

**MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2019 @ 6:30pm**  
**GREENWOOD ACADEMY**  
**GREENWOOD CONNECT MEETING**

**Present:** C McGuire - Head Teacher, C Le Maitre - Chairperson, C McKinlay – Secretary,  
P MacDougall – Acting Depute Head Teacher, A Rowatt – Biology & Guidance Teacher,  
L Marshall – Music Teacher, T Blackley, S Collow, H Gilbert

**Apologies:** L McQuaker

**1. Rights Respecting Schools**

Miss Marshall introduced the Greenwood team of four of our pupil Ambassadors. They explained, through the Slide Show, the ways RRS promotes children’s rights throughout our school community fostering a culture of respect. A Rowatt will take over the lead for the group when Miss Marshall leaves.

Summary of Slide Show and Talk:

- Greenwood have achieved Level 1 (Silver) and are currently working towards Level 2 (Gold). They are very close to achieving this excellent target. Only 11 other secondary schools nationally have reached this Gold Level so far.
- £190 has been collected for UNICEF and 80 kgs of food have been collected by RRS for the Foodbank. Monies raised by RRS have been used to buy gifts for children, delivered by UNICEF, round the world. These gifts make a big difference to children in desperate need.
- The right to express opinions respectfully and to be listened to are the core rights for the pupil voice.
- Inclusion, participation and protection – every young person should feel included, have an active part and feel protected in the safety and warmth of the school.
- Education is the backbone and no child should be robbed of this.
- Teaching and Learning are the Umbrella for “About Rights”, “Through Rights” and “For Rights”. Article hashtag posters are placed around the school and remind everyone to stop, think and be aware. These promote the values of the UNCRC by referencing them in lessons, activities, notice boards and our daily conversations.
- The RRS journey can be followed on Twitter and is used to share information, raise awareness and to interact with other Ayrshire Schools.
- C McGuire said RRS overlaps in many areas within the school, including Pupil Council. It mirrors the school’s aims and visions; the glue that holds the school together. The UNCRC have been very supportive. We all have a duty to protect each other through inclusion, education, pupil voice and participation.

Congratulations were given to the team and the teachers with their work towards reaching Gold Level. Everything the school does is linked and fits into the RRS journey. Thanks to Justin Jones, Niamh Surgenor, Leigh Galbraith and Lauren Fife for their informative talk.

Question and Answer session at the end of the Talk:

1. **Which year group is involved?** Children from all year groups welcome. P MacDougall said it is great to see new pupils coming up and learning from the Senior pupils. New ideas and the element of understanding is important. Primary children are aware of RRS and this helps them to carry this on in Secondary School.
2. **When do they meet?** The group meet at lunchtime every week and also get involved with some evening activities where they have a stall explaining their functions. At the last In-Service Day for staff the group confidently did a talk in front of 110 staff. Pupils have conducted workshops with staff and these are now an annual event.
3. **Can parents be involved?** If anyone from Greenwood Connect wants to be involved they are very welcome.

## 2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

C Le Maitre welcomed all to the meeting and previous Minutes were approved by T Blackley.

## 3. Treasurer

Lorraine McQuaker has agreed to be Treasurer for the Group after March. In the meantime, C Le Maitre said that business can be taken care of and cheques signed.

## 4. Head Teacher's Report

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

- Staffing – Head Teacher post has been advertised as she retires at Easter. Applications come in online and normally they chose a successful long list of people who carry out various tests which may involve different scenarios. The day can include data analysis, discussions with Head of Service, other promoted staff and young people on key areas of education. At the short list stage before a formal interview is held in front of a Panel Parent representatives will be involved. This panel can include a local Councillor, someone from the Education Portfolio who would chair, another Head Teacher and a representative from Greenwood Connect group. Mrs McGuire said it is hard to predict how many people would apply for the post but she thinks our large School will have a wide appeal. She asked the group to think who they would like to represent Greenwood Connect and sit on the panel.

**Action: C Le Maitre**

Miss Marshall in Music is leaving soon, the uptake for music for next term will determine whether or not the post is filled. Hazel Inch in HE has also left her post. Collette Mathieson is our new Classroom Assistant in PE and HE. Mr Brotherston is also retiring in August.

- SQA – Assessments are being carried out for SQA with decisions being made by end of February. All young people will have had experience of sitting exams in the hall. The school is also trialling children sitting some exams in class in timed conditions. Modern Language talking assessments, PE, practical exams for Music and Cookery all taking place in the coming weeks.
- S3/S4 Briefing Night - Eighty parents attended. Some pupils also attended to talk about choosing subjects. A representative from Ayrshire College was there and

spoke about the success of apprenticeships. Greenwood's Fraser Wallace was Foundation Apprentice of the Year and Apprentice of the Year in Scotland. A great achievement for our first pupil, Fraser is now earning as he is learning with GE Engineering.

- Greenwood Gatherin' – This event organised by Greenwood Events Management (GEM) is being held on 30<sup>th</sup> January at 4:30pm in the Atrium. As a result of organising three upcoming events the pupils receive an SQA Leadership Award.
- Princes' Trust and DYW – The new executive of the Princes Trust said she was highly impressed with the work being done at Greenwood. The DYW Model being used in Ayrshire is being looked at to roll out to the whole country. Three cheques were received for various projects. Vocational options as well as academic are feeding into the 15-24 Learner Journey.

#### **5. Any Other Business**

- Mr Gilbert asked about S2 choices this term. C McGuire explained that a Briefing Night will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> February for S2 and Guidance staff will move this forward with pupils after this event.
- Different topics were discussed for next meeting. Suggestions were Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and Campus Police role.

#### **6. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Next meeting to be held in School on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 @ 6.30pm.