

LHS Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 28 May 2024

Present: Shona Fleming (Chair), Ali Berardelli (Vice Chair), Jane Halewood (JH), Lisa Wharton (Secretary), Laura Kingswood Smith (LKS), Alison Stephen (AS)

Apologies: Lorraine Servant, Nicola Mair, Becky McCook, Yvonne Clark, Louise Pescod

Welcome: The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Previous Minutes: Proposed – AB Seconded – SF

Head Teacher's Report

Staffing –

- We have recruited a permanent PT for Glencoe House, Katie Russell who will start with us in August. We are still recruiting for a Teacher of Gaelic.

SQA Exams – Exams are almost over and I believe they have run pretty smoothly.

New Timetable starts – Monday 3 June. Timetables are being issued this week, and our new S5/6 pupils will be asked to collect their timetable on Thursday and Friday.

S3 Full Reports - are due out this week, and they will contain the result of their S3 exams.

Running Out of Time Relay (Ben to Ben relay) – starts at LHS on 6 June with runners going from here to Caol PS. This event is to raise awareness of environmental issues.

S6 Graduation – Takes place on 6 June.

P7 Transitions – week takes place the week beginning Monday 10 June.

Lochaber High School Highland Games - Scheduled for Wed 19 June 2024

Weather permitting we are going to run another LHS Highland Games. We are looking to open the invite up to Parent/carers this year and we will publicise this via LHS Heads-uP, PE social media account and on the LHS Facebook page. We will publish an itinerary of the day via a QR code and we will make this available to ALL.

At present there are some stalls which will be run. Business Management are running some enterprise stalls with refreshments, there will be diversity stalls and there will be stalls run by the senior pupils who are part of the NPA Sports Coaching and Leadership groups.

Nevis Radio have been invited and I am due to meet them in June to confirm, the idea is to broadcast some live sections throughout the day.

Questions following on from Headteacher's Report

Fundraising

- DC is organizing a beetle drive. Date TBC. Fundraising letters with QR code will be sent to businesses. Potentially first term of 24/25?
- Easyfundraising has been discussed, but not taking forward.
- Morrisons Bag pack – there are dates available. People have less loose change to donate now. Should we consider a SumUp machine? ongoing
- Clothes recycling point could raise money by having a drop-off at school car park to capitalize on parents dropping off at school, music school and pump track. Is it worth it? SF will investigate and report back
- Local Art Auction was suggested – local artists donate works, fun auction, something a bit different – could this be part of the school art exhibition in December once students have their portfolio artwork back. Suggestion for a silent auction – people put in bids in sealed envelopes over an agreed min price. Being investigated.
- Business sponsorship – letter to go out in first term, with QR code for easy donating – in progress

Glencoe House Sensory Garden Project

Ali B has been into Glencoe House with Angus MacDonald of Foundation Scotland to find out about what stage the sensory garden project is at. The project needs around £9500 in total and has £7176 already. Foundation Scotland will give £2500. The garden needs resurfacing, and major upgrading changes required. Outdoor learning – Scotplay can provide outdoor classroom or is it better to develop space more without outdoor classroom.

Glencoe House / Mamore House and Arkaig all use the sensory garden.

There was discussion around the polytunnel – remove or recover and use? SF will forward on info about First Tunnels (polytunnel provider). What could be done with this space?

JH suggested that Scottish Water workers could use volunteer days to do project to clear space for a garden. This could be done in the school holidays. JH will look into it and report back.

A.O.B

The topic of overnight campervan parking in the school car park was raised. SS will look into how we can address this and try to stop overnight parking.

Will there be anything to replace the John Muir Trust Junior Ranger Programme in S3?

SS: It is hoped that Developing the Young Workforce may be able to run something focusing on outdoor conservation. Discussions in progress.

Date of next meeting: Wed 19 June, 7pm, LHS Library

