with the school.</p>		
Next Meeting	<p>The next meeting is on Thursday 28th May 2015 6.30pm at Breadalbane Community Campus. All welcome. This will be the Parent Council AGM.</p>		