



Minutes of ECPC Meeting

Date: 24 November 2021

Present: School Staff Present

Sheila Scott (SS) – Head Teacher, Sharon Sime - Support for Learning teacher, Helen Cormack – Principal Teacher, Gayle Armour – Acting Depute Head Teacher

Agenda Item and Discussion	
1	<p>Head Teacher's Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At the end of last term, most P7 pupils completed “Bikeability 2” training. They developed their cycling skills and road safety awareness in the playground and also out on local East Craigs roads. Thank you to Ms Allan, Miss Niven and Cat McCready, Active Schools Co-ordinator, for organising and leading the sessions• We started the new term with our second “Funky Friday” event. This was an opportunity for pupils to dress up (no Halloween discos this year!) or down and take part in seasonal activities. Lots of fun was had by all. It was not a fund raiser, but pupils could – and did – bring in an item for a harvest collection of non-perishable foods for NW Edinburgh Food Bank. We collected a large quantity of items, not sure exactly how much, but almost needed a van rather than a car to transport them all! Thank you to all families who donated.• Lagganlia – P7 pupils took part in a whole week of outdoor activity at Lagganlia. It was a highly successful week and almost everyone attended. Highlights for the pupils were Gorge walking and skiing. Weather was great, and the pupils excelled themselves at trying out all the activities, encouraging one another and generally having an amazing time.• Whilst the P7s were away, the rest of the school – pupils and staff – voted for new House Captains. Many pupils put themselves forward – definitely more than I’ve known in the few years I’ve been at the school - and had to complete an application form and present to the rest of the year. There was a very high standard of application and voting was close – Mrs Cormack and Miss Mowat got straight on to counting votes on their return to school! The House Captains – two per house - will meet with HT regularly, will take responsibility for collecting and counting house points, will help to present at assemblies and take on a range of responsibilities around the school.• P7s were away for Remembrance Day, so two P6s were nominated to attend a schools’ Remembrance Ceremony at Corstorphine War Memorial with HT. They wrote poems which they recited in front of the pupils/staff from other schools and laid a wreath on behalf of the school at the war memorial. These pupils demonstrated maturity and confidence – they will definitely be ready for P7 soon!• Last week, teaching and nursery staff took part in a training session where we looked at data about our pupils across the whole school and discussed how we could continue to use this, or begin to use it more effectively, to help us to know our school and take considerations when planning learning and assessing pupil

	<p>progress. Mrs Armour spent a lot of time analysing data from SEEMiS, which she then put into a Who Wants to be a Millionaire type quiz. Staff were interested to learn that, amongst our pupils, 29 different languages are spoken, and 6 faiths and 14 ethnicities are represented, demonstrating what a diverse school we are.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have been successful in applying for some additional funding to help support pupils affected by COVID restrictions, particularly the two lockdowns. We will be using the money to fund outdoor learning sessions run by Earth Calling. Earth Calling already work with East Craigs pupils at their after-school wildlife club. Small groups will be given the opportunity to learn outdoors during weekly sessions. This will help to develop their knowledge and appreciation of the local natural and built environment, develop confidence, teamwork, problem-solving skills and foster improved physical and emotional wellbeing • Christmas – plans for Christmas at EC are well under way. We have booked an online Panto, paid for by the generosity of the PTA and there will be Christmas parties for individual classes. Also, the “Coorie-In” author and illustrator sessions organised by Scottish Book Trust as part of a cluster initiative. Some artwork is being planned, including a PTA fundraiser where pupils will create a A4 picture to be framed and bought as a lovely Christmas present.
2	<p>Sensory Room</p> <p>Mrs Sime spoke about the transition from The Zone to a space which would support children, particularly those with additional support needs. The uses for this room will be quite wide ranging.</p> <p>Mental health of children has declined, especially during the pandemic.</p> <p>Vision for this room is it will be available for ALL children. Not a “crisis room”. Idea would be that we would timetable each class with PSA support.</p> <p>Fundraising would be needed to raise c£9k as a community.</p> <p>Leeann suggested an egg box challenge to raise some funds.</p>
3	<p>Communication Policy</p> <p>SS update – recognition that communication can be a challenge.</p> <p>SS provided a draft of the policy</p> <p>Reiterated SLA for comms– 5 days for complaints and 10 days for general queries</p> <p>Action – SS to add the SLA to the bottom of the document and send to all parents</p>
4	<p>Covid Restrictions</p> <p>SS - Due to a rise in cases and based on NHS advice we have reverted on 3 areas to try and reduce the risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stopped using Dining Hall (back in classroom for lunches) • Zones for playground • PE is out door where possible <p>There is a threshold level within schools and Covid advice from the Council and NHS Health Protection team has been taken. This kicked in last week when SS reported the</p>

	<p>latest numbers.</p> <p>Action – SS to send a note to all parents and carers</p>
5	<p>ClassList App</p> <p>Clair M suggested a council approved app for parents/carers to communicate with each other.</p> <p>Action – SS/GA to look into this and feedback to Clair M.</p>
6	<p>School Photographs</p> <p>SS – regulations have changed a few times about this. Latest guidance says outdoor photos only, which is not appropriate at this time of year. Photos will be booked for later in the school year.</p> <p>Action – SS to update at next meeting.</p>
7	<p>PTA Update – Alison Gordon</p> <p>The focus has been developing ideas that are fun events for kids which gives something back for parents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Framed art available for people to purchase £4 (new initiative) - Spirit of Christmas (donation via parent pay) – letter to be sent home - FB post – we posted looking for gifts and we’ll run an online raffle - Venture gift and money back to PTA idea is back from last year - iPad has been donated and we’ll hold a raffle in the NY! - P7 received their hoodies which went well this year - Hoping for F2F events next year
8	<p>Next meeting – February 2022</p>