

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING.

Date: 30.03.2022

Welcome and Apologies:

Kathy Nichol (KN), Mark Branskey (MB), Stephanie Dean (SD), Lesley Ross (LR), Isobel Harper (IH), Claire Rimmer(CR), Catherine Peacock (CP), Hollie Goodwin (HG).

Agenda Items:

1. Introductions
2. Look at and agree on the aims and rules of Parent Council. Nominate and agree a Chair and Secretary, if possible,
3. Share good news from parents.
4. Communication – clubs, trips and events list and looking at the use of social media
5. Any other business

1. Introductions:

It was explained that we are still missing a parent representative from Nursery and Year 5. Steph agrees to put some words together for PAWS after Easter.

It was agreed that a link to the Parent Council area of the website would be useful. Mrs Nichol agreed to put the link on the next issue of PAWS.

2. Aims and Rules of Parent Council:

Steph Dean went through the Aims of the Parent Council and Ground rules for Parent Council meetings.

Steph was voted in as Parent Council Chair and it was agreed that attendees would take it in turns to take the minutes as Secretary to spread the workload.

It was agreed that we would have at least three meetings per year (one per term), but more if necessary.

3. Good News:

Good News updates were direct feedback from individuals attending the PC meeting.

It was suggested that an update of the PC representation was publicised - perhaps in the PAWS newsletter so parents can have a contact(s) to direct their feedback to prior to the meetings.

Y3 Radio Broadcast – lots of enthusiasm around this.

Y6 Rivers trip – the behaviour of the children was amazing!

Science week in Y1.

Mr Branskey dressed as Professor Snape for World Book Day

Presentations organised by Mrs Watret for the Resource Provision children on Autism.

Reception - Gingerbread Walk – special mention for Mr Cooper

Reception - Naughty Bus Activities

Reception - Easter Bonnet Parade

It was felt by all that it would be nice to celebrate the WOW moments, and events going on in school through PAWS. Mrs Nichol said that she was reliant on staff to write articles and send them to her. She agreed that this needs to pick up again after the Pandemic.

4. Communication:

Do we have social media? Mrs Nichol said that Twitter has been set-up since September, but they need to make sure that all the staff are aware of the protocol before they go live as it is important everyone posts a similar amount of media. School is aware of the pitfalls of Twitter and they need to make sure it is done properly and not rushed.

They need to check the due diligence for other platforms, such as Instagram. The class web pages still continue to contain information.

Mrs Nichol explained that teachers do have iPads, but they are ageing and possibly not up to specification to allow teachers to post regularly. iPads were mooted as a possible fundraising idea for the PTA.

The aim for September is to return to providing parents with a clubs list with an overview of all the after-school clubs to allow them to plan ahead and save if applicable. Parent Council felt a fair system was needed so that all children get a chance of attending a club rather than all the pressure being put on the child to pick up a letter.

It was agreed that a termly events list allows parents to plan in advance and that the return of this system, now that more events are being planned, would be welcomed. Mrs Nichol said that school try to get them out ahead of the new term. The Council agreed that it is nice to see what is happening in other year groups too. Mrs Nichol agreed that it also helps staff, office staff and site staff too.

Parent Council mooted the idea of having a trip on a coach to act as a stepping stone for those year groups expected to go on a residential. Mrs Nichol explained that all trips have to be meaningful and enhance the Curriculum. They try to have a trip or an experience every term but these are normally local and normally free for the younger children to help with their Understanding of the World area of the curriculum. Now that Beeston is closed, the school has been researching alternatives to the residential for Y2 which will still help build resilience.

The current Friends of Puss Bank support trips, but if they were to ensure all trips went ahead by funding them, regardless of parental contributions, this would be all that Friends would work for. It is worth considering putting a % of fundraising into different pots. Parent Council feel it is important parents know what school are fundraising for. Mrs Nichol explained that there will be a parent questionnaire going out again next term, which would gauge parental opinion.

Any Other Business:

School Lunches - It was questioned whether school lunches have been running low of options. It was felt by Mr Branskey that there has been some confusion over the new menu, which asks children to choose a starter and a main or a main and a pudding, but there have been no issues when he has been in there. Mrs Nichol said she would check the canteen are not running out. Parent Council questioned

how lunches work. It was explained that teachers ask children what they would like in the morning (pre-order)when they do the register.

Website - It was felt by some that the website is hard to navigate. Mrs Nichol said school would welcome ideas on how to amend it/take things out etc.

Annual class mixes – this was raised in Any Other Business as a question.

Actions:

Action	By Whom	By When (suggested)
Write a persuasive article for PAWS to try and get a parent representative for Nursery and Year 5	SD	ASAP from 30.03.22
Type up the Parent Council meeting minutes and email them to Mr Branskey who can put the link on PAWS	CR/MB	ASAP from WC 25.03.22
Insert a link to the Parent Council area of the website on PAWS newsletter	KN	ASAP on receipt of the above action
KN to remind staff to write articles celebrating the WOW moments/celebratory events for PAWS	KN	Ongoing from 30.03.22
Events and after school clubs lists to be provided for parents in advance of the forthcoming term	KN	ASAP and Ongoing from Sept 2023
Check/confirm that the canteen are not running out of food and update at next PC meeting	KN	Update next PC meeting

Next Meeting - Date TBC