

Gordon Primary School Parent Council AGM
15 June 2022

Present: Mr Wilson, Roni, Maria, Gill, Yvonne, Amanda, Mariana, Kerry, Louise
Apologies: Anna, Fiona, Lucy, AmandaK

Wildlife Garden Update

Aim to open up the wildlife garden for community use. Amanda has offered to help Mrs Cargill with the garden. The Unpaid Work Team has started construction of a double fence where all the hedge clippings etc. can be put to provide an insect haven. The Team has been redeployed elsewhere for now, but will return to complete the fencing and move the tyres. The tyres can be kept in the wildlife garden, but possibly stacked? Raised beds can be put where the tyres are currently situated (right-hand side of the garden). May have a connection through Sabina to Abundant Borders, which could be helpful for growing vegetables, etc. Suggestion that the area on the left side of the garden be covered in weed suppressant, add purple slate and install seating. This is the shadiest part of the garden, so it is not so good for growing. This section could also be covered by a tarp roof for use as an outdoor classroom. The central section could have more seating and grass/ clover? for the nursery to use.

Some funding has come through from various supermarkets to develop the garden. Agreed some of this money to be used to buy purple slate. Kerry/Gordon offered plastic for weed suppressant and will also follow up potential funding from Berwickshire Housing. Could involve children e.g. building bird boxes (Amanda to check with KR). Amanda to use Facebook and noticeboard to see if more members of the community would like to be involved in a wildlife garden group.

Chair's report

More people needed for the Parent Council. Poor turnout, particularly since this was an AGM. Noted that three of the current committee are stepping down after this year (Maria, Roni and Gill). Mariana offered to shadow Maria to allow her to take over as treasurer next year. It would be helpful if someone was interested in shadowing the Chair. Volunteers welcome!

Parent Council roles

Nominations were received and seconded. Roles as follows: Chair: Roni; Treasurer: Maria; Secretary: Louise.

Headteacher Update

New boards have been installed at the front of the school. Over the summer, interior painting will be carried out and new carpets laid. School Improvement Report provides a review of the year. School Improvement Plan to be shared at the start of the next session. Feedback welcome.

Parking

Police have visited the school to look at the parking issue. May consider changing the corner to make it safer.

P7 Residential

This will go ahead in September. Some families have already come forward for financial support, and others are encouraged to do so. PGL has been contacted to ask for additional support for some of the children who will be attending. An autism support worker will also be on the trip.

iPads

Next week P5s will be returning their iPads to school to allow them to be wiped, and they will be given new ones for P6.

Treasurer Update

Paid 50% of cost of P7 hoodies (£23) and pledged £92 for P7 trip (bowling, golf, food and drink).
Income: Rag Bag paid out £72.80; Easter raffle and Body Shop squares raised £253.70. Co-op fund paid out £198.92. Money also due from Easy fundraising for £25.63. Balance is now £3,943.70.

Agreed to pay £600 to the school (each class, including nursery – 4 x £150) to fund some of the basics required.

Fundraising

Confirmed it was possible to use the school on Saturdays e.g. Christmas Fair. Agreed it was possible to have tea and coffee at the leavers' ceremony, but no home baking (bought cakes/ biscuits are fine). Proposal to have another Colour Fun Run in August/ September to raise funds. Fundraising Committee to meet again at a later date.

Future funding needs

Just Giving page has raised £670 which can be put towards another basketball net and goal for the MUGA. Resurfacing of the MUGA was mentioned, but this is very expensive.
Noted the need for new athletics strips for the P6/P7s so they look smart when representing the school at events like the Mini Olympics, hockey tournaments, etc. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Any Other Business

Can pupils line up in the front playground again? Will consider it.
Are indoor shoes still needed? Yes. May have to look at alternative storage for indoor shoes if children are using different doors to come into class. This might help remind them to change!
Expect sports activities to go ahead as usual next year e.g. swimming, curling, etc.