



Parent Council Minutes – 19/05/2023

Welcome and thank you for attending. Agenda passed around for parents to see.

The parent meeting was chaired by Trevor North, new Headteacher of the school.

Trevor firstly asked the parents to introduce themselves and asked if there were any initial questions they wanted to put to him and asked if any changes were required to the requirements of 'What will our Parent Council do?' Parents all agreed they had no questions and no changes required to be noted.

Nothing outstanding from the last meeting of 17th March to discuss.

Mr North discussed the matter of the new school reports that will be issued this year. Parents saw this as a positive thing as this was previously explained by Mr Johnson in the last meeting. Feedback will be welcome for the new year, Term1 in September. ACTION: PDF document of the new lay-out to be emailed to members of the parent council. Request Parent Feedback in Term 1.*****

Copy of work discussed, email to parent council (letter)

Dinner sizes were next up for discussion. Parents were claiming that their children were still going home hungry and complaining that their lunches were not enough. Mr North confirmed that he had seen the sizes of the meals and felt that they were actually bigger than the dinners supplied at his old school. Ingrid confirmed that the school will be trialling to have packed lunches in the hall and children will need to stay in for 15 minutes to encourage not only healthy eating but also to promote good table manners and socialising with each other in a dinner setting. Historically, if the children eat outside, too much of their packed lunch is thrown away or not eaten as they prefer to play.

Why does Topaz not get Golden Time on a Friday? Trevor said he would ask the class teacher and possibly review Golden Time for the whole school.

Changes to the arrangements around the signing in for external swimming lessons were questioned. Trevor explained that before he joined the school Loose had an external safeguarding review and as a result of this visit we needed to rethink the procedures for outside companies hiring our pool and facilities. It was deemed necessary for visitors to be accompanied by a member of the swimming staff company to the pool and back. Discussions have been made with Star Swim and it was agreed that the first evening appointment of 3.30pm each evening would not require a lanyard prior to collecting their child from a classroom and then to go swimming.

Puberty Talk for year 5 – parents will get to see the contents and Trevor North will action to check that this has been booked. *****

Trevor was asked about ways the children are praised for good behaviour etc. Apart from the Excellence Assembly each Friday he is wanting to encourage the praise given to children displaying the school values, PRIDE, DETERMINATION, COMPASSION, TRUST AND RESPECT. In September the children will be receiving stickers of either Gold, Silver or Bronze. This would be a much fairer way of praising the children and in turn it would encourage them to work harder towards either maintaining or improving on behaviour, as an example, and next time gain an improved sticker or award. In the meantime the introduction to this has been mentioned in the Newsletter dated 19th May 2023.

A parent raised the issue of changing reading books. This should be happening in the classrooms and parents are encouraged to speak with the class teacher if they feel this is not happening as regularly as required.

Management of unacceptable behaviour was questioned in the meeting. Mr North explained that the child would be encouraged to change their behaviour, take some time out of the classroom for a few minutes, join an alternative class within their year group or to leave the classroom altogether for the rest of the lesson. Class teachers have the support of SLT to manage unwanted behaviour and there are many processes in place should they need additional support.

Finally the group were privileged to receive a presentation from two representatives in year 6 of the Inclusion team who have been assisting with the awareness of Neurodiversity in the school. They explained that the Inclusion Team was set up with representatives from each year group to explain to children that some pupils' brains have a different way of seeing and understanding things to others. The reps can show support to these children and explain to others that they should not be singled out in any way. The parents felt this was a great idea and encouraged this further in the school.

The meeting was brought to a close at 3.15pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Friday 7th July 2023 in the Staff Room from 2.15pm for refreshments and meeting to start at 2.30pm.