

MONDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2019 @ 6:30pm
GREENWOOD ACADEMY
GREENWOOD CONNECT MEETING MINUTES

Present: C McGuire - Head Teacher, C Le Maitre - Chairperson, C McKinlay – Secretary,
C Tate – Campus Police Officer, S Hartridge, T Blackley, S Johnson, L McQuaker, D Gilbert, L McDade,
J Gunn

Apologies: H Gilbert

1. Campus Police Talk

C Le Maitre welcomed all to the meeting and PC Correne Tate delivered a talk on Internet Safety.

Summary:

- “Kayleigh’s Love Story” short film was shown. This harrowing, true story demonstrated the hard-hitting reality of how easily young people can be groomed online and the consequences in this case resulted in the rape and murder of 15-year old Kayleigh. C McGuire spoke of a visit to S6 by a lady whose daughter Emily committed suicide at University because she was being bullied and manipulated by a boyfriend. There is a campaign to have “Emily’s Test” shown at schools before young people go off to College/University so that they know who to talk to and where to go if they have issues.
- Age appropriate internet safety talks to S1 pupils in school, S2-6 to follow. Sessions with pupils in regard to social media sites and alcohol awareness are making them more aware of the dangers.
- Advice to all parents/carers is to talk openly and honestly with their children about who they are talking to, how they know them and what are they looking at on social media. Snapchat, for example, has a secret password for a secret site.
- She encouraged everyone to be inquisitive and all platforms should have the privacy setting set to “ghost mode”. Google gives instructions on how to do this. When mobile phones carry out “updates” this can change privacy settings so these should be checked. Information online is easy to obtain and profiles easy to build up so children should mix up their names so that they can’t be identified and any photographs with details of clubs attended and where held should be blanked out.
- Some of the “apps” aren’t what they say they are and photographs can be shared.
- It is very difficult to get evidence for prosecutions and with the changes of GDPR everyone was reminded that it is a criminal offence if someone doesn’t give permission to share their information and photographs. Parents/carers should remind their children of this.
- C McGuire spoke of Police Scotland Youth Volunteer 13-18 programme and the involvement young people can have in the community.
- Greenwood and other schools in North Ayrshire appreciate the value in having our Campus Police Officer. Young people are accustomed to communicating with PC Tate and find it comfortable and easy to approach her.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

C Le Maitre and T Blackley approved previous meeting Minutes.

3. Head Teacher's Report

C McGuire discussed various topics from her Head Teacher's Report.

She highlighted the following:

- Pupils and staff are very busy with assessments for SQA, deadline end of March.
- Recognition from Poet, Stuart Paterson who tweeted, after a visit to Greenwood "cheers Nicola, they did ye proud! The great McIlvanney taught there too. Braw session". Nephew Neil McIlvanney teaches English at the School.
- Greenwood has a new Barista Coffee Machine and members of the GEM team are trained, along with Mrs Boax and Ms McCrory. Future training will be provided and the school looks forward to using this facility.
- Pupils are enjoying our new Mandarin teacher and Mrs Dunker is doing some history on Chinese culture and the "Silk Road".
- Singing Hands is our new British Sign Language choir. Our hearing impaired teacher and classroom assistant are committed to promoting sign language and there is an increase in the number of activities within School.
- Mr Barlow involved with various recruitment opportunities involving apprenticeships.
- Greenwood has 9 Probationer Teachers this year. They have each been given 3 whole school events to organise for the School. One of these is the upcoming 5K Event for pupils, staff and parents.
- Four pupils are currently campaigning to represent North Ayrshire at the Youth Parliament. Greenwood Gatherin' evening which included choirs, bands and cluster primary involvement was enjoyed by many. F32 Live Showcase event at the Harbour Arts Centre was a great success and radio stations are playing their records. The great recording facilities at Greenwood can be used by anyone. Greenwood were runner-up at the recent Ski competition at Newmilns.
- Mrs Dunker and Mr Doyle received commemorative Quaichs to mark 25 years' service to Greenwood. Alison Telfer will replace Liz Dorrian in the School Office when she retires at the end of March. Teacher's posts for Physics and HE are advertised with an August start. Head Teacher's post final interviews being held on 7th March. There had been a very good response, C Le Maitre was invited to the shortlist meeting. T Blackley and C Le Maitre will represent Greenwood Connect at the full day, final interviews.
- Mrs Gunn mentioned that replying to text messages in Groupcall results in messages not being sent. The number to reply is listed but wondered if this should be brought to everyone's attention. C McGuire said she would investigate. **Action: C McGuire**

4. Any Other Business

C Le Maitre confirmed that L McQuaker will be our new Treasurer. T Blackley, C Le Maitre and L McQuaker to arrange to meet at the TSB Bank to sign forms, possible date 7/3/19.

Action: C Le Maitre, T Blackley & L McQuaker

5. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held in School on Monday 18th March 2019 @ 6.30pm. C McGuire's last.