Rooted in the community to grow and flourish

Parent Council Minutes

Date	**20.3.23**
Attendees	**KM, EG, NF, MB**
Apologies	**-**

Agenda	Minutes	Actions
1.Welcome and thank you	EG thanked everyone for giving up their time to attend the meeting. Actions since the last meeting: - Chartwells continue to be the hot meal provider. In February the school moved forward to 'Simplicity' where some food is cooked on site. From the start of the summer term, Chartwells will provide a chef to cook from the school kitchen each day. This will mean food will be freshly prepared on site. Some Council members were able to share that their children had reported a positive response to the change in hot meals since the January (and chips and jacket potatoes are back to being favourites!) - A Stormbreak Workshop for parents and carers has been booked for 17.4.23. This date is being advertised in weekly newsletters.	
2. Parental Engagement	EG shared with the Council how important it is for the school to be engaging with parents/carers regularly and gave examples of some of the ways Wool Primary has sought to do this over the last couple of terms: - Parent/Carer Information Sessions for each class at the start of the year - Phonics, writing, reading and maths open mornings/afternoons which have included workshop elements where adults can work alongside their child - E-Safety sessions (3 x webinars offered through collaboration with the NSPCC and 1 x face to face session with colleagues from The Purbeck School) - 2 x dates for Parent/Carer Positive Mental Wellbeing Bike Rides - Information sessions for Yr 2 and Yr 6 SATS - Upcoming sessions for Yr 1 phonic screening and Yr 4 Multiplication Test Check - Upcoming Stormbreak sessions for Parents/Carers Some of these events have had strong engagement whilst others have not had good attendance. EG is keen to discuss whether the school is offering opportunities which parents/carers want and also whether there are any other	

	areas parents/carers would like further engagement opportunities. Through discussion, members of the council agreed that working commitments of parents can make it challenging to attend school functions. It was also noted that if parents/carers can't attend information sessions, all the information is still sent home to everyone within that cohort so no one misses out. Both morning and afternoon open sessions have received positive feedback though it was agreed that a more general opportunity where parents/carers can come into class and look through books would be good. An additional suggestion was whether classes could take it in turns to lead an assembly about the learning they have been doing in class that half term. Ultimately we agreed that it was important for the school to provide opportunities for parental engagement and that these are well communicated through current school systems. EG will try to ensure different days are selected for events and there are options through the year for both morning and afternoon sessions, as this will hopefully cater for a variety of work patterns.	EG to explore whether it is possible to plan in informal 'looking at books' sessions over the summer term.
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AOB	NEU Teacher Strikes A Council member raised the fact that the school was partially open during the 3 most recent strike day and enquired why the same class was impacted on each day. EG explained that there have been a number of restrictions on which staff are able to cover classes and this has been restrictive. For example, cover supervisors only covered classes if they were usually timetabled to do so on that day. We all agreed that it was important to respect the right of staff to make the decision to strike. Nevertheless, it is inevitable that striking would lead to disruption.	

Next meeting date: 15th May 2023 @ 14:15

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