

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: 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2pm**

Plan:

Each year group rep to send summary to year group.

Minutes to be added to website