

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 12th March 2020, 2pm

In attendance:

Lynette Searle (Headteacher)
Michelle Browne (Deputy Head Teacher)
Serena Lee
Lisa Frensham
Joeleen Lefevre
Amanda Hayward
Sarah Corless
Naseer Ahmed

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

LS welcomed all attendees to the meeting and shared apologies from Gary Richardson and Jennifer Brown

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
To agree the minutes of the last meeting and follow up actions

All attendees agreed the minutes of the last meeting to be an accurate reflection of the matters discussed previously.

3 PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS
How can we encourage more contributions to non-uniform days etc?

LS explained that we have a lot of non-uniform days where parents are asked to contribute £1 either for charity or for the PTA. Although nearly every child comes to school in non-uniform, only about half of them are bringing the £1 donation. JL suggested doing what secondary schools do – paying for the non-uniform days at the start of the year on squid. It was raised that this could be difficult to monitor and NA felt that this might cause complaints as some parents might feel as if they are having their arm twisted to contribute. He suggested paying in advance direct to the class teacher for each non-uniform day and keeping a record of who had not paid. However, it was felt that this would be hard to manage as children might say they've lost the money or might say they've paid when they hadn't. It was discussed that there has been a better response since staff members stood on the gate and 'shook' the bucket to encourage people to contribute but as staff members are often busy talking to parents there are many children who slip by without contributing. It was suggested that we have parent volunteers who man the gates with buckets so that the staff members are free to deal with queries in the morning.

ACTION: AH and NA volunteered to man the gates for tomorrow's Sports Relief day.

4 BEHAVIOUR
How can we change the children's perceptions of behaviour?

LS explained that we have been carrying out a pupil questionnaire, similar to the Ofsted parent questionnaire, and that so far the main concern was that children perceive the behaviour in the school to not be good. This is because there are one or two children in each class who get into trouble and the rest of the class are seeing this as behaviour as a whole not being good. JL suggested running a behaviour class for repeat offenders but it was decided that this would not address the problem of children perceiving behaviour to be poor. We discussed how some children are seen to not be 'told off' the same as the rest of the children

because they have different needs – a lot of children see this as not fair. LF pointed out that it's hard for children to understand this when a lot of adults don't understand this. LS explained that we use our PSHE lessons to try and address this but agreed that children find it very hard to understand that some children need to be dealt with in different ways. Consensus was that parent's perception of behaviour is good so it is the children that we need to address. LS will be carrying out assemblies to try and improve the children's perception.

ACTION: LS will carry out a series of assemblies on behaviour in our school, demonstrating the fact that it is a very small minority of children who are not behaving well in the school.

5	RESULTS OF OFSTED QUESTIONNAIRE
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LS shared the results of the Ofsted online questionnaire. It was a great success having the laptops available at parents evening as we now have 157 responses as opposed to 30 responses before parents evening. The results are very positive and the school is very pleased with the results. SEND was the only question that was not so favourable. LF suggested meeting all families of SEND children and talking through how they feel about their child's provision with them. This might improve their answers online.

ACTION: Meet with parents of SEND children

6	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
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Concerns about the Corona Virus were raised and the possibility of the school being closed. LS explained that as soon we are told anything then the parents would be informed. LS asked if we have to close if they tell us to and LS explained that, yes we would have to. LS explained that we would give work for children to do online i.e. Bug Club reading books, Mathletics and online tasks but that there would be no sheets of work sent home for children to complete.

7	DATE OF NEXT MEETING
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The next Parent Council meeting will take place on Thursday 30TH April at 2pm

ACTIONS SUMMARY	
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1	AH and NA volunteered to man the gates for tomorrow's Sports Relief day
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2	LS will carry out a series of assemblies on behaviour in our school, demonstrating the fact that it is a very small minority of children who are not behaving well in the school.
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3	Meet with parents of SEND children
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