

Agenda with Minutes
Hamstel Infant School and Nursery Parent Council

Meeting Date: Wednesday 07th February 2024 **Time:** 9.00am

Venue: Hamstel Infant School and Nursery

Name	Class	Present/ Absent
(VT) Vicki Tracy	Chair – Vice Principal	/
(SR) Scott Roche	Principal	
PARENT COUNCIL MEMBERS:		
	Seahorse	
	Starfish	
	Owl	
Ms J Herald	Woodpecker	
Ms H Halliday	Woodpecker	
Ms L Fisher & Ms R Fisher	Kingfisher	
Ms M Sadowski	Kingfisher	
Ms M Whipps	Peacock	
Mrs P Webster	Dragonfly	/
Ms S Ellis	Duck	
Ms L Fisher	Duck	
Ms Carter	Duck	
Mr M Driscoll	Heron	/
Ms K Harling	Newt	
Ms K McCrae	Otter	/
Ms K Riley	Otter	
Ms L Walter	Otter	
Ms K Loads	Fox	
Ms E Lynne	Fox	
Ms L Dabson	Hedgehog	/
Ms R Fisher	Squirrel	
Ms S Gilbert	Squirrel	
Ms J Lewin	Squirrel	

Apologies: L Walter, M Whipps	
Actions from last meeting:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To send out some information about the proposal of cuts to Southchurch Library – Completed, a letter with information was sent. Haven't heard anything else about the proposal recently. School Council not going to look at the moment. To look into QR codes to be sent home in Year 1 to support phonics – VT to speak to VB – Completed, Year 1 now have QR codes. To provide a follow up resource from the Maths workshop for Year 1 parents to help at home. – spoken to NG (Maths Lead) to follow up in new year VT to investigate the option of parents viewing swimming lessons – spoken to Juniors – unfortunately we are unable to watch the swimming lessons currently VT to ask the office to add parking reminders to newsletters and talk to school council – completed, but will ask Office to continue with reminders on a regular basis Provide option of telephone conversations as well as face to face at Spring Term Parents Evening and future meetings – shared and to be actioned for spring term Speak to VB as Early Years Lead about copies of the letters to Father Christmas going home next year as well – spoke to VB to consider this next year Share with Office feedback about school individual photos – spoke to office Send out further guidance about home learning – to be completed VT to work with SLT to organise and send out information linked to behaviour systems and rewards in the school so parents understand them and the language we use – to be completed Future curriculum meetings will share information about behaviour systems and rewards and the language we use in school – summer term action 	
AGENDA	
1) Healthy Smiles – Birthday Sweets – Carys Golding to join	Miss Golding joined the Parent Council today and spoke about Healthy Smiles. Miss Golding explained that as a school we would like to work towards getting our Healthy Smiles award, Southend has been highlighted as one of the worst areas for oral health. 300 referrals a month go to the dentist for children under 5 with poor oral hygiene. Miss Golding explained that she had joined the School Council to ask for their views on not bringing in sweets for Birthday

	celebrations and the children do something else instead. The ideas were shared that the children at School Council had come up with, the School Council were very positive and are going to take the ideas back to their classes and explore any other ideas. The Parent Council agreed that children having a voice with the outcome of the decision of what to do instead of giving out sweets was felt that this was the best way forward, so everyone was supportive of the decision within the school community.
1) Behaviour Policy – ARC, Zones of Regulation, Dojo's, Consequences	VT explained that as a school we have been reviewing our Behaviour Policy. VT explained briefly the ARC strategy (ask, remind, consequence), that we will be implementing the zones of regulation across the school (colours linked to emotions), we have reviewed how we use the Dojo system to give rewards and we have reviewed the different stages of behaviour linked to consequences. Once this has all be finalized, we will be creating parent friendly leaflets of information.
2) Dojo at home system, how is working for parents in KS1 since it was launched in January?	Parent Council felt it was a good platform that the children really enjoyed using, being able to communicate with her peers in a safe way and they love the characters. Some classes, particularly in Year 2 have shared some information reminders for the children which has been helpful. As a school could we provide more information about the expectations of what / how to use it for home learning? VT gave a brief explanation about the purpose of it, and stated it's not an extra thing to do or a place where more homework will be provided. Children can upload their spelling work, or anything they would like to share linked to topics, achievements. However sometimes teachers may share some learning the children have carried out that week and if the children want to practice something a bit more, than they can.
3) Handwriting focus as a school, any guidance for parents needed?	No, parent council are happy with the information given in Reception. The KS1 children are very good at being 'critics' of the parent's handwriting at home!
4) Visits and events – new parent leaflet to sign when volunteering to say they agree to our expectations when out with the children and safeguarding information is shared.	Parents agree that this is a good idea.
5) Reminders about some key events coming up in the Spring term – The Hive, Book Week, Parents Evening, Southchurch Library Visits, Nursery Easter Crafts, Parents invited to Yr1 Number in Mastery sessions, Year 2 Banquet, Year 1 End of Spring Show	VT shared the dates as reminders.
6) Further reminders about our enrichment curriculum events payments – e-mail / poster.	Parents agreed this would be helpful as it was a while ago the events information as first shared.
AOB Raised by Parent Forum:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dojo's – there is a dojo called 'test' in a year 1 class – has more Dojo's than the children, could this be deleted? • Spelling passports – not always looked at – stamps are not being given out weekly – the recognition for the children • Class Mascot – alphabetical order in a class, this doesn't feel a fair way of doing it? • Year 1 Reading Rocks Day was excellent – thank you! • Class Mascot – book has got lost in a year 1 class, could it be replaced? • Could you share on the Dojo System – Class Mascot responses from the weekend? • There seems to be classes opening doors at different times, there is a class that always seems to be the last the door– late by 5 minutes – 20 past – in the mornings – not always open until 8.35am • Maths / Football events for example – how are the children being picked? • Update on the PTA – can we send out some information again – VT suggested that the PTA could have a spot on the newsletter and will speak to the Office about this • Pick up times – can it be opened up between 3.10pm and 3.20pm instead of just having 5minues at 3.15pm, this is very challenging when have 3 children across the schools to pick up at the same time, the children don't like being the last one in the classroom waiting 	
Actions:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VT to share with SLT and discuss the areas raised by Parent Council • Minutes to be shared with staff and parents • A letter with be sent out by Miss Golding when we launch the decisions behind the Healthy Smiles initiative and Birthday sweets • VT to include information about use of Dojo Platform with further guidance about Home learning • Curriculum Events information and reminders to be re-sent out 	

- VT to speak to any staff about particular issues that have been raised
- VT to speak to Office about a spot on the newsletter for the PTA
- To share the new agreed date for the next Parent Council meeting – **Wednesday 20th March 2024**

Actions carried over:

- Send out further guidance about home learning – **to be completed**
 - VT to work with SLT to organise and send out information linked to behaviour systems and rewards in the school so parents understand them and the language we use – **to be completed**
- Future curriculum meetings will share information about behaviour systems and rewards and the language we use in school – **summer term action**

Date of next meetings:

- Wednesday 20th March 2024
- Wednesday 22nd May 2024
- Wednesday 03rd July 2024