

Parent/Carer Group Minutes

4th July 2019

In Attendance

Cheryl Smart, Sharon Walker, Carla Higgins, Rachel Spray, Joanne Palmer, Rachel Owers Jones, Susan Eason, John Hubball, ShariAnn Hubball, Lucy Sarna.

Apologies for absence

Andrea Thomas, Stacy Osborn, Iain Benzie, Melanie Jones

2. Minutes from last meeting were agreed by the group present for being true previous meeting.

3. Actions from last meeting discussed

Benjy Aaron- Richardson (Deputy Head) investigated the car park safety and devised a plan that at the present moment is working well and great feedback has been received but will need to be addressed again in September because of the possibility of new taxi companies dropping pupils off.

Volunteering letters went out to parents/Carers and a few replies were received and the school is working with them to arrange dates, Letter will be sent out again just in case anyone missed it.

The school website now has a section for the parent group, minutes from the meeting and links to external services are on just awaiting more links.

The group felt that the WhatsApp group may not be required because the external social media group is working well and the issue regarding the group has been resolved at the present moment, stricter ground rules have been established creating a more positive virtual environment.

Parents/Carers have successfully been sharing ideas for events in the area.

Sharon sent out a letter regarding activities they would like to see in the future but unfortunately the response was poor, so the group have agreed to share more on the social media group any letters Sharon sends out,

Andrea Thomas sent in an email detailing an external event at clip and climb for the summer break, the cost of the event would be £240, The group asked if we could ask Andrea to promote this on the Facebook page for parents and carers.

4. Communication is a key area that has been addressed a few times and the new home school diaries are a product of the school working together to try and resolve this, they have been well received however the detail written in them varies and parents feel that it would be better if teachers know exactly what information they would like to read, Therefore after much discussion within the group, the idea was put forward of a bookmark that could be attached to the diary via ribbon detailing the exact information required.

The group explained that they don't always receive letters home, Cheryl explained that all letters are put in the children's pigeon holes or bags and will investigate if possible, why they might not be getting home.

Parent Hub app is not always working well for parents/carers therefore Cheryl will investigate alternative ways of communication, but it could prove to be difficult because of the reliability of other applications is not great.

Paperclip is a company that sets up a group to enable parent/carers the ability to sell things within the school community safely and they approached the school to see if it was of interest, Sharon will be contacting the gentleman to find out more information.

The group asked if a link to the Parent/ carer group on social media could be added to the newsletter and website page

5. Carla and Rachel (Parent Governors) Liaised with Sharon to Produce a Parent/Carer questionnaire For their upcoming stakeholder views annual report, The Questionnaire was given out to the group and same day went home with the children to be completed, The results from this will be shared with the governors at the upcoming meeting,

6. Cheryl explained that there is a few staff changes coming up in the new school year, Benjy will be moving on to greater opportunities therefore interviews are currently in progress for a new Deputy head teacher, two new teachers have been appointed and 3 new apprentices, Paula Smith will be retiring at the end of July. One more staff member will be going on maternity leave sometime in September/October time.

7. No further problems have arisen from the change in snack money and seems to be working effectively at the present.

8. Inset days were addressed by the group, Cheryl explained that this was greatly needed to provide vital training for the staff to effectively keep our children safe during school time, Parents agreed it was vital however would have liked the information to be given out earlier if possible and also include why the inset days are required.

Actions

Rachel and Sue to promote Letters sent home about events taking place in and out of school on the Parent/Carer page on Facebook including letter for singing hands trip and volunteers.

Rachel to post about Parent questionnaire on Parent/Carer Page to encourage response

Parents to continue sharing ideas for external events for the summer break on social media platforms and email Sharon so it can be passed on to Parent/Carers without this kind of access along with any links so they can be added to the parent group section on the school website.

Group to provide Sharon or Cheryl a link for the Facebook Group so it can be added to the website

Sharon to send out letters for activities again in September and speak with Genesis centre for possible disco at later date also to contact paperclip for more information.

Cheryl to speak to Richard to get link for group posted on school website

Cheryl to investigate other app platforms for communicating with parents

Cheryl to talk to staff about letters not going home and design some kind of bookmark aid for the home school diary to promote effective communication

9. Next Meeting is Tuesday 8th October 2019 at 9.30am (subject to change if required)