**PEEBLES HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL**



**Parent Council Meeting**

**20 August 2020**

**Teams Meeting**

**S1 Parents Open Forum**

**Attendees**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Glenda Barton, Chair, Parent Council (PC) | 51 parents attended |
| Campbell Wilson, Head Teacher (CW) |  |
| Donna Moretta, Depute Head and Head of Pastoral |  |

**Open Forum Q&A**

**Could we see the School Improvement Plan (SIP) slides?**

The SIP meeting slides will be made available for those who can’t attend.

**Is the timetable changing next week? Will there be teacher changes?**

All timetables are being looked at to be more covid-safe, eg double lessons to reduce movement around the school. The timetable will change the week after next. There will be no teachers changes.

**How do we access homework- is it on Teams or Show My Home Work (SMHW)?**

SMHW will be going back online now we are back at school. Teams is the main vehicle for class content and assignments for students and SMHW is an online homework diary, which parents can also see.

**When can S1 have access to lockers**?

The office is working on this just now, hopefully in next couple of weeks. Parents will be advised when this can happen.

**When will extra curricular groups be starting up again?**

There can be no extra curricular activity until SBC say so. This applies to both indoor (eg debating, orchestra) and also all sports.

**Where can we find out what all the clubs are?**

The PC will share this on social media and the PC website [phsparents.org.uk](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cclair%5CGoogle%20Drive%5CPHS%20Parent%20Council%5CParent%20Council%20Meetings%5Cphsparents.org.uk)

**S1 missed P7 leavers assemblies/residentials etc. Could we organize something for S1s to visit their old primary schools for a half day out?**

Yes absolutely when restrictions ease further. We also want to have last year’s S6 back to do this. Please pass on any ideas to the PC.

**Canteen – how does it work – do they book their grab & go or just turn up?**

S1 parents should have a ParentPay letter explaining how to set up an account and put money on their Young Scot card to pay for lunches. If you need to, just phone the school or ask your child to go to the office to get another Parentpay letter.

The assembly hall is available for having lunch for anyone who finds the canteen too busy.

**When will hot meals be on the menu again?**

By end of August catering should be back up to full strength again with full menu of hot meals, baguettes, toasties, etc.

**Could we have a takeaway hot meal eg pasta?**

Hot food can be taken away – cartons are given out for this purpose.

**Could the catering offering be increased to stop children going down the street?**

We want to make it possible for everyone who wants to have lunch in the school to be able to do so. We’ve created staggered lunchtimes to maximise this. We have to balance this to support local businesses and the economy. It’s quite an adventure for pupils to go down the street and it’s something they really look forward to.

**Where do you go for lost property?**

We’re not allowed the lost property bin (as was) in the janitor’s office just now. Currently pupils should ask at the office.

**Is there a uniform thrift shop/swap shop?**

There is second hand school uniform available at the school. Please contact Mr Wilson if you have any problems buying uniform as the school can help.

**Will the S1 residential go ahead?**

We really hope so - it is still in the calendar. We have been told however not to plan any *new* trips that weren’t already in the calendar.

**How do you report child absence?**

Any of three ways:

* phone the school on 01721 720291
* email enquiries.peebleshs@scotborders.gov.uk
* text 07860 049596

All this is on the PC website, or PHS website under Parenzone - All you need to know.

**What’s the best way to contact a pastoral teacher?**

You can phone the school on 01721 720291 and the teacher will phone you back. Or email enquiries.peebleshs@scotborders.gov.uk and it will be forwarded to the teacher.

**How do under 12’s get a Young Scot card (you can have a card but not register)?**

Although you’re not able to register, you can still use the card to pay for food at school. You may not be able to access all the discounts etc that are on offer with the card until you’re 12.

**Could we plan for P7’s coming up early for induction in case of disruption again next year?**

It is something we have looked at before. We don’t want to disrupt their time in P7 too soon. We are trying to plan for as much as normal but CW will talk to the primary heads about it.

**Is there an update on the school rebuild?**
Update from Catriona Bhatia: The design team have worked hard during the summer to refine the possible options that balance off ease of construction, disruption to pupils and civic presence.  At the moment, this work is drawing to a close with the cost estimate being updated.  It would be intended to present the emerging proposal and cost estimate to SBC's Corporate team/Members in the first instance prior to a wider stakeholder strategy being developed for community consultation.”

If any parent is interested in being part of the project team please get in touch with the PC.

**Could S1 have a map of the school?**

CW will take this forward to try and get a map out by end next week.

**Communications from the Parent Council**

We will repost the list of Twitter accounts and please make sure you can see all posts on PHS Parents on Facebook. If you’re not on social media, the PC website <phsparents.org.uk> has a live stream from Twitter and Facebook.

**Is it just 1 email contact per child for Groupcalls?**

Yes, the Groupcall system prevents us holding more than one email address per child. The **Expressions** app works from the same database. This app holds all Groupcall messages for all your children (primary and secondary). CW will have info on Expressions communicated again.

**What happens if there is a confirmed covid case?**

SBC contacts Scottish Govt and the test and protect system kicks into place. We are trying hard to avoid this with the safety measures we have in place but there is very clear guidance on what we do in this scenario. Home learning/blended learning could be used again seamlessly.

**Buses can’t open their windows – wasn’t it the plan to have these open as much as possible? (the P15)**

CW will look into this