

## Parent Council Meeting Minutes

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – 9.00am Staff Room**

Present: Hannah Goodliff (Heron), Rahil Butt (Otter) Jane Stacey (Squirrel); Faye Roberts (Fox/Peacock) Kate McCrae (Duck) Debbie Morris (Chair); Tina Watty (Clerk).

Apologies from –Kerry Phillips (Frog) Joanne Crawley (Badger); Saadia Choudhury (Dragonfly); Nina Kirby Deboux (Swan)

### **Parent Council agenda**

#### **School items**

1. Newsletter layout – how does it read on devices  
Most parents are able to view the Newsletters on their devices, however, there have been issues viewing the monthly newsletters especially with background colour/pictures becoming distorted. We encourage parents to continue to feedback any issues to us regarding this. Parents are happy with the content of the weekly newsletter although some dates are conflicted. DM to ensure that correct dates are on correspondence, newsletter and website.
2. PSHE policy  
This is changing for 2020. DM will send out details in the coming weeks.
3. Volunteer reading assistant  
Currently we have reading assistants and some midday staff who listen to children read in class. We welcome Parent volunteers that may like to listen to children in the future as not all children get the opportunity to read at home. HG suggested volunteers to also read stories to the children. DM advised DBS checks would be necessary when individuals working alone with child. DBS must be kept up to date and if a volunteer is not regularly visiting the school over a set period then a DBS will need to be done again.
4. Unsuitable footwear  
DM asked for suggestions regarding unsuitable footwear especially for girls. Discussed best approach to make it a RULE that children must wear closed toe footwear, with strap to support heel. No flipflops or sliders to be worn. DM to reissue advise to parent via Parent mail or Newsletter.
5. Sainsburys Active kids Holiday club - £7.50 per day. Book online  
Club to be run throughout the Summer Holidays. Excellent value. Only £7.50 per day to include lunch, activity and snack. Many parents have already booked onto take advantage of this fantastic offer and limited places still available.
6. Swimming - charged from next year £26 per year or £10 per term  
Due to an increase in the spread of Bacteria within the Swimming pool area, it has been necessary to make improvements to the swimming pool changing rooms, showers, storage and general maintenance of the area to rectify this issue. Therefore, with effect from the next Academic Year it will be necessary to charge £26 per year for swimming lessons payable in a lump sum or monthly. Please keep in mind that other Swimming schools charge @£86 for a 12-week course, so this is still a low charge to ensure the pool is maintained to continue all year-round usage for the children in all Years.
7. Sport day – parents will not be allowed to bring snacks or drinks for children

Reiterate to parents that no food or snacks are to be bought into the school on sports day. A polite reminder will be posted on classroom doors for parents.

## Parent items

### Heron

- Scooters
- A reminder to parents that children must take care using scooters and bikes on school premises as there have been some collisions and accidents. DM to reiterate to parents on the next newsletter, signs for outside will be investigated
- Lost property
  - Depending on where the property is e.g. is it in school or has it been taken home by another child by accident, or where found and at what time of day it can prove difficult to return items to classes even for named clothes, if parents revisit the lost property box over a few days as items are identified they are either taken to a class but more than likely the items are taken to lost property for retrieval. When named items are returned to the office these are returned to child as soon as possible.
- Reading passports and reading record – checking and signing
- DM will raise at staff meeting.
- Names of staff with photos on website/school entrance
- Parents have asked if we can have staff names on photos on website and entrance. DM advised not at the moment, staff pictures have been used to create fake profiles – will enquire about group year group, team photos going forward.
- Parent mail payments
  - Some parents receive notification of trip and go to pay but item not showing straight away. Parents then often forget to pay as no further notification is received to pay DM -Will pass in to the office concerns – please encourage parents to let the school know what difficulties they have with any payments they try to make so that Parent mail can be made aware
- Parent involvement in school with fundraising events future
- Not all fundraising events can be opened up to parents due to space, timing and having enough staff to man the crowd as well as the children - staff are aware and will try to include some events through the year where parents can come and support, but unfortunately there will still be some, where that may not be possible. Continue to support Red Nose day, Jeans for Geans day and hope to support others when possible.

### Celebrations

- Trips are really good
- Race for life amazing event
  - Parents felt this event really involved the children and they enjoyed collecting sponsors. It helped those children that have never been part of such an event previously. They loved receiving a medal for their efforts. An amazing £8553 raised!!!!!!!
- Variety of food at lunchtime is good
  - Parents asked when they will get an opportunity to come and Eat with their children. DM advised the next event will be for Parents of reception as they have not experienced this yet.
- Open house Friday - working well

## Fox

- Conflicting dates on newsletter
- Continue to encourage parents to let office know so that mistakes can be rectified
- Could the junior club run after 5pm?
- Please share your ideas with the juniors, junior and infant clubs are led by teams in each school. Discussions apparently in place to extend to 6pm but this is dependent on staffing and other issues.
- Do the children know who will be involved in the Lego robotics club? –
- The children have already been identified by the year group lead; they will be told closer to the time. Some clubs or specific groups of children are selected on their abilities. Consideration to be given on how this is advised to the children to avoid upset or confusion as to why others may not have been chosen and notifications on newsletters etc.

## Celebration

- Parents like the weekly lunch menu and upcoming dates

## Peacock

- The junior club - will it run every day? and what time is it from and to?
- Please direct your queries and share your ideas with the juniors, junior and infant clubs are led by teams in each school
- Reminder about parents watching children swim
- Swim teacher is off this week, I have left a message with her she will get back to me soon
- Food waste recycling in school
- We now have new bins in all classes to separate food/plastic/cardboard etc. This is working well, and we are still looking into further improvements

## Swan

- Sunday night posts on FB
- DM will share this with the Office and PORTICO media team to see if there is an alternative option. Do we still need to update Facebook as other platforms seem to be sufficient? The late Sunday update sometimes confuses parent if information is not updated correctly to that in newsletters and no contact in office at this time to clarify.
- Layout of newsletter doesn't read well – background colour
- DM will share this with the Office and PORTICO media team to see if there is an alternative option, and will also propose is it limited to a particular device
- Parent being told about change of staff or new adults in class
- The school tries to maintain consistency and would aim to have a teacher or teaching assistant in the class that the children are familiar with. DM could send out a parent mail note that informs parents of students and volunteers in the class. Notices can be put on class doors to advise parents of changes.
- Can there be a reception lunch?
- Yes, Year group lead has said yes, DM will look into arranging that for week beginning 8th July need to confirm with Wellbeing manager the logistic

## Frog

- Update on school blog status from y1 as there is no tapestry
- DB primary no longer continuing didn't want to teach this system then change, Purple mash will be the new platform from September 2019, there are some permission set ups to arrange but second half of Autumn term will be the launch

## Duck

- Homework
- Can parents be given advise on homework completion as not always clear what is required. DM advised that children currently revising phonics for testing in the coming weeks. Videos on YouTube that can assist. Learning Key sounds.
- Costumes – Can costumes be donated to other parents/ organise costume rentals to avoid high costs to parents as not everyone can provide or afford these.

Thanks to Rahil Butt and Jane Stacey for your support this year as their children move up to the Juniors.

Debbie Morris  
Tina Watty