

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

9.10am, Friday 1st February 2019

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from Hannah (Yr R), Rachel (Yr 3), Dawn (Yr 4), Miranda (Yr 5) and Samantha (Yr 6). All classes were represented, with the exception of Yr 6. Year 1 currently requires a second rep.
2. Minutes of Last Meeting/Matters Arising
Minutes were agreed. Most actions have been carried out.
Mrs Lonie to work on behaviour policy summary for the website and use of Twitter.
3. Communication – how we listen and respond to parents/Facebook
How are the Facebook pages going?

The group reviewed how the Facebook group pages are working. This is inconsistent according to year group. Year 1 seem to have a well-used system of communication but take-up of other year groups is low.

Action: Mrs Lonie to add a link to the groups on the new website. Parents will still need to sign up via the school to ensure the acceptable use agreement is signed.

4. Fundraising Group – how to support/update/parent projects
Sarah and her team continue to work away, planning events.
To come this year:
Family Bingo on Friday 8th February – uptake so far is low
Dunorlan Valentine Cake Sale – 14th February
PTA meeting – all parents welcome – 7th March 7.30pm The Compasses
Easter Discos and Bonnet Parade with games and activities – 29th March 3.15pm – 5pm
Summer Fair – June TBC

The team have been working on the idea of a festival themed fair and will be revisiting the idea at the meeting on 7th March – please join to share ideas and offer links to bands.

The group revisited the idea of a clearer target for fundraising – both in terms of what the money is for and how much is being raised.

Action: Sarah and Mrs Lonie to ensure these factors are shared with parents. Quotes are currently being sought for projects needed for school.

The group also revisited parent help days, as done before. Uptake has been disappointing in the past but when there is a project underway, Mrs Lonie will be asking for parent power to support.

5. Main Item: New Version of School Website

What do parents like about it?

What content should remain?

What would parents like changed? Why and how?

Any other comments

Mrs Lonie had been emailed by one Yr 6 parent to share ideas and the Yr 3 rep came with many useful ideas for improvement.

The group agreed that the calendar was the most useful part and that although information is there for upcoming dates, that this is clunky and involves links and would be better if put into the main calendar.

There was also an agreement that the current website is better on computers than phones but that these days, the phone is the tool most used. This will be taken into account when planning the new version.

There was also a discussion around statutory information and the need to keep pages brief and to the point.

Action: Mrs Lonie now has some really useful feedback and will use these ideas to formulate the updated version in the coming months.

6. A.O.B

- i) Year 1: Parents have shared their thoughts on the current topic on Victorians. Children do not seem as engaged in their home learning tasks as usual. Parents

wonder how much of the topic is being covered in class this term. The pupils did not seem to receive their certificates last term and need reinvigorating over the exciting tasks on offer. The rep also suggested it would be worth revisiting the value of home learning with parents and going through the tasks with pupils when they are given out to encourage engagement.

Action: Mrs Lonie to share this with Year 1 teachers and ask all teachers to ensure that tasks are explained at the beginning of a topic and links made throughout the term in lessons. Mrs Lonie also to provide a 'top tips' for home learning to support parents and request that Year 1 teachers make a note of this on the curriculum review for next year.

- ii) Parents asked if the school had started the 'daily mile'. Mrs Lonie confirmed it had been launched a couple of weeks ago by Mr Neill. It was suggested that Mr Neill write to parents to explain what it is, its value and how it will look at BWD.

Action: Mr Neill to write an explanation to parents about the 'daily mile' this term.

- iii) A parent expressed that the recent parentmail regarding music tuition at school had sounded exciting but that the communication between the music lead and office had led to mixed messages. Mrs Lonie confirmed that this had been true and would be addressed to ensure the process runs smoothly.

Action: Mrs Woods to ensure that the office understand the procedure for pupils signing up for music lessons.

Next Meeting: 9.10am on Friday 22nd March