



PARENT COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING MONDAY 1ST APRIL 2019

Welcome and minutes of the last meeting

Apologies were received from Laura Carpenter (Chair), Hayley Thistlewaite, Marisa Nixon and Sinead Nelson.

Emma Briggs chaired the meeting on behalf of Laura Carpenter.

Present

Orla Andrew (parent), Urszula Funnell (parent), Giulia De Rosa GDR (Chair of Governors), Ruth Ali (Clerk to Governors) and Zoe Garbarz (staff).

Actions from previous minutes

EB worked through the list of actions from the previous minutes.

Parent Reps

EB has contacted the existing parent council reps and some have now stepped down due to other commitments. EB will update the new parent council rep list, terms of reference and invitation letter via the newsletter. Some photos of reps have been received, still waiting to receive a couple of more.

Action: EB to update the parent council rep list and ToR.

Flu Vaccination

It was queried in the last meeting if the school had any flexibility over the date that the vaccination is offered and if so could it be carried out the last day of term.

Action: ZG to speak to Mr. Beverton and provide an update in the next meeting

PING text service

The school have replaced the previous teachers2parents text service with PING. It will now be the only way the school will contact parents so it is important that parents download the app. It was acknowledged that some parents have raised the problem that messages are not immediate, or do not “ping” through. EB noted that when her phone is “full” messages do not come through immediately. There is a detailed list of FAQ which she will publish on the Facebook page and ask the office to add to the newsletter which will hopefully support parents if they experience any issues.

Action: EB to add to Facebook and ask the school office to publish the FAQ in the school newsletter.

Star writer / lunchtime awards

Parents have requested that they would like to be informed when their child is being awarded the Star Writer and the Lunchtime awards, as they do when their child is Star of the Week.

Action: ZG to speak to Mr. Beverton and find out if this is possible and provide an update in the next meeting

Parking petition update

Action: To bring to next meeting for further discussion.

Policy updates

ZG fed back to the meeting that the Homework policy has recently been updated. The policy now includes the additional advice that should parent/carers feel that the homework is not set at the right level they should contact their child(s) class teacher.

School development Fund (SDF)

Feedback from the governors was that there has been an increase in the number of families contributing. It was acknowledged that parents have a lot of information to absorb at the new parents evening and this might not be the best time to approach parents. EB suggested changing the format slightly of the new parents open evening, so is more interactive, for example, similar to a “market place” with stalls that parents can visit and ask questions.

Action: ZG/EB to take forward with Mr Beverton.

NEW BUSINESS

School Marketing

EB welcomed Ruth Ali, Clerk to the Governors to the meeting. Ruth and Giuila de Rosa, Chair of Governors, discussed how to market the school to showcase its unique selling points. It was felt that the marketing should include other aspects of the schools achievements as well as academic. For example, sports achievements, ROAR competition winners, good work with SEND and asking children for their feedback.

It was discussed that a small working group with the school governors would be set up to focus on marketing the school.

School Mass

It was raised by a parent via a rep that they felt there should be more regular church attendances during school time. It was unclear what was expected as neither parent or rep was present, however it was fed back that children attend mass at OLOL church once a term. Father Benny frequently visits the school and the children regularly visit the convent.

Year four swimming

As the parent rep was not present this item was deferred to the next meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Holiday Club

UF raised the idea of running a holiday club from the school during school holidays. It was felt that some children may prefer to go to OLOL for activity clubs rather than outside venues and it would also be a good source of income for the school.

Action: ZG/EB to discuss further with Mr Beverton.

Meeting Closed. Thank you to those that attended

Date of next meeting: A Friday to be confirmed.

If you would like to get in touch email parentcouncil@lourdes.brighton-hove@sch.uk or Facebook <https://m.facebook.com/groups/1849579305353769>