

Parent Council Meeting Minutes – 24th January 2023

BUNBURY ALDERSEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Name	Tick if present
Mrs Badger	✓
Mrs Waring	✓
Kathleen Carline (Y5)	✓
Julia Arkell (Y4)	✓
Melissa Dawson (Y2)	✓
Kati Rocket Earl (Y3)	✓
Julie Sweet (Y6)	✓
Angela Gordon (Y1)	✓

Minute Taker: K Waring	
<p>Apologies: Natalie Connelly, Laura Smith, Nicola Tomlinson, Emma Knight</p>	
<p>Agenda: 1. Parent council members. 2. Head update 3. Homework 4. Reading 5. School trip lunches 6. Residential 7. Badgers 8. Communication 9. iPads 10. Praise / awards 11. After school clubs 12. Positives 13. Next meeting</p>	
Discussion	Action
<p>1. Huge thanks goes to Jen as our previous chair. Julia Arkell was appointed as Chair following Jen Duckett's resignation. Need to find YR reps</p>	<p>NB to add to Newsletter</p>
<p>2. No meeting last term due to lack of points to raise, queries were answered via email. The curriculum is now clearly embedded across the school with expectation booklets on each class web page. Staff follow these so parents know what children are learning. IT – 27 new note books purchased & a new more energy efficient laptop trolley which switches off once charged. The current 25 laptops we have will be spread across the classes within school. Staff completed training, upping knowledge and skills. STEM focus – science taught weekly, backed up with workshops such as Chemistry with Cabbage (Y5). Push on SPAG, promoting basic skills. Spelling and handwriting need re-visiting and expectations raised, this is due to pandemic with more use of IT with spellcheck etc. Pathway to reading in KS2 introduced and embedded. Link developed with a school in Cape Verde. Videos from both schools have been shared; concrete</p>	<p>NB to send behaviour policy to parents (user friendly version)</p>

<p>example of what life is like for those in a different country/culture/lifestyle. This is a new development for Bunbury, we also have a Cape Verde Day planned. Looked at our Behaviour policy, philosophy has been flipped to draw on the positives instead of negative behaviour. Will not use the 4 school rules but instead use SAFE, KIND & RESPECTFUL. If a child struggles in Maths or another area of learning, we put in an intervention, we will do this for behaviour also. Children also need to learn/have support with behaviour too. E.g are you being kind? If not, why etc. JA – did you have a good response from the spider survey? NB - Yes the response was good. We now have a draft policy which goes to the board of directors on 27th March, currently in the transition period within school. JA – policy would be helpful to parents too at home.</p>	
<p>3. Query with alignment for Athletics and Purple Mash to classroom learning in Year 1. NB - Athletics can follow learning within class (JS - although with Y1 the options are not always available but this increases through the year groups). Purple Mash is a programme we buy into for additional learning and cannot be tailored. If homework is overwhelming, Purple Mash would be the one to drop. Homework is always controversial can never please everyone but expect parents to work within our homework policy. Take away homework gives those children who may find maths/spelling challenging a chance to shine, excel and enjoy their learning out of school. Y2 – only positives on the WhatsApp group.</p>	
<p>4. Reading – volunteers? If parents are interested, to contact Mrs Badger, all volunteers are DBS checked prior to coming in, helpful for school trips also. Y1 books changed more frequently? Possibility of an additional book, will speak with Miss C but books given should be read and re-read throughout the week.</p>	<p>JS to speak with class teacher</p>
<p>5. Can we move from disposable lunches on trips? NB - Each trip is looked at and with the zoo trip, bags could not be stored and with numbers attending being so high, disposable was best this time.</p>	
<p>6. Residential expensive for those with Y4 & Y5 children. NB – survey was put out and the high majority wanted the trip and we hope that all those who needed financial support from school have come forward. Taking 2 year groups together was more cost effective. JA – Tarporley Primary went in December and was cheaper. NB - Costs change through the terms but taking children canoeing etc in winter/December is not ideal so spring/summer term is best but not always cheapest.</p>	
<p>7. Badgers - Some children still hungry after snack, can portions be larger?</p>	<p>NB to address with Gillian</p>
<p>8. Y2 messages. NB – didn't feel that there a number of unrelated messages sent. PC parent checked back through messages and also felt that the class WhatsApp group messages were far more excessive than the messages sent from school. JS - Other year groups appreciate the reminders.</p>	
<p>9. I pads – answered within the headteachers report</p>	
<p>10. More opportunities for praise/awards? NB There are many chances for praise if children are doing the right thing from the new notice board for being Safe, Kind & Respectful, which are moving into every classroom, team points, termly letters of praise for KS2 children. JS – Y1 nominate during PE and have a pot of names for recognition/praise</p>	

<p>11. Science club received praise. Netball for boys? NB – we will keep this sport for girls, to encourage them to stay in sport. There are other options for boys. Always grateful to any staff members who give their own time to run clubs. We have no control over the cost of external clubs, we do not charge for facilities used. JA – parents have volunteered to run a club in the past (Dodgeball). KW – we would welcome anyone who would like to volunteer in this way, please get in touch.</p>	
<p>12. Positives - Banning Prime Y5. Communication Y2. Activities for children Y2. School trips & opportunities Y2 & Y3 & Y1. Thanks for Zoo trip Y4. Praise for Mrs Curwen Y4. Thanks to Miss Hickson generally and for adjusting Maths club time Y6. Settling new students into Y1. Care for children Y6. Advance strike info / updates Y6. NB – positive comments are always welcomed, thank you.</p>	
<p>13. Next meeting shown below</p>	
<p>A/O/B Mrs Dale JA – following news of Mrs Dale, can a collection will be arranged? NB Happy for this to be done and sure Mrs Dale will appreciate it. We will forward to her. Mr Birch JA – is it true that Mr Birch (Y4 Brass teacher) has passed away? NB confirmed the sad news of his passing. School/Y4 plan to mark a celebration in his name. Strike Days AG - What if parents wish to not send children to school? NB – attendance is compulsory and would be recorded as unauthorised. Attendance – regarding recent letters that some families may have received. We look at and monitor pupil attendance percentage below 90% as we are aware that children can become ill. All absences are recorded with reasons so we can look back. Patterns of absence will be explored and challenged. Gate Times JA – re 8.55am gate closing time in the morning, will the late book return? NB – Once the gates close, all children will need to arrive through the front main entrance of school. KW – children will be signed in and the time recorded, following 9am arrival this will be recorded as a late mark in the register.</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting: New date will be communicated for next meeting based on Mrs Badgers availability.</p>	