

Bunbury Aldersey CofE Primary School Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 30th January 2018

Present: Nicola Badger, Jen Duckett, Julie Sweet, Emma Knight, Helen Bennett, Jennifer Yates, Kathleen Carline, Julia Dancy, Lisa Williams, Caroline Nutall, Jo Tillet.

1. Apologies: Janine Fairclough, Lynne Dickens, Vanessa Quirk-Green, Simone Anderson
2. Minutes from the last meeting: accepted.
3. Head update:
 - Running track and MUGA have been out for quotes. It is hoped that work will start in the Spring term.
 - Oxford Reading have been auditing the schools book stock. They have quoted around £6k to replace KS1 stock. There will be a staged replacement based on priority.
 - Emotional health and wellbeing continues to be a focus area. Several staff members have been Health and Wellbeing First Aid trained to support pupils and staff.
 - Only 12 responses to the homework survey have been received - a reissue suggested. JD will also mention in the Parent Council Summary.
 - Maths and English remain a priority
 - This term each class has had a free choice for their English topic. There is likely to be a whole school topic again in the Summer term.
4. Outstanding actions: JD has yet to update the Parent Council page of the website.
5. Standard of Uniform: Reception polo shirts are expensive for the quality - bobble quickly, buttons break and they can't be tumble dried. Girls skirts also bobble very quickly.
Very recent change of shop owner
 - they already seem more responsive.
 - ties are now available to buy direct from school.
 - Hope to have online ordering soonBlazers are for KS2. 12 months have been allowed to introduce them. From September KS2 will be expected to wear them. This year's Y6 are exempt.
6. After-school provision:
 - Science Club - the assembly was a bit of a sales pitch, with children coming home wanting to participate. It is a great opportunity and broadens after-school provision but is more expensive. Parents have requested that the offer comes direct to them and is announced at the same time as the rest of

the terms' offer (some children had already paid up for Dodgeball which clashes with Science club).

- Netball provision - now encompasses YR - Y6. Quality is not as high. Older pupils are asked to teach younger pupils. KS2 children are starting to drop out.

7. Daily mile:

Is still happening - confirmed by NB

8. PE provision seems a bit mixed:

- More money has been given to schools to provide PE. This must also include training to staff to enable them upskill them to deliver PE. Sports Coaching North West (SCNW) are teaming up with teachers to provide PE lessons. PE classes are being rotated to enable staff to be trained up during SCNW's days on site.
- A wide range of physical activity must be provided eg dance, gymnastics, swimming, orienteering as well as skills and team building etc
- PE delivery to be reviewed at February half term and options investigated.

9. How are children picked for school teams?: Some classes seem to have the same / very similar teams for each sport. Some less sporty/competitive children still love to participate.

Various ways:

- Ask sports coaches
- Ask for class volunteers
- Encourage inclusivity by proposing less sporty individuals

Request more notice of after-school competition to enable lifts / replace children unable to attend.

10. Why is there no after-school football club currently?:

Clubs are rotated to ensure a range of activities to interest as many children as possible.

11. Sharpies damaging uniform:

NB will reiterate that art shirts should be used for arts activities.

12. Cities exhibition: Great exhibition. The effort put in by all involved is greatly appreciated.

13. Parents smoking at school gates:

NB will add a request for this to stop in the school newsletter.

14. Reporting of number plates: One parent who was reported was unsure why, and therefore not able to ensure they don't repeat the offence!

Generally those reported are on the Highlands, corners or opposite the yellow lines.

15. Mrs Gabriel: Parents are really happy to have Mrs Gabriel. She has a great tailored approach and its very clear what's expected of the children.
NB very pleased to hear positive comments.
16. Gate opening times: Seem to be a bit variable, can make it difficult for parents to get to work on time.
- Gate opening should be at 8.40am - NB will remind staff
 - Friday morning staff meeting can cause a delay
17. School dinners: Children complaining they don't like the new meals, story of sauce running out and plain pasta served. Some children love the new meals. Some children seem to be adjusting to the change and slowly growing to like it.
- Taste testing at cities exhibition went down well with parents
 - Staff do monitor what's not being eaten (children encouraged to eat if necessary, they have to ask before leaving the table or throwing out food) - issues with certain menu choices are raised if needed
 - There is now a new cook
 - Menu amendments are coming through
 - Items like 'hidden veg pizza' to be renamed!!
18. Why is there no Young Voices trip this year?:
- A lot of hours, effort and paperwork from teachers go into making trips like this possible.
 - Last year there were positive comments from parents but also some parent dissatisfaction eg whole school attendance, ticket cost, length of day for children.
 - It has been decided that the trip will run biannually - no decision yet on what basis.
 - The trip is a magical experience in the opinion of many parents.
- Suggestion that DBS-checked parents could volunteer to help support teachers with those pupils not attending the trip.
19. Christmas Carol Concert: Difficult to hear what was being said in church. Children really enjoyed it. Some parents really enjoyed it.
- Tried to include as many pupils as possible this year
 - The school stage couldn't accommodate all of the participating pupils
20. Bags being hidden: Since being raised as an agenda item it has been noted that school have brought this up in assembly and the issue has improved. The remaining isolated incidents are also being tackled.
21. Star / Fruit of the Spirit: Some children in Y4 getting 2 awards before other have received 1.

- A folder with a record sheet for each class ensures this is monitored. NB reported numbers of pupils receiving each award.
- All pupils in the class will receive an award by the end of the school year.

22. Y5 Homework diaries: seem to have gone. Pupils just get loose sheets, no feedback received. Could homework be handed out earlier in the week eg Mon / Tues for return Mon?

- NB wants to ensure consistency in homework schedule / provision
- However change won't be instigated until the parent survey has been reviewed to ensure parent responses are considered in any changes going forward.

Miss Stewart sets nice / constructive homework.

Seems clearer that only one homework option should be completed.

23. Music for Life: Piano pupils aren't making obvious progress / improvement. Guitar teacher has missed a number of sessions. Recent letter unclear for new parents - cost, types of instruments, times of lessons, individual sessions / group?

- Provision is supposed to encourage a taste / passion for music rather than academic progression.
- Company used to come out to promote and explain the sessions to parents.
- NB to request better promotion/info for parents

24. YR teacher in September: to cover Mrs Brown's maternity leave.
Options are being explored.

25. Finding Class pages: very tricky from a mobile
Much easier from a PC

26. Flashing lights on 20mph sign: sign on A49 end of School Lane not working. First reported to the office in October. They have chased but still not repaired.

27. Ingestre Hall trip: was brilliant.
NB will look to repeat if possible.

28. AOB:

Apologies from NB for the last meeting date.

Janine Fairclough will be stepping down as a member and Secretary. Madeline Jones will replace her as year representative

29. Next meeting date: Generally to be third Tuesday of each half term at 3.15pm.
20 March 2018. Edit - change of proposed date to 13th March ref NB.

