

Bunbury Aldersey CofE Primary School Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 25 September

Present: Nicola Badger, Kate Waring, Laura Smith, Betty Burrows, Jen Duckett, Julie Sweet, Emma Knight, Jennifer Yates, Julia Dancy, Madeline Jones, Caroline Nutall,

1. Introductions
2. Apologies: Simone Anderson, Helen Bennett, Kathleen Carline, Lisa Williams, Jo Tillett.
3. Reps for each year group.
Jo Tillett - can no longer do Tuesdays
Tuesdays works for those present.
Need to call out for new Yr6 rep on Facebook **Action:CN**
4. Minutes from the last meeting: accepted.
5. Head update:
 - Cross school creative theme 'We Will Remember'. Will culminate in an exhibition from Oct-Dec.
 - Reception 19/20 open days 9 & 16 October
 - Want to continue to improve the outdoor provision - looking for a grant to modernise. Want to develop a forest schools area. Mr Dooley is training as a forest schools teacher. Would like to clear the quiet area and add a reading shed.
6. Outstanding actions: Response to blazer letter. There is a governors meeting next Tues - hope to hear soon.
7. More info needed re first day / week plans.
FAQs for parents of new pupils developed with support of Reception parents. It would be good for this info to be available on the website and sent out to parents before children start school.
Mrs Badger to go through the FAQs and add it to the website. **Action: Mrs B**
8. Reception queries
 - 3 intro sessions that they had in July. Great way to do a gradual introduction and children really enjoyed them. Teddy bears for each pupil was lovely.
 - More notice for things to be done at home please - 2 days for family photo in box.
 - Entering school - it's a big leap to go from greeting teachers at the door on day 1 to being expected to go through to the playground on your own on day 2. Could there be buddies/reception teachers on the gate or parents go with them initially / request for support for the first term?

School want the children to get into a 'normal' routine asap, but appreciate that some children need a bit more support.

- New parents would appreciate a little update on how they've managed their first week
- Good reports from children about The teachers!
Both reception teachers very experienced in EYFS
- Could buddies maybe assist with helping them get their bagels?
Buddies have been across to visit Reception, school tries to encourage this relationship.
- Can reception be included in letters even if the contents aren't relevant? eg after-school clubs, can letter go to YR parents but state that clubs aren't for YR at this time (otherwise parents assume there is an issue with email distribution).

9. Website

- No of issues noted.
New staff member will be checking the website across the academy.
- Thanks to Mrs Charlesworth for continuing to do a Y2 blog
Mrs Badger to remind other staff to do blogs too

10. Parent Council / AGM

- The constitution states that the PC should have an annual AGM.
JD suggests calling this for the start of the next PC meeting. This can be very short!

11. Flashing Light sign off A49 still not working

School will continue to chase up

12. Uniform going missing - can younger children be helped to find their items?

If lost items are found the older children take it round the school to return it to the owner rather than creating a lost property box.

13. Homework procedure -

- Purple Mash not mentioned. (Y2)
This is used in school not as a homework tool any more.
- Using our booklet 'Helping your child to spell' (Y2)
This is on the class page (easier to view from a PC rather than a mobile device).
Please make this clear on Newsletter & FAQs **Action: Mrs B**
- Thanks to Mrs Smith for take away homework coming out early in half term (Y3)
- Homework structure - a lot easier to follow what needs to be done (Y3)
- Would still appreciate a bit more guidance on how to complete homework for older children.
- Confusion over use of coloured pens etc
Homework should be smart / well presented.
It is handed in at the end of half term

Teachers review and sign off.

- Comment on homework is appreciated - as concern that its not looked at. Teachers mark work done in school. Stamp or sticker suggested.
- Athletics not very focused - some set tasks are useful otherwise v broad range of activities.
Some teachers do set tasks each week.

14. AOB:

After-school provision:

- Why no clubs for reception?
School feels YR need to settle before joining additional activities.
Staff provide some clubs voluntarily - subjects that are of interest to them.
Private companies offer after-school provision but this is usually for 7-11 year olds.
EK offered Cheshire Dance contact for younger provision **Action: EK**
- Hear about them late
The office does chase to confirm provision but often hears very late from providers.
- Choir date change - heard late. Can make it tricky for parents to rearrange childcare to accommodate changes.
- Parent Council to use FB pages to call for suggestions for club ideas / volunteers to run clubs
Action: All

Meet the Teacher

- Can meet the teachers be on different nights straight after pick up?
Easier for school if they're all on one night. And Mrs B wants to present at them all.

Is there Bunbury Badgers over Christmas?

School Music

- Funding has changed.
- Music for Life can provide music lessons in school.
- More info on their FB page and www.musicforlife.org.uk
- Individual or shared lessons available. Most suitable for Y2+
- Junior orchestra opportunity outside of school.
- Also Love Music Trust for Y4 upwards for Brass instruments.

15. Next meeting date: Generally to be third Tuesday of each half term at 3.15pm.
20 November 2018