



Parent Council Minutes

Rooted in the community to grow and flourish

Date	27.11.23
Attendees	EG, NF, MB
Apologies	-

Agenda	Minutes	Actions
1. Welcome and actions since last meeting	<p>Time to look at pupil books has been actioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All agreed there was opportunity to do this at recent parent teacher consultations - Informal book looks scheduled for 2 x afternoons during week beginning 4.12.23 <p>Workshop dates: Reading Workshop for parents/carers took place last half term and the Writing and Maths Workshops have been scheduled on school calendar for the first half of the spring term.</p>	Share dates in next Weekly Bulletin for parents/carers
2. School trips	<p>Elm Class are not going on a residential trip this year as the school has made the decision to move to do this every other year. The following rationale for this decision was shared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responding to previous parental feedback regarding cost of living crisis and increase in trip costs - Some families have previously reported their child was reluctant to attend a residential at an adventure place due to the fact that they were facing the challenge of being away from home AND taking part in activities involving heights, water or something else which might put a child out of their comfort zone - Mixed age classes mean every child will still attend a residential whilst in Elm Class (either when in yr 5 or yr 6) - Pupils will still be offered 'outdoor adventure' style activities through a day trip which will take place on the year the school is not running a residential <p>The council understood the rationale and all agreed that trips are beneficial to pupils, even when they take place in the local area. The point was made that children get a different experience when they go somewhere away from the school site with friends rather than with their family members.</p> <p>All agreed that school trip costs have risen and that the current PTFA decision to subsidise by approximate £10 per child is useful.</p> <p>EG shared the current pupil premium strategy which allows parents to have a choice over £30 bespoke spending and</p>	



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	<p>that some families choose to use this to further subsidise trips.</p> <p>EG also reassured that parents/carers are encouraged to approach the school if they are having any difficulty financially as payment plans and further support can always be explored and offered to ensure no pupil is disadvantaged.</p> <p>We agreed that at least one trip a year in all year groups would be good but the council are keen for the school to offer as many as is possible and certainly make the most of any local free opportunities available (e.g. farm trip recently attended by Oak Class). We shared examples of trips where the council felt the children’s experiences helped enhance the curriculum learning which had taken place in the classroom.</p> <p>We discussed swimming as the council are aware this has been offered previously but not last year. EG explained that we are now unable to use the Stanley Barracks swimming pool and so had booked to use Purbeck Leisure Centre last year. Unfortunately, our booking was cancelled due to maintenance works which took place and these were outside of our control. The school intends to book up swimming sessions at Purbeck again this summer (probably in the second half of the summer term).</p>	
<p>3. Sports Day preparations</p>	<p><u>Sports Day arrangements</u></p> <p>We agreed to try Sports Day at the end of the spring term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weather is usually good at this time of year (fine but not too hot) - If it rains, there is a lots of time to reschedule - End of summer term gets very busy so it helps school community to space out these events and enables parents/carers to space out requests for time off work <p>The council discussed the sports day experience for the children and considered how it could be improved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More competitive athletic events for KS2 - Keep the fun, non-competitive events for KS1 - Continue with some races for all (e.g. running, relay) <p>All agreed it is useful if siblings can be in the same groups as it means parents/carers don’t miss anything.</p> <p>We discussed the kind of rewards given and agreed to continue this discussion at a future Parent Council meeting as EG would like to revisit positive recognition and rewards ahead of next academic year.</p> <p>To help working parents/carers, it would be helpful if ks1 and ks2 sports days could take place in different weeks so</p>	<p>EG to book date and share with parents/carers</p>



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	<p>that people can either finish work early or go into work slightly late.</p> <p>Venue was discussed as the local community field has historically been used though it is recognised that this impacts staffing ratios and requires additional risk assessments etc.</p>	<p>EG to explore venues when planning with staff and consider working with local secondary schools to explore additional support from older pupils doing sport GCSE/A Level</p>
<p>Ideas to consider for next year</p>	<p>When reflecting on the last term, a member of the council shared that another local school invited pupils to come into school on remembrance day wearing their beaver, cub, scout etc uniform. The children were then very involved in the remembrance service.</p> <p>We agreed that this would be really good to consider for next academic year.</p>	
<p>AOB</p>	<p>Positive recognition and rewards in school</p> <p>Reading Records and Reading Challenge</p>	

Next meeting date: 19.2.24 (face to face at the school)