

## PARENT COUNCIL

PRESENT: Carol Walker, Cllr. Ann Stirling, Irene Birtwhistle, Morag McNaughton, Lee Menzies, Ashley Strachan, Cllr. Ian Taylor, Sam James, Jane Bisset, Niamh Gibson (Clerk) Alan Chalmers,

DATE OF MEETING:

	NOTES	ACTION
1	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Carol Walker welcomed all to the meeting. She was disappointed to note that there were no new parents attending the meeting, however there had been some volunteers from the P7 transition evening to help with Friends of Turriff Academy.</p>	
2	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Carol Allan</p> <p>Sandy Duncan</p>	
3	<p>Adoption of Previous Minutes</p> <p>Proposed: Irene</p> <p>Seconded: Alan</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising from Previous Meeting</p> <p>There has been some progress with building works, as health and safety inspectors checked the school.</p>	

5	<p>Headteacher's Report</p> <p>Staffing</p> <p>For ten weeks, five student teachers are helping in:</p> <p>Modern Studies, Geography, Business, Music and English.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Computing: Ms. Aqualina</li><li>• Business Education: Mrs. Butka</li><li>• Technologies: Mrs. James and Mrs. Idzikowska</li><li>• Modern Languages/Modern Studies: Ms. Theil</li><li>• Modern Studies: Mrs. Gray</li><li>• English: Ms. Allan and Mr. Sexton</li><li>• PE: Ms. Harrison (post has been made permanent)</li><li>• Biology: Mrs Blakelough- end of September onwards.</li><li>• ASL: Mr. Dubbels</li></ul> <p>Vacancies</p> <p>Maths: Cover teachers, as well as Jane Bisset, Lee Menzies and Kate Clark are all covering Maths classes due to a shortage in maths teaching staff.</p> <p>Ms. Ewen is currently Acting Head teacher at Rothienorman. Kate Clark will be at Turriff until at least</p>
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next Easter. Junior Home Economics is being run on a rota basis and we will be readvertising for a new Home Economics teacher.

£1600 was raised on a school-wide walk to raise money for the installation of a defibrillator at the school, with the partnership of the Turriff Running Club.

Turriff Business Association are providing funding for CCTV which includes one camera at the rear of the school building. Lee advised that this would probably wait until the window replacements/building works had been carried out. Anne requested that this be moved along asap.

A health and wellbeing survey will be distributed to the school as part of a school improvement plan; with a particular focus on the mental health of adolescent boys. This will be brought to the attention of Kaylah Millar. The draft survey will be emailed to PC members once it has been finalised.

‘Getting It Right’ policy - school are focussing on those pupils getting it right, not just on those getting it wrong.

Homework

Merits: 735

Demerits: 85

Dress Code:

Merits: 4693

Demerits: 111

Above and beyond postcards are to be sent out to parents- along with emails, texts and phone calls to notify parents when their child/ren do something beyond what they are being asked to do.

S1 Literacy Evening: around 50 parents and pupils attended the S1 Literacy Evening to learn about the ways the school will support the development of S1 literacy.

These included: homework diaries, the Accelerated Reader program, Immersive Reader and Modern Languages.

6	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>The account has been audited, and there is a total of £928.49 for the month. £50 has been used for the clerk fee.</p> <p>Old PTA account still awaiting closure; and a new auditor needs to be appointed.</p>	
7	<p>Academic Results</p> <p>Please see attached Power Point presentation.</p> <p>There were discussions about how to improve maths qualifications, attainment and encouraging pupils to complete exams in one year as opposed to doing it in two years.</p> <p>S4, 5 and 6 will receive 3 tracking reports per academic year, with S1, 2 and 3 receiving 2 reports.</p>	
8	<p>Friends of Turriff Academy</p> <p>FTA had a very successful end to the school year, holding a coffee morning and providing teas, etc and lucky squares for the High School Musical production, which raised a total of £1,769.01. There are plans to hold a</p>	

	<p>meeting soon and to try to organise fundraising before Christmas.</p>	
<p>9</p>	<p><b>Community Rep</b></p> <p>A new community rep has not been chosen yet. Fraser Watson was approached; but is unfortunately too busy to consider taking on the role. However, he is happy to be a 'virtual friend' and email the Parent Council in the meantime.</p> <p>Possible suggestions for groups who can help suggest a new Community Rep considered at the meeting were: the CLD, the Turriff Business Association and possibly the Rotary if other options are exhausted.</p> <p>The possibility of pupil reps - organised by house - attending Parent Council meetings again was suggested at the meeting, and also to have Kaylah Millar, the representative of the Scottish Youth Parliament, present at some meetings. Jane would look into this.</p> <p>A forum to help provide support for parents of children with special needs was suggested.</p> <p>Turriff now has one of the fastest growing rates of child</p>	

	<p>poverty in Aberdeenshire.</p> <p>Although free lunches are available, pupils do not always take them up, either out of pride or other reasons outwith their control. Some young people are not getting anything to eat at lunch, or they resort to eating cheap packets of biscuits.</p>	
10	<p>AOCB</p> <p>There was no other matters of competent business discussed or brought up at the meeting.</p>	
11	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7pm.</p>	