



Parent Council Meeting
23-1-2024
Held online via Teams

Present: Miss Anna Royle (HT), Ms Sarah Burnett (Chairperson), Ms Laura Park, Ms Karen Orchard, Ms Rebecca Mitchell, Ms Krystle Burnett

Apologies: N/A

1 – Parking and Traffic Issues

Discussion around the dangerous parking and traffic issues that are taking place outside the school on a daily basis. Main issues:

- Dangerous and irresponsible parking including mounting the kerbs
- Blocking the pavements at junctions meaning children and adults are having to walk out into the road to get past
- Vehicles using the school car park which is for school staff only and blocking the entrance in and out
- Speed of vehicles on the street

Traffic Wardens have again been requested to attend. They are usually good at attending but have little effect as once they are not there, the dangerous behaviour returns.

Parent Council have previously suggested a pupil led campaign – design posters/leaflets to be sent home and displayed outside the school on the school railings. Miss Royle said this idea was welcomed by the school and she would work with House Captains to perhaps have pupils outside in high vis to make more of an impact.

Request for cones to be put out at the entrance to the car park, Miss Royle agreed this was possible.

Ensure ACC Councillors are informed and invited to next meeting to discuss in more detail, KO has invited all councillors to future meetings.

2 – P7 Trip

Concerns were raised that the entire P7 class are being threatened with their P7 trip being cancelled due to the behaviour of a small number of pupils in the class. This goes against the positive behaviour policies.

Miss Royle was concerned that this is how pupils are picking this up and is clear that most pupils should not be feeling like this and there was no threat to the trip for the

majority. She will discuss with P7 teacher and issue communication to parents to reinforce the position regarding behaviour.

3 – Class Talks

The Parent Council wanted to confirm that arrangements are now fully in place to ensure there are no requests for a class talk in the month of December after the confusion last year when class talk info was issued to most classes in error. There was also confusion that some classes had been told the talks were postponed to March this year which would mean 2 class talks this term as already doing the Burns Poetry.

Miss Royle confirmed, the December talks would not happen again. She said she had previously agreed with the staff that there will be 3 talks throughout the year. The Burns poem was in January and a further talk will be planned for some time after the Easter holidays.

4 – Head Teacher Update

P7 Hoodies are looking great and the parents who organised this were thanked.

Ceilidh organised for 31st Jan – no communication officially sent out by school yet, so this will come out urgently. Discussions about where the money raised will be spent as school is currently well over the year budget spend already due to reduced budgets despite the school increasing in size.

New school support assistant has started in the office – a very welcome addition to the staff team.

ELSA sessions have re-started but Mrs Trodden has been inundated with requests for support with many pupils and there isn't capacity for this currently.

All PSAs are now providing one to one support for pupils with additional needs meaning that no classes have dedicated PSAs anymore. This is a city-wide situation. As a result, the management team are all covering the lunch time duties as PSAs not available.

1 new PSA will be recruited due to the resignation of a PSA who has been on maternity leave.

Mrs Martin will be going on maternity leave at Easter time. Due to Mr Mackenzie's secondment being extended, this means there will be no cover for this position between Easter and Summer.

There will be a Quality Assurance visit from the authority on Tuesday 30th January.

The local police visited the school this week with some police dogs and puppies. All the children very much enjoyed their visit.

Term dates for the remainder of the year along with class newsletters will be issued this week.

5 – School Improvement Plan

Miss Royle shared with the meeting the school attainment levels to show a comparison across all year groups over several years. It was clear to see the impact of the Covid Pandemic on the attainment levels.

As a result, writing and numeracy are two areas of concerns and are now the main focus for Greenbrae moving forward.

Numeracy – there is a need for focussing on more practical ways of learning so that pupils can apply their learning and problem solving in real life situations. So now looking at being given real life problems in order to use their knowledge and understanding in different ways. Working with ASG to address these issues.

IDL – teachers across the school are now planning and working together on IDL topics so that progression throughout the school is evident and with all school topics its easier to see progression from P1 through to P7 instead of random projects each term per year.

Big focus on enterprise but difficulty faced as local businesses do not have money to take part in these projects anymore.

It's encouraging that most pupils know the school values and could relay these to their parents.

Great progress is being made with Talk for Writing approach.

Reading is now also a priority with staff attending reflective reading training.

Play based learning – another big focus and when it's done well it's very successful. Some teachers are more skilled at it than others, so support is available for teachers and some are visiting other city schools to see good practice of its implementation.

Some evidence might suggest that play based learning approach is now affecting attainment levels by P4, ie taking longer to attain compared to years gone by. Suggestion for this to be an area of discussion for a future PC meeting.

Miss Royle is working with the Pupil Council to produce a 'pupil friendly' school improvement plan.

After the summer, when plan is refreshed the Parent Council will look to produce a 'parent friendly' version of the plan of the top level priorities.

6 – AOCB

Continue to invite all ACC Councillors for BOD to our meetings – KO to issue invite.

Email to be sent from school to all parents to tell them about our meeting dates and share the minutes once available.

7 – Dates of future meetings

Tuesday 26 March, 6pm (at school with focus on road safety around the school)

Tuesday 28 May, 6pm

Tuesday 25 June, 6pm (if required)

Tuesday 24 September, 6pm - AGM