

Parent Council Meeting

Friday 30th November 2018 @ 2:15pm

Attendees:

Helen Wollington – Principal
Emma– Parent of year 4 child
Lynda – Parent of year 4 child

Jackie– Parent of year 6 child
Jane– Parent of year 6 child
Emma – Parent of Reception, year 3 and year 6 children
Gorcia– Parent of year 4 child
Darren – Governor Representative

Apologies received:

Lara
Clare
Laura

1. Welcome – Principal welcomed the parents who were in attendance and thanked them for coming. The minutes of the previous meeting were shared to all parents via Parent Mail and a copy sent to the school website. The website is currently under reconstruction so there haven't been any live updates recently. Principal will ensure when new website is live that all minutes are published on there.
2. Outstanding actions from previous meeting:
 - **Parents to think of some ideas for themed days and bring to the next meeting.**
Some good ideas around themed days like Chinese new year, Italian day, Polish day etc..... Mother's day tea or Father's day breakfast also an option.
Action: Principal to discuss with catering provider and get these in to the calendar. Also send out a reminder that parents can join their child for lunch if pre-booked with the office.
 - **Parents to plan out some ideas of how we can improve the grounds ready for a colourful and good looking Spring time.**
Possibility of using the Scouts to support in the grounds, one Saturday in May time a possibility. Look at possibility of gardening club
Action: Principal to ask for parent volunteers who would be willing to run a gardening club. Principal to speak to local scout's groups.
 - **Principal to contact the local secondary schools requesting some music support / specialist teaching. All parents to investigate if they know anyone who would be willing to support the school with an orchestra.**
Principal contacted the Secondary schools but has not had any response from them. Will continue to investigate any options. Also suggested was any ex-students who have gone on to develop music skills or parents.
 - **Parents to think how old dressing up outfits could be organised and stored for others to have easy access to.**

Be all you can be and together we will shine

Look at getting a box organised to store these items in and then advertise that people can use this to donate any old costumes they no longer need.

3. There is now in place a community project to address the anti-social behaviour issues in the local community. Southwold are in full support of this and working with our partner agencies to educate and tackle any known problems.
4. Cycling proficiency – recently had a group pass their level 2. Parents wanted to express a thank you as this has made a huge impact on the children and their ability to be safe on the roads.
5. Parents evening – parents had positive feedback regarding the change to the way parents evening was organised this term. Only comments were to have more chairs available and provide some refreshments. This will be provided by FOSS for the next set of meetings.
6. Parents survey – parents feel this needs to be more widely publicised to get more responses. A Parent Mail will be sent out to remind of the survey and the deadline to complete this.
7. Darren Townsend asked how the Governing Body can do to support parents and interact more effectively with parents. Suggestions included having more visibility around the school particularly at events. Letting people know who the Governors are, maybe a flyer sent out with names, photos and responsibilities. Having a representative at the Parent Council meetings is also very beneficial in building those links.
8. Parents asked how the school is preparing for the next OFSTED inspection. Principal explained that the school are constantly striving to make improvements and we have a good strategic plan in place to achieve these. We will be ready for our next inspection as and when we receive the notification.
9. Parents wanted to pass on their thanks to the staff who took the year 6 away for their week long residential. They shared positive feedback about the impact this trip has had on their children and their confidence.
10. Suggested ways to recruit more parents to these meetings – messages out on newsletter and parent mailings. On the playground, approaching parents and inviting them face to face. Will all try to recruit more for the next meeting.

Next meeting: Thursday 31st January 2019 at 9am.