

# Fibbersley Parent Council

## Minutes of Meeting

6<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Present:** C Boden ( Parent Governor and Vice chair of the Academy Council), N Duffy ( Parent Governor), K Sayers ( parent), V Baker ( parent), R Reid ( parent), J Silk ( parent) , Andrea Gomez

**Apologies:** D Mitchell (parent), L Cooper ( parent)

### Welcome/Introductions for new members

J Silk and a new parent were thanked for their presence at the meeting. D Mitchell sent apologies and a letter of resignation due to moving house and school.

### Feedback and Action Points

**Behaviour** – MC asked in the last meeting what we thought about the sanctions applied to the behaviour policy in school. MC asked us to consider if swearing should be included? What we thought of the ‘zones’? and to discuss sanctions for Homophobic and Racist language. There was substantial feedback sent to MC in the last meeting including a discussion regarding removal of some sanction levels, to make it clearer and that all language around personal characteristics should be include in the sanctions.

MC – Going to review the policy with staff, parents and academy council and create a new policy.

**Parents Evening Feedback** - MC was pleased that we liked the format of the at parent consultation. MC appreciated that parents didn't have an opportunity to look at the children's work books. The next Parent consultation has been split over two sessions, allowing more time per slot. Still utilising the hall space, parents will have time before the 10 minute slot to browse Maths and English books. Next year, the parent consultations will be calendared in line with the distribution of progress reports.

**Social Enterprise Letter** – MC Acknowledged the letter wasn't very clear and could have impacted on low turnout. She has asked the parent governors for suggestions.

**School Smell** – MC has had the area tested and although they don't know what is necessarily causing the smell in front of reception, there isn't any health risk.

**Club Arrears letter** – This is being amended as it was felt it was quite a strongly worded letter. These are automatically generated by Parent Pay but can be amended.

**Twitter and Marvellous Me** – General consensus was that it was better but still some inconsistencies noted around the table – C Boden to make MC aware of this.

**5.30 club to be extended to 6pm** – More information to follow.

### PMI – Review of Xmas period Activities

<u>P</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>I</u>
Parents enjoyed the religious/traditional focus apparent in the older year group assemblies. Parents felt that this was important and should be continued	The school is often restricted to space for the Xmas Fete. Some children find the amount of people/noise/congestion overwhelming	Can future Xmas period activities continue to be linked to the notion of giving to others/links with the local community? E.g. a carol concert for the elderly?

<p>All children received a book from the PFA</p> <p>The PFA organised Xmas breakfast continues to be popular and enjoyed by all students</p> <p>Encourages creativity. It was good to see creators of plays ( e.g. Year 2 National Trust Play Creator) in attendance at the assemblies</p> <p>Linked to community work –positive feature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carol Singing</li> <li>- Heart and Lung Centre</li> <li>- MP Eddie Hughes – card design competition</li> </ul>	<p>There was no visit from Santa at the Xmas breakfast and yet children really enjoy this</p>	<p>Could a Xmas activity be linked to the school enterprise project that is still yet to be developed?</p> <p>Can Xmas jumper day be linked to the school’s chosen charities instead of the National Charity (as identified following the recent student, parent, staff vote) ? or perhaps children could design their own Xmas T Shirt as per World Book Day</p>
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**At this point parents also noted:**

- The Poppy day appeal for plastic bottles – prior to Xmas 18 was a great idea but lost focus. There was no outcome to the bottle collection exercise that was visible or shared with parents
- All non-uniform collections to be linked to chosen charities going forward e.g. Children with Cancer and Friends of Willenhall Park
- With regard to the FPA newsletter that had been issued to parents on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – parents stated that going forward more clarity was needed regarding what children can/can’t wear on the non-non uniform day. Again – it was noted that parents were being asked to send in £1 donation for a charity that was different to those that had been previously agreed to by the school.

**Star of the Week**

- Who is being recognised? What is the criteria? Are some children being overlooked?
- Last year a child won star of the term that had been on holiday for 2 weeks.
- Some issues around a Y3 child that won Star of the week and felt embarrassed and some other pupils made some comments. Perhaps the awards for the older children could be called ‘Student of the week’/ Achiever of the week?
- A parent mentioned the ‘Tiny Teacher’ Initiative which we all thought was a fantastic idea.
- Reception children don’t get Star of the Week or where individual classes do get something (RP) they aren’t mentioned in the weekly newsletter.
- We think that there should be some basic criteria – for example if you have been above grey zone you shouldn’t win Star of the Week.
- Should star of the week be driven by house points received that week? Parents felt that a star of the week award should not be given to a child that has been good for just a day. Although we don’t want to start dictating to teachers and removing choice.

**PMI – Challenge Outcomes**

<b><u>P</u></b>	<b><u>M</u></b>	<b><u>I</u></b>
<p>Rewards assemblies are now linked to challenge outcomes</p>	<p>Submission dates are still not clear on some challenge outcome letters/ information leaflets – in particular Year 5</p>	<p>New topics/ideas are required - perhaps linked to more topical events to increase enthusiasm</p>

<p>Parents feel that this still remains a very positive feature of the curriculum offered at Fibbersley</p> <p>NICER Curriculum/Challenge outcomes continues to develop key enterprising skills and qualities in pupils</p> <p>Encourages creativity.</p> <p>Differentiated plate challenges are good and influence provision for all</p>	<p>NICER challenge work has dramatically lost its impact. It started off with great enthusiasm on behalf of teachers and pupils (e.g guest speakers, imaginative hooks) but now not so much.</p> <p>There used to be great efforts placed into showcasing pupil work – but again this has been lost over the year.</p> <p>Some parents felt that they should not have to pay to purchase items that they have created, for example, art work.</p>	<p>Student involvement – could pupils be asked what they would like their challenge to be?</p> <p>Could challenges be linked to chosen charities?</p>
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- New homework booklets. Some pupils have yet to receive feedback to work they have completed ( accepting that this was just to be a tick/ stamp action). The print quality for the booklets was poor.

### **PMI – Role and Activities of PFA**

<b><u>P</u></b>	<b><u>M</u></b>	<b><u>I</u></b>
<p>Have been a long standing key positive feature of Fibbersley park</p> <p>The FPA consist of hard working and committed individuals. Parents are very appreciative of all the work they carry out to enhance pupil experience at Fibbersley</p> <p>Xmas breakfast/ Summer fete etc are wonderful activities provided by the hard work and efforts of PFA members.</p>	<p>New parents do not receive any information upon entering the school about how long the PFA has been in existence, what its purpose is/ how parents can become involved?</p> <p>Are so many dress down days needed? Can't we look at other options to raise money?</p> <p>Money that is raised – where does it go? Could the PFA report on this?</p>	<p>Engagement – how can more parents get involved?</p> <p>Is there a fair process to get involved – is membership open to everyone?</p> <p>Can someone from the PFA come to the next parent forum to discuss role/function of PFA?</p>

### **AOB**

New homework booklets have been issued to pupils and yet some pupils have yet to receive stamps/recognition for the work they have completed. The print quality for the booklets was considered poor in some cases.

Only on average 5 children from each class across the school have completed the Homework booklets. There has been a lot of work put into these from across the teaching staff. It could be a slow burner and it is quite a shift in culture change re Homework at Fibbersley Park so could still build momentum. It may be that the Homework approach has got lost in translation. Potentially something that needs to be commented on in Weekly Newsletters to reinforce the message going home and to serve as a reminder. Also an idea was raised to use parent/carer volunteers to run a lunchtime/after school club for children to complete their homework booklets.

Paying for children's art work that they have created at Challenge outcome, this seems like an odd thing for some parents that would happily make donations but maybe not for their child's work. It was discussed that this would make more sense if the class reported how much they had raised from the challenge outcome fundraising and what they were going to do with the money i.e. like the Maths day fundraising....this is what we raised, this is what our class is doing with the money.

**Trips** – The letter states voluntary contribution. A parent was wondering about this and why the school can't just tell parents to pay for the trip? .

Schools can't demand payments for educational school trips in school time as set out in the Department for Education advice paper 'Charging for school activities May 2018'. A school trip can only go ahead if the school can subsidise this through school funds and voluntary contributions from parents. No children can be excluded if they don't pay and a school trip can't go ahead if they can't fund it.

Perhaps more people would pay if they know how much the trip was costing and how much the school were subsidising? Comment that Social Enterprise initiative could pay for it.

**Barriers in car park** –Parents are driving into school through the EXIT to enter the car park due to the barriers being broken. The barriers are extremely expensive to fix so not a solution right now. Does anyone have any short term solutions?

**Volunteer Readers** – 20 applications which is a great response. Will more information be sent about this ASAP?.

**Letters** – Still some confusion around events and what should be worn. Lots of confusion around Christmas Jumper Day and what children should wear on Book Day. Suggestion that letters need to be proof read by someone who hasn't written the letter. That person needs to look for clarity, and check for elements that could be misinterpreted.

Agenda points for next time

- Member of the PFA to attend