



*'In unity we learn and play in the loving hands of God'*

**Parent Council Minutes  
29<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

Present:

	Name	Child's Year	Membership Category	Membership Commenced
√	Julie Sweet	R	Parent	September 16
√	Emma Knight	R	Parent	September 16
√	Nic Webster	1	Parent	November 15
√	Kate Anderson	1	Parent	May 15
√	Jo Tillett	2	Parent	September 16
√	Julia Dancy	2	Parent	September 16
x	Rachel Thirlwall	3	Parent	May 15
√	Lisa Williams	3	Parent	September 16
x	Kate Catherall	4	Parent	May 15
√	Caroline Nuttall	4	Parent	September 16
x	Lynne Dickens	5	Parent	September 16
√	Vanessa Quirk-Green	5	Parent	May 15
x	Roz Kepke Smith	6	Vice-Chair	May 15
√	Emma Jordan-Stout	6	Chair	May 16
√	Fiona Todd		Headteacher	
√	Nic Badger		Head of School	

	Action
1) Apologies received from Kate Catherall, Rachel Thirlwall, Lynne Dickens and Roz Kepke-Smith. Julie Sweet arrived late.	
2) Minutes of the last minute were accepted as a true record.	
3) There was no update from the Governors because there have been no further meetings.	
4) Head Update	
a) Academy status progressing to plan with a likely date of February 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017 for everything to be finalised. Warmingham School will be joining the Academy	

<p>and two other schools have expressed an interest. Mrs Todd communicated that it was usual for an Academy to have 5 or 6 schools under its umbrella – which is an optimum number for accessing funding. However, the new schools joining the academy would still be run by their own heads and the collaboration would be in the interest of sharing good practice</p> <p>b) As we are now out of special measures the school is back on the normal timetable of Ofsted inspections. There is a desktop inspection every year and a more formal inspection every 3 years (although sometimes inspections may happen less frequently if there are no issues raised by the desktop audit).</p>	
<p>5) Actions from last meeting:</p> <p>a) <b>Parking.</b> Mrs Todd advised that the plan to introduce double yellow lines outside school was met by a number of objections by local residents so is unlikely to go ahead. A drop and go service was discussed – but it was agreed that there isn't enough space outside school. The option of a walking bus was raised but the because of the lack of adequate pavements it was considered that this too was not necessarily conducive to child safety. Therefore, for the short term the only remedy was continue to educate parents about the need to park safely outside of school. Attempts to enforce safe parking through the newsletter haven't made much impact, therefore the possibility of naming and shaming repeat offenders was raised again and the Parent Council voted unanimously to bring it into force. Number plates of vehicles who repeatedly park unsafely will be named in the newsletter. Mrs Todd will write a letter to parents informing them of this new policy.</p>	FT
<p>b) <b>School Uniform</b> Mrs Todd showed Council members the proposed new school uniform and has managed to negotiate a much lower price than that discussed at the last meeting. Now that she has the prices a new questionnaire will be sent out to parents to canvass views. Skirts will cost £9.99, Jumpers £14.99; Ties £3.50 and blazers £23. Children will also be able to wear black trousers which they can purchase independently. The school are aiming to introduce the new uniform to new starters from September 2017 and then gradually across the school as and when parents need to upgrade existing uniforms. There may be some funding available for those in year 6 next September to purchase ties but they will not be expected to buy the whole uniform if they don't want to. It was also suggested that a plain grey jumper or cardigan could be purchased as an interim measure for those with a short term left in the school who didn't want to buy the whole uniform. It was also debated whether KSI children should just have jumpers/cardigans and maybe even polo shirts and then move into blazers in KS2.</p>	FT
<p>c) <b>Bike Storage</b> Mrs Kepke-Smith has measured the area for a bike rack but no further update was available at the time of the meeting.</p> <p>d) <b>Maths Club</b> for year 6 parents will start in January 2017 and Mrs Badger is working on a tailored program for individual students in school.</p> <p>e) <b>Bus Procedure</b> – a new system has been introduced where a prepopulated sheet for bus children is kept in the office. This is then ticked off in the classroom by the teachers. Any anomalies where a child disagrees with what is on the sheet can then be cross checked with the parent. Parents are encouraged to email any changes to the normal routine to the main office rather than the class teacher as this will ensure that the office can co-ordinate the information.</p>	RKS

<p>f) <b>Attendance Award</b> the reward for 100% attendance will be kept as teachers feel this is an achievement that is worthy of merit. However, Mrs Badger is also looking at rewarding those that are nearly there and just miss out.</p> <p>g) <b>Online Payment System</b> - Crib notes are available from the school office for those having difficulty navigating the system. Staff in the main office are also on hand to help where possible.</p> <p><b>6. Yr 5 homework</b> There was a request for Yr 5 homework to be handed out earlier in the week. However, most year groups receive homework on a Friday for it to be returned on a Wednesday – which should be enough time to complete it. There was some debate over take-away homework – particularly this term when there are so many extra-curricular events going on. Mrs Todd reiterated that Take away homework was voluntary and perhaps children could focus on doing just one great piece rather than three if they didn't have the time. Mrs Badger confirmed that school policy was not to issue any homework over school holidays. However, children are encouraged in that time to read and do some work on times tables independently.</p> <p>7</p> <p>a) <b>Year 3</b> reported that phone calls from school praising children's achievements (e.g. moving up a reading level) had been well received by parents.</p> <p>b) <b>Year 3</b> also raised the concern that lunch times had been a bit rushed of late. Mrs Todd advised that with the sudden departure of the old cook and interim was brought in. We now have a new permanent cook and it was believed that the lunch time situation would improve.</p> <p><b>8 Lost school uniform</b> – it was decided that once a month there should be a table with unclaimed lost school uniform so parents could locate missing items. The table would need to be manned by parents on a rotating basis between the year groups. Parent Council will spread the word to get volunteers from each year group.</p> <p><b>9 Any Other Business</b></p> <p>a) <b>Yr 6</b> raised the issue that their blog was never updated. Mrs Todd said that she would to speak to Miss Hickson about it.</p> <p>b) The recent episode of bad weather highlighted the lack of areas where parents could shelter when collecting children – especially if they were let out late. It was asked if teachers could ensure that children were let out on time in such situations. Mrs Todd said St Oswald's had a similar problem with shelter and perhaps it was something the PTA could look into.</p> <p>c) Mrs Todd announced that she has been shortlisted for a National Leader in Education Award. She is through to round 2 and if successful we would become a national support school. If another school were having difficulties within the Chester Diocese we would be asked to step in and offer support. As well as being a great accolade the award would also have a financial benefit for the school.</p> <p>d) Emma Jordan-Stout offered congratulations on behalf of the Parent Council for Mrs Todd's recent award which she will be receiving next Thursday.</p> <p>e) Mrs Badger will make sure a letter is sent out shortly re KSI nativity and tickets so parents who work could organise their schedules.</p> <p>Any Other Business.</p> <p><b>10</b> The next meeting was set for 14/02/17 Valentine's Day!</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>FT</p>
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