**Friends of Johnshaven School Meeting**

Wednesday 7 June 2017

3.30pm

**Present**: Lynne Denny (LD), Kim Franklin (KF), Claire Mason (CM), Fiona Bruce (FB), Mrs Karen McKinley (KMcK), Karen Mason (KM), Wilma Smith (WS), Gerry Creaney (GC), Jo Molland-Ward (JMW), Holli Smith (HS)

**Apologies**: Barry Ward

**Agenda Items**:

1. **Welcome**

LD welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending and handed over to KMcK for the Head Teacher’s Summary.

1. **Head Teacher’s Summary**

* Staffing/Classes

**Lower Class** – Prior to KMcK joining Johnshaven School, Mrs McIntosh had applied for a transfer to Newtonhill School. This transfer has been confirmed and Mrs McIntosh will be leaving Johnshaven School at the end of term. KMcK wanted to thank Mrs McIntosh for all her help and time at Johnshaven School, she will be greatly missed by all.

From Summer Term, Mrs Rhona Kydd will be joining Johnshaven School. Mrs Kydd has just finished her 4 year University Course including placements and is joining us under a 1 year probationer contract. She will be working in the lower class 4 days a week with a day to meet with mentor and development, KMcK will teach the remaining day. This opportunity gives Johnshaven School a fresh teacher fully trained in up to date behaviour management and curriculum for excellence to lead the lower class plus allow KMcK to have 4 clear days to build on management, structure, learning, observations and raising attainment.

**Upper Class** – Mrs Tait remains on long term absence and so Mr Scott Ness will be joining Johnshaven School teaching the upper class full time, 5 days a week. All current P3’s will be moving up to P4 and joining Mr Ness, no split. Mr Ness has been in to visit the class yesterday and get to know everyone. The whole class of 20 pupils worked co-operatively together.

KMcK feels this new arrangement of staff provides a consistent approach and allows greater stability.

* Values

KMcK thanked all parents for returning their survey on what values are important to us. Together with the pupil and staff results, the key words generated are honesty, caring, friendship, responsibility, determination, participation. The results will be displayed in a wordle or word cloud with the highest frequency of word displayed in the largest font and most visible.

JMW would like to submit her values, KMcK said this was no problem for any late responses to be included.

* Community

KMcK continues to meet with community groups, understanding environment and what learning objectives that generates. KMcK continues to welcome PVG parents. GC asked about code of conduct for PVG. KMcK assured GC that the cluster is working on the code of conduct, a charter or rules to clarify parental involvement.

* Improvement Plan

KMcK is continuing to work on the current plan

* Reports

Pupil reports done and dusted – completed

* Squash/Tennis

KMcK has looked into establishing Squash but unfortunately there is no wall area big enough for marking out lines, whether there is space outside?

JMW asked whether Graeme Walker from Montrose Tennis Club would be available

**ACTION**: FB to provide Graeme’s contact details

**UPDATE**: Email: graemetennis@btinternet.com, Tel: 07732 044814

* Football

Pupils are very keen to establish a school football team. KMcK has spoken to Robbie Curtis from Active Aberdeenshire, Robbie is happy to help establish a team and work with parents. KMcK asked if any parents would be happy to get involved on a rota basis.

* Garden

Thank you to Claire Mason for all her hard work and the Community Council for their donation of plants.

KMcK looking to approach professionals in the community to help bring children into the garden.

* Eco

Again working with SHARK & SCARF to form a pupil group

* Facebook

All allegations against the School and Staff will be forwarded to Aberdeenshire Council Legal department.

* QIO Visit

Approx 2-3 weeks ago, 3 schools in Aberdeenshire notified of HM Inspection. Therefore all QIO visits have been cancelled to be rescheduled. At the recent cluster meeting, Kay MacDonald, said she is still keen to go ahead with QIO visit, date to be advised.

* Communication

KMcK trying to get all information out to parents in a timely manner. WS mentioned that not all parents can be available at short notice due to work commitments. KMcK looking to move all communication to either Facebook/Group Call/Twitter with the pupils fully involved. The School Website has been handed over to school after update but very slow to update.

Group Call - An established new system which contacts parent/carers on mass by email or text. Limits amount of paper in school bags which is always not read.

1. **End of Term arrangements/events**

* Sports Day

Thursday 22 June, Wairds Park 10.30am onwards. Mr Ness and Mrs Kydd will be joining School for sports day along with Miss Munro and Mrs Birrell. After Sports Day all families are welcome to join the School for a family picnic.

* End of Term Assembly

This will be held on last day of term. JMW sorry they will miss assembly due to holidays. The pupils have been working on a leavers song, P7 will do a presentation of their recent residential trip to Dalguise

* End of Term Disco

LD mentioned whether a disco would be held by FoJS. FB mentioned that due to other commitments she would be unable to help. As pupils are having a relaxed afternoon on last day of term, is there a need for a disco?

* Summer Trip

LD asked whether there are any plans for a whole school trip. KMcK stated that due to the current security volatility after Manchester and London attacks that there are no plans for a “trip”. KMcK considers the trip should have an element of learning and not just a fun day out. KMcK currently looking at an excursion after summer which involves the whole school.

* Health Week

Enterprise opportunity for pupils to show their knowledge

1. **Road Safety/Parking at School**

During Road Safety week, the pupils learned about staying safe. KMcK asked for all parents to consider pupil safety when parking around the school.

1. **AOCB**

Road Safety Café

GC and WS voiced their opinions about a few key issues following the recent Road Safety Learning Celebration:

* Hydration – on hot sunny days all children should have access to water when walking around in the community.
* GC and WS were unhappy that he children were not given the opportunity to sit and eat cakes and biscuits with the parents as this has been the norm in the recent history of community café.
* GC asked what had happened to the excess cakes and biscuits.
* GC and WS advised that their child had been chastised when an older child saw she was eating from the baked goods provided for parents.
* The café could be organized on a Friday as part of Golden Time activities.

Regarding the current set up of Community Café KMc advised the following:

* Challenging behaviour in school peaks on a Tuesday prior to and during café.
* There is no focus on skills or learning during café as it currently stands. This eats into valuable learning time.
* Mrs McK, as Head Teacher, has to consider many agendas from Aberdeenshire Council including Healthy Eating and Developing Skills for Learning, Life and Work among others.
* Mrs McK has discussed the current format for café with QIO Kay MacDonald and HMIE Inspector Susan Duff. There is an agreement that there must be action taken to improve behaviour, ethos and wellbeing of all children in school.
* Community Café is a valuable event but it requires an overhaul to ensure it meets with the benchmarks as set in the Frameworks for Learning.

GC also shared his opinions about the new Golden Table reward.

* The initiative should have been shared with all parents before being implemented in school.
* Tomato sauce should not be used as a reward for good behavior
* The Golden Table should be provided for all pupils not just for a chosen few
* The children only want to sit at the table to get tomato sauce

KMcK explained that to recognise the social aspects of good behaviour during lunchtime in the hall the pupils had been full involved with creating a golden table.

* The criteria for gaining a place at the table and design of the table came from a whole school assembly and was constructed from listening to the ideas, discussions and decisions of the children
* Feedback from the children has been very positive and they are enjoying having the Golden Table to motivate their behaviour

WS raised the point of a dog being brought onto the school premise as her child has a particular fear of dogs.

* Parents were not made aware of this in advance. They would like to be notified should this happen again or if any animal is to brought into school
* WS and GC recognised the role and possible benefits of a dog in certain behavioural issues and commended such an initiative
* KMcK apologised for any concerns raised. The dog was only present on two Fridays as a strategy to connect with a child in school. There is no intention for the dog to be brought back into school.