

## Arkholme CofE Primary School PTFA

### Minutes of meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 @ 3.30pm

**1. Present:** Claire Halsey (Chair) Elle Fox (Treasurer), Corinne Metcalfe (Secretary), Niki Quinn, Emily Sapsford, Emma Muckalt (Teacher), Hayley Whittaker (Teacher), Joy Ingram (Headteacher)

**2. Apologies:** Rebecca Jackson-Pitt, Birta Henderson, Gillian Chase

#### **3. Treasurers report:**

After a very kind pledge of £5000 from Soundking and a further £2000 from the Christopher Robins Trust we are now in an excellent position to pay for the resurfacing of the playground soft pour, with money left over for other projects such as the outdoor classroom. Elle has also applied for the Harrold & Alice Bridges Funding and the Co Op Community funding and is waiting to hear back from both.

Current Account Balance - £2,500

Playground renewal account - £17,869.41

#### **4. Playground flooring & Outdoor Classroom update**

We now have the £10, 263 needed to replace the soft pour surface. This has been provisionally booked for the first week of the autumn half term (Week beginning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October). The Metcalfe's and Stephenson's have pledged machinery and manpower so hopefully with another few willing volunteers we will be able to get the old surface taken up and removed the weekend before (17-18<sup>th</sup> October) whilst still complying with current COVID regulations.

Elle has had quotes in for a timber outdoor classroom. The popularity of the marquee proved that an outdoor teaching space will be an enormous benefit to the school, particularly one that offers some protection from the elements in the winter months. It was agreed by all that the Standard design @ £4950 + VAT was the best value for money and best suited for purpose. The firm have agreed to add solid sides and external benches for an additional £475, bringing the total cost to £5,425 + VAT installed. Ideally this work would be carried out in the second week of half term once the playground surface is down but this is dependent on the logistics and cost of moving the shed and bins to their new proposed locations next to the pod and carpark gate respectively.

#### **5. Christmas Cards**

Corinne enquired with several card companies advertised on the Parentkind website. Only 2 sent out information packs as requested, IQ cards and Art Projects for Schools. The IQ cards came in cheaper for what looks to be very similar products, including cards, key rings, fridge magnets and wrapping paper. They are also offering an extra 10% off if we sign up before the end of September so it was agreed Corinne would sign us up as a school and get the ball rolling asap.

#### **6. COVID friendly alternative to school socials and fundraisers**

We discussed alternatives to the traditional school socials. It was agreed that keeping up the links between the school community was more important than ever at this time, despite us being unable to hold events in school. A number of ideas were put forward;

**Quiz night** – to be held via Zoom. With age appropriate questions for each age range so that the whole family can get involved. Plus some fun categories such as guess the teacher from childhood photos.

Provisional date – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October @ 6pm

**Theme night Zoom Disco** – Themed fancy dress. Song requests could be 50p each to help raise funds. Mrs Muckalt has very kindly agreed to help organize/run. Date tbc.

**Movie afternoon** – As PTFA are unable to go into school to run movie night it was suggested to run it on straight after the school day so that teachers can be in school to supervise. Each bubble will have their own room which allows for different movie options. PTFA can still provide popcorn/drinks etc. but teachers will have to serve/supervise.

Provisional date – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September

**Christmas Party** - The Christmas party can still run this year if kept in school, so obviously no DJ. However, Mrs Muckalt and Mrs Whitaker are happy to do party games etc. for their year groups. It was felt the older children may be less taken with this idea, but we can discuss in more detail nearer the time and perhaps come up with a suggestion for the older year groups.

## **8. AOB**

Hayley Whitaker has asked for £50 to buy watches for Robins class to help them learn to tell the time. This was agreed by all present.

Secondhand uniform being run by Emily is going well, with the current drop off point being at her house to avoid parents bringing clothes into school. She agreed this is fine for the time being although not ideal as a permanent solution. As stock levels change constantly it is difficult to advertise what items are available, and better if parents contact Emily directly if there is an item they are looking for. Details are published in the newsletter.

Next meeting is TBC