

Bunbury Aldersey CofE Primary School Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 13th March 2018

Present: Nicola Badger, Jen Duckett, Jennifer Yates, Kathleen Carline, Julia Dancy, Lisa Williams, Vanessa Quirk-Green, Jo Tillett, Madeline Jones, Julie Sweet.

Apologies: Emma Knight, Helen Bennett, Lynne Dickens, Caroline Nuttall.

1. Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed.
2. Madeline Jones has taken over from Janine Fairclough as a representative for Y4. Thanks to Janine for her involvement. No secretary has yet been appointed from within the group.
3. Head Update
 - Work will start on the **running track** and playground fence during May half term.
 - Bunbury Aldersey and St Oswalds are in the process of appointing a **full time shared PE teacher**. The successful candidate will spend three days each week at Bunbury, and will allow provision of before and after school sessions as well as lunch time clubs, and will be responsible for team sports at inter-school competitions. Sports Coaching NW will cease to provide PE after Easter. The change may cause some temporary disruption to after school sports.
 - English and Math provision continue to be a priority
 - Teachers are taking part in regular twilight continued professional development sessions. The next evening will focus on literacy, especially planning strategies for children who are writing at a higher level than required.
4. Outstanding actions from previous meeting
 - Following the re-issuing of the homework survey more responses have been received. These will be reviewed in the coming weeks.
 - JD to liaise with office and update details of members on the website
 - Parents are pleased with the reintroduction of Mrs Walker's netball club.
5. **School meals** (Y2). Some pupils have continued to complain about the school dinners. Mrs Badger advised that the cook has recently met with the school council to develop a new menu on which the children have chosen every meal option from a list of their favourites. All meals are served from a hot plate so should not be cold. The menu is available in the school hall and on the website.
6. **Parking** (Y2). Thanks to Mrs Badger for continuing to list the number plates of problem-parkers in the newsletter. Her impression is that fewer reports are being made, although parents still feel that parking is a big problem especially in inclement weather. There was some discussion about incentivising walking eg with house points but this was felt to be unfair to children for whom this is not an option. One of the two shared site managers will make occasional patrols at busy times to identify ongoing issues.
7. Children can be dropped off at school from 8.40am and the children are taken inside at 8.50am for a short period of focussed class work. **No child will be marked as late on the register until 9am.**

8. **Teacher communication.** There are some concerns that parents are not receiving a timely response from teachers when an email is sent. All emails of a general nature or regarding collection arrangements or illness should be sent to admin@bunburyaldersey.cheshire.sch.uk. Emails regarding a query, worry or problem of a more sensitive nature, or queries directly to teachers, should be directed to Mrs Badger on PrincipalBunbury@RCSAT.cheshire.sch.uk who will redirect them where appropriate. **Every email should have received a response from the relevant teacher within 48 hours** (not including weekends!), although this will probably be in the form of a telephone call or invitation to talk in school. If this has not occurred within 48 hours Mrs Badger has asked that she is made aware so she can follow it up as soon as possible.
9. Some concern was raised about sweets being sold to children at evening events run by the PTA. Sales at events are all part of the fundraising efforts, and to provide healthier snacks would place an unreasonable load on the few people who volunteer and raise less much needed cash (the need for more volunteers was mentioned). Sweet purchases are always optional. The PTA will be made aware of the comments.
10. **Allergies.** There are several children in school who are unable to eat certain food groups due to allergy, which can cause them distress during class birthday celebrations etc. Parents will have different strategies for dealing with this and school are keen that these preferences are considered. In order for this to be possible the parent council representatives from each year will send a message to their respective classes inviting affected families to share their preferences so that these can then be shared anonymously within the class to inform decisions when sending in food items.
11. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 1st May 2018, 3.15pm.