

Parent Council Meeting Minutes
13th October 2023

Present:

Mrs.Higgs, Emily Keeley, Vicky Carter, Milly Carter, Elizabeth Evans, Francesca Gauntlett, Katherine, Emma Crump, Maddy Dominio, Sarah Woodsworth, Sinead Rodgers, Nessa Eversfield

Minutes: Emily Keeley

1. Reception parents have been very happy with Seesaw pictures and staff helping the children settle in. They would like more info on phonics and using reading records.

Action: Teachers to arrange a time for parents to come in and learn about phonics/Little Wandle

2. After school clubs

- Discussed being able to book before term starts
- Outside provider fell through just before term started
- Cost of clubs has increased due to requiring to pay the TA's and some outside agencies to run them.
- Teaching staff are also asked to run a club for at least one term a year.
- If a staff member is unable to run a club, the school will look at every option to bring other staff in to cover and if a club has no option than to be cancelled, they will always provide childcare.
- Discussed whether there could be more sport options for KS1, an outside provider will be organising a multi skills sports club for KS1 to start in January.

Action: Mrs. Higgs to organise clubs for next term in November to go out to parents before the end of term.

3. Year 1 settling in

- Year 1 found the first few weeks of term difficult as they had got used to being 20 in a class.
- Mrs. Higgs explained that they go to the hall in the morning as a year group and rotate activities, as a transition from reception.

4. Reading Army

- Acorns to commence after half term, once they are happy all children have settled in.
- Bluebell Class started reading army before half term.
- Awaiting DBS to come through for the parents of new starters.

5. Safeguarding

- Everyone who volunteers within school must read the safeguarding documents and policies and then sign that they have read them.
- Safeguarding documents are reviewed yearly.

Action: Mrs. Higgs to email all parents that have DBS for school the safeguarding document.

6. Lunches

- School has had meetings with other providers, none of them had availability.
- School has had meetings with CH&Co and KCC.
- A sandwich lunch option was being pursued which is no longer an option.
- Menu options will change after half term.

7. Children's access to their water bottles

- Each teacher has different rules as to when children can get a drink.
- Often the children can keep the water bottles on the floor next to their desk rather than on it.
- Children are able to fill their water bottles up when needed.
- Discussed ways to encourage children to drink water.

Action: A parent is going to complete a plan/diagram to then discuss with Mrs Higgs on ways to increase some children's water intake.

8. PE/Music

- Using Sports Premium to pay for outside PE coach.
- All children have PE lessons in their timetable.
- No funding for ukulele from KCC this year as they couldn't provide a teacher.

9. Sports events

- More practice of upcoming sporting events e.g tag rugby.
- Good feedback re recent hockey try-outs.
- Discussed knowing in advance when sporting events will occur.
- For some matches and tournaments, children will have the opportunity to try-out.
- Sometimes School are not informed of upcoming sporting events in a timely manner - sometimes children have to drop out of an event due to circumstances.
- Parents should to reply to Parentmail re children attending a sports event ASAP, especially if their child cannot take part.

Actions:

- a. School to inform parents about try-outs where possible.
- b. New PE coach to practise for sporting events with children.
- c. School to add sporting events to Key Dates, noting the number of children that will be going.

10. Sports Day

- Distance too far for some runners.
- Relays worked well.
- School received lots of positive feedback.
- Some parents felt there was lots of sitting around for some of the children
- Useful if parents had a list of events/Sports Day Programme
- Discussed having fun races for grown-ups to join in.

Actions:

- a. Milly Carter to liaise with school to produce a programme of events.
- b. Look into house colour bands/t-shirts.
- c. To look into fun races for adults that are safe.

10. Other

- Discussed having a welcome back to school message.
- It was felt that meet the teachers for Bluebell class was too late in the term as theirs was the Friday of week 2.
- It was decided that Parent Council meetings should be at the end of the school day.
- Discussed a 1-night sleepover option/camp-out for year 4 – staffing wise this is difficult but Mrs Higgs will discuss with teachers.
- Pothole in the lane is getting bigger, so as many people as possible contact KCC.
- Really useful that all homework and spellings are due in on a Friday.
- The children in KS1 loved the Indian Food to try.
- Year 4 homework spellings every week, Maths and English every other week.
- Reading journals for year 5 & 6 should have a minimum of 1 entry per week.
- Could homework books be used by all KS2 classes?
- Earlier drop-off was discussed - at the moment this is not possible.

Actions:

- a. Mrs. Higgs to discuss homework with staff – consistency and if it could be printed

Next meeting: 1st March, 2pm

Plan:

Each year group rep to send summary to year group.

Minutes to be added to website