

## Minutes of Parent Council Meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Attendees; Julie Howlett, Stephanie Fuller, Jade Hart, Laura Marchant, Mrs Woodbine (HT) and Paul Harrison (Chair of Govs)

Apologies: Laura Granados and Marie Henderson

1. Julie welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was confirmed that everyone was happy with the minutes of the previous meeting. Actions from the last meeting were briefly reviewed.

2. **Sun Safety/shade/hydration policies and practices** – Mrs Woodbine described how children have free access to their water bottles in classes. On sunny days, sun cream should be applied at home before school. Then a named sunscreen can be kept in school for application before or during lunch. Named sun hats and sunglasses are recommended but optional. Mrs Woodbine described how on very hot and sunny days, KS1 children are sometimes moved to a shadier area at the back of the school for play/lunch play.

Mrs Woodbine said that the school holds the 'SunSafe' certification. She said that she would ensure the Sun Safety policy and procedures are uploaded to the school website and that reminders/prompts sent out in the Weekly, as appropriate.

3. **KS1 dismissal procedure and car park safety update** - Mrs Woodbine said that school has had ideas for improvement and would trial and potential changes to start in the new academic year. She described how parents would be invited to a 'Meet the Teacher' meeting with their child's new teacher in July, before the start of the next academic year, where entrance and exit procedures will be outlined and clarified, along with any other changes and questions about the new academic year that parents may have. This is a change from previous years, as feedback from parents showed a mid-September 'Meet the teacher' meeting was too late to be meaningful and useful.

4. **Pot-hole and 'Langafel Lake' update** - The subject of the 'Langafel Lake' on Gorsewood Road was also discussed. The school's soakaway has been assessed as being of adequate capacity for the school's needs, but the problem stems from inadequate soakaways from other properties on the road, which is unadopted. Mrs Woodbine confirmed that Gareth Johnson, the local MP, was supportive of the school's plight and is on the case. Residents and a couple of parents have also written to the MP about the situation and we will just keep on keeping on the case.

The pot-holes and dips in the car park at the front of the school was also raised by Jade on behalf of SLIC parents. Mrs W confirmed that quotes have been obtained to fix these areas and this will be done this financial year.

5. **Reading Rewards and books at KS1 update** – Mrs W reported that stickers are definitely going out weekly (for those children who have read at least 3 times that week). Parents may not see these as some children put them on a chart in class, others wear them and might lose them and so on, but parents should ask their

children where their sticker is each week! Mrs W also said that the reward books are ready to go out to the most frequent readers each term, either in the last week of each term or the first week of the next term, so look out for the announcements!

6. **Parental feedback on reading progress** – Steph queried why the ‘expected progress’ arrows within a year group were in different places in the last Rainbow tracker sent home and described how it made her question the system’s usefulness, fitness for purpose and integrity. Mrs W described how the error was made in transferring data on different computer systems but did apologise and agree that the human error that led to the problem should not have happened as it will affect parents’ trust in the information they are being given.

Mrs W then outlined how, *following parental feedback in the communication survey and from Parent Council*, there are some changes to both the tracker and the way progress will be communicated with parents in the next academic year. The headline changes are:

\* the Meet Your Child’s Teacher meeting will now take place in July, ahead of entry to the new academic year, so that parents feel fully informed from the start of the new academic year.

\* there will be two Parents’ Evenings a year, the first to take place at the beginning of October and the second in Term 4

\* the Rainbow Tracker is being constantly tweaked and is a work in progress: the ‘expected’ progress arrows were added this year, and next year, the tracker will split-up progress in ‘English’ into separate Reading and Writing strands, to give more specific and useful feedback to parents.

Parental feedback has been and will continue to be important in regard as to how effective progress feedback is, so parents need to continue to talk with school and Parent Council so this improvement process can be supported.

7. **Attendance reward vouchers – clarification** – Mr Taylor visited to explain the system and school’s efforts in improving attendance in more detail. Each pupil who manages 100% for a week gets a mini-certificate/token which goes into a prize draw box, which will be drawn at the end of every term. 4 children/families in the attendance draw at the end of the term will win a £30 Bluewater voucher. The more weeks a child attends for 100% of the time, the more certificates/tokens (or entries) they get into the draw, and therefore, the more chance they have of winning the prize!

The usual FLO visits to and meeting persistent absentees and their parents are continuing to take place as usual, and the publishing of class attendance figures on the Weekly for parents to see is helping parents feel in touch and accountable for getting their child/ren to school.

- 8 **Grounds Enhancement Idea for project based on ‘Only One You’ book** -. Steph outlined an idea for a rock painting project based around a book with the message that everyone is unique and special in their own way and we should celebrate all that makes us different and special. PC thought that a bright, rock-painted area by the

entrance of the school would cheer up the school grounds no end and send a powerful message about what we believe about each other here, at the same time. Julie shared some images from another school which has carried out such a project and Mrs W said that it was a great idea which would fit well into 'Neurodiversity Week', coming up in Term 6. Mrs W said she would pass the information on to Mrs Baldwin (SENDCo) who will look at how such an idea can be incorporated into the week.

9. **Recruiting 'Deputy' reps for each phase** - Both KS2 reps were not available to attend PC this week, meaning KS2 was not well represented. PC has grown in numbers as planned over the past year so now is a good time to recruit 'deputy' reps to step in when the 'main' rep is unavailable. Julie said she would ask for volunteers to be 'Deputy' reps in the minutes, next PC Digest and Mrs W said she would put out a request in the next Weekly. Interested people can email Julie as Chair or contact their relevant phase rep personally on the playground.

AOB – Jade mentioned that some children from SLIC who had attended the Y3/4 school trip this week found the noise on the journey quite a challenge to manage. Jade suggested that in future, the use of ear defenders might need to be considered as part of any trip's risk assessment and be provided for those children who might need it. Mrs W agreed this would be a simple thing to consider in future planning.

The meeting was closed at 3.02pm

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm.