**Present:** Lorna Murdoch, Alan Wise, Mia Stewart, Alison Brown, Kirsty Peebles, Naomi Mills, Sue Whittle, James McCaw

**Apologies:** None

**ACTIONS FROM AUGUST MEETING**

* **Tribute to Mrs Mulholland**

Miss Murdoch discussed this with the children at the school and shared suggestions with Peter Mulholland. Peter Mulholland’s favoured choice was to have the children’s artwork being displayed in school as a tribute. Alan Wise to follow up with Peter regarding a potential ceremony to unveil the artwork. **ACTION: ALAN WISE**

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

On behalf of the Parent Council, I would first like to start by thanking Ms Murdoch and all the staff for their continued efforts to provide an excellent education package during these very difficult times.

**Parental engagement** is a key theme during this period and we appreciate the efforts made by staff to be visible to parents in the playground immediately prior to and after school time. It was a shame that the Meet-the-teacher events had to be cancelled and IT issues beset the P1-4 parents evening. We also thank Ms Murdoch for sharing the SfL consultation paper for parental comment.

**OOSC:** Very pleased to see that the OOSC completed its move to the school and we hope it has a very successful at the school.

**School role:** we are conscious that the role is relatively low at the moment and Ms Murdoch will have updates on some imminent new starters and potential housing development plans.

**Fundraiser:** We are running a Xmas Hamper fundraiser this year which is reliant on prize donations. A list of these is available so please go to <https://forms.gle/KxJ4HTUcU3zM9Tju6> and select a prize(s) you’d like to donate prior to 11 Dec. Raffle tickets for the various prizes are available from me on 07765513224 at £1 per ticket. The draw will take place by videocall on 15 December.

**100 Club:** I’d like to thank Alison Glasgow for her time and efforts to put the 100 Club together for this year – we have had an excellent response and Alison will provide an update together with the September draw.

**HEADTEACHER’S REPORT *from Miss Murdoch***

***School Roll***

School roll is currently at 33 and will be losing 1 at Christmas. 4 placing requests have been received which is good; this would take us up to 36 which is very positive.

Miss Murdoch received some information from SBC who are looking to build 40 houses on the field next to the school, should they purchase the land. Should this happen, the school roll would inevitably rise which would ultimately benefit the school and the wider community.

***Primary 7 Hoodies***

P7s have chosen their own colours and a design. These will very shortly be ordered by school and paid for by the Parent Council. Miss Murdoch thanked the PC for their generosity in paying for the hoodies.

***Pupil Council***

Mrs Tocher is taking over running the Pupil Council. There is a class representative from each year group. Pupils liaise with their rep and meetings are very much pupil led.

Currently, they are discussing dress down days – one per month with donations going to charity. Pupils want to choose the charities of their choice.

They are also looking to refresh the house system, including house names and a points system.

Additionally, they are looking to contribute to a scheme which seeks to donate new toys to hospitals for Christmas.

***Support for Learning Policy***

The team at EPS are looking to create their own policies in line with recently-issued SBC policies around learning and teaching. The recent Support for Learning policy parent consultation is part of that, along with staff and pupil consultations.

***Lorraine Mulholland Tribute***

Miss Murdoch has discussed the artwork display with staff who are now looking for the best location to place it and how to make it permanent and ensure that it has longevity.

**SBC Nurture**

Nurturing environment is being proactively encouraged across schools and staff training is underway

**School Improvement Plan**

As part of Evidence-based pupil assessment, pupils are choosing 4 pieces of their own work to populate a ‘**Star Folder’** each term. The first of which will be available to parents in December.

**GL Testing** – this is a diagnostic test to provide evidence-based assessment. It is planned for this system which is currently by approx. 50% of the schools in the Tweeddale cluster to be in place by April. This will feed into the annual pupil reports which go out during the Summer Term. The cost is approx. £400 for annual subscription.

After discussion it was felt that given this is core to school education this should not fall within the remit of Parent Council for funding. If by paying for this out of school funds, it limits the purchase of particular items over the course of the year, the Parent Council would be willing to look at these on a case-by-case basis.

**Water Bottles – Eco-Committee**

The Eco-committee are looking at ways of encouraging children to drink regularly during the day to maintain hydration

**Numeracy Curricular Event**

Due to all schools being unable to host events, this year our curricular events will take a virtual platform, with us relaying photos/videos of various Numeracy resources and our pupils using them, on Twitter.

**Christmas Plans**

There are various activities planned including Xmas jumper party (in association with ECEC), on-line pantomime (Santa Save Christmas), school Christmas party and the Christmas fayre is likely to take the form of a brochure rather than physical event. Due to the current restrictions there will be no showcase or nativity this year. Further details will be provided over the next week. Due to recent updates on COVID policy from SBC, children are no longer permitted to sing indoors or outdoors.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Current balance stands at £4274.84. £20 had been received in error for the OOSC 500 Mile Challenge. **ACTION: SUE and ALISON BROWN to discuss how this can be transferred to OOSC funds.**

**MATTERS ARISING**

**100 Club** – we have successfully secured 117 numbers for this coming year. In order to maintain similar odds of prize winning two additional draws will take place, one in Dec and one in June.

September Draw: Prize-winners are: 3rd Alyssa Stewart, 2nd Seonaidh Morton and 1st Susan Walker

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

* **Thursday 4th February 2021.**