

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Friday 25th January 2019 – 9.00am Staff Room

Present: Jane Stacey (Squirrel); Faye Roberts (Fox); Joanne Crawley (Badger); Nina Kirby-Deboux (Swan); Hannah Goodliff (Heron); Kerry Phillips (Frog); Debbie Morris (Chair); Laurie Soane (Clerk).

Apologies: Lee Dawson (Hedgehog); Rahil Butt (Otter); Saadia Choudhury (Dragonfly); Mathula Aravindan (Duck); Kingfisher; Owl; Woodpecker; Peacock.

PARENT COUNCILLOR AGENDA ITEMS

1. How do the school council feel about Faye Roberts representing two classes? **The Parent Council had no objections.**
2. The parents found it helpful to have a list of useful dates at the beginning of last term. Please could they have another list for this term? **Yes**
3. Parents are finding Open Classroom a really helpful insight into what the children are doing and are achieving each week, and into the methods of teaching being used. However, some parents are missing the weekly year group newsletters, which covered words/sounds learnt, maths topics covered and which books they had been doing their work on. (Open Friday does not cover every aspect each week, only selected work). **There are year group based I can advise the year group leads that parents are still wanting that info shared DM will get back to PC about what teachers have available to put on. One parent asked could there be another stand-alone day every so often e.g. a Tuesday 9.00am for Open House if parents can't make it on a Friday.**
4. As the Tapestry accounts are not used in Year 1, a blog for the class was going to be set up. Is this still going ahead? Or is dBPrimary the replacement? **YES through DB primary – will liaise with Computing lead to follow through**
5. Could parents have a direct email for the class teacher? To discuss important, urgent or sensitive things for those that don't (or do) make the school run. If not, could there be an alternative, simple method of communicating for this purpose? DbPrimary? **Parents can request meetings through the office the school doesn't share direct staff emails with parents teachers can only access**
6. Parents are concerned about the parking in the roads surrounding the school at the beginning and the end of the school day, particularly South Avenue, Central Avenue and Poynings Avenue. People stopping/parking on double yellow lines, across driveways, on pavements. Parents are concerned for the safety of their children and for the inconvenience that this causes for the local residents. Has any progress been made on tackling this issue? There was talk at previous Parent Council meetings about us getting signs/life size cut outs of children to go along some of the yellow zig-zags on Poynings and that this was something that the School Council could get involved in? **DM will look into how far those plans got. One parent asked if the School Council could get involved to design some posters to be displayed outside.**
7. Parents feel that the children are enjoying swimming and it is such a great opportunity for them to learn an important skill. However, there are some concerns about cleanliness and safety in the changing rooms. There is no non-slip mat in the corridor now, the floor is slippery, the taps and sinks are too high and the children can't operate them. There are concerns about the cleanliness of the floors. **DM Having done a RA of the pool area and had a pool committee meeting the same cleanliness and maintenance issues have been raised and are scheduled to be addressed on a weekly basis, with a deep clean planned for Half term Feb. One parent reported that there has been no liquid soap in the changing rooms and now the alcohol gel has run out. Could there be a log book in the swimming pool reception area to report things.**

AOB

1. Reading certificates seem to be inconsistent between classes and children. The same was felt with homework. It is not always recognised in class that it has been done which in turn may disillusion parents to support it further. Again experiences vary between classes.
2. Weekly newsletters have stopped which for some parents prove a vital way of finding out what their children do each week especially in Reception. Parents accepted that they are time consuming to produce but would like a simplified method of knowing their children's words and song for the week so they can support them.
3. One parent asked if Tapestry in Reception could be more personalised to the individual child.
4. One asked if DB Primary is used in Reception. **DM said no. The school were moving away from DB Primary, however the licence had to be renewed. There was another programme that was**

being investigated which is still ongoing. There have been technical issues since Christmas because the Council have undergone a new server which has affected schools in particular internet connection and security.

5. Clubs – Is there a Year 2 Construction club and Science Club. Some children are not sporty so don't engage with other clubs. **At present no there isn't for this year group. DM to investigate.**
6. Kite Badges – what is the order! White, White, Blue. White, White, 2nd Blue. White, White, Gold. Parents reported the Kite Stickers work well!
7. Smartie Challenge. One parent felt this was not well thought out. It sends out the wrong message using chocolate and 20p's in a smartie tube amount to quite a bit of money.

SCHOOL AGENDA ITEMS

1. School council photo of members - **Friday 1st March – 9.00am.**
2. Parents who expressed an interest in becoming a school Governor – **More information to follow.**
3. Proposed dates for E-safety workshop – **5/2/19 E-Safety Day. The Computing Coordinator is waiting to hear back regarding dates for workshops. Parents asked if it was ever possible to have joint workshops with the Junior School.**
4. Ways to remind parents about kits and no earrings – **There are a lot of parents who send their children in with no swimming kits on a regular basis. Children have to borrow and the washing machine is used up to 3 times a day. Different strategies were discussed on how to encourage parents to send in swimming kit as it is at a cost to the school to keep washing them. It was discussed whether children should miss swimming because of no kit, however this may not deter parents. The Parent Council also felt it was unfair that some children are spoken to about not having kit when it is not their responsibility.**
5. Healthy school representative – a parent – **DM spoke to the Parent Council about this, Joanne Crawley expressed an interest.**

Parent Council Photos Friday 1st March – 9.00am

Next Meeting: Friday 29th March 2019 – 9.00am.