



Alexander Hosea Primary School

Parent Council Meeting 5th October 2017

Class	Parent representative
R – Topaz	Mrs Hathaway (James) Mrs Heffernan (Alfie)
Y1 - Emerald	Mrs Mason (Tessa)
Y2 – Jet	Mrs Norton (Charlotte)
Y3 – Crystal	Mrs Clausen (Katherine)
Y4 – Diamond	Mrs Carter (Ava)
Y5 - Pearl	Ms Days (Freya)
Y6 - Amethyst	Mrs Woodward (Douglas) Mrs Howes (Fred)

Agenda

	Notes (PC = Parent Council)
1. What areas have been focussed on previously?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School lunches: some older children told their parents that they didn't want school meals as there is not enough food, so they are still hungry. They also said that by the time the last class go in, there is little choice of food left). • Parking: It was note that this has improved, but is still busy at the end of the day, as parents park in the drop off/pick up zone. It was also reported that there have been local concerns about parking over driveways. Action – Mrs Williams will put a reminder in the newsletter. • Homework.
2. What have you found particularly helpful?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions related to feedback from parents. • A solution-focussed approach. • Helps two-way communication.
3. Suggested areas to focus on in the coming year.	<p>School lunches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Days would like to set up a working party to audit opinions and consider how to take the ideas forward to improve provision. • Mrs Williams suggested that the working party includes a member of the catering team, so that they are involved in the discussions. • Mrs Williams suggested the possibility of having a salad cart (possibly a table to begin with), so that the children can have salad items (including additional protein – egg, tuna, cheese) as part of their meal. Older children could add these items to their plate or have salad instead of veg or with a jacket potato, which they might find more filling. <p>Action – Ms Days to arrange to meet with Mrs Williams to decide who to invite to join the working party and a date to meet.</p> <p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC would like some feedback on progression in homework as they have noticed that some homework items are the same in different year groups. <p>Action – Mrs Williams to look into this and feedback at the next meeting.</p> <p>Transition</p>

PC noted that the school handles transition well and there is smooth movement between areas of the school, but raised the following talking points:

- Mrs Hathaway raised a talking point around phased entry. Some families had found this challenging in terms of child care. Mrs Williams responded that the phased entry is in line with many schools, but that it is reviewed annually by Mrs Windmill. It has been helpful this year that the pre-school have accommodated some of the transferring children for the times they are not in school in the first few weeks. Another parent noted that the length of transition period has shortened over the years and this has been appreciated.
- Congestion in R/Y1 playground at the end of school. PC asked whether this could be looked at and consider Y1 children exiting the building with Y2 or having an additional fence for R (near the large umbrella).
- Bearing in mind Miss Pursey's news, Ms Days asked whether parents would have chance to meet the new teacher before they start.
- A suggestion was made that parents may like the chance to meet the teachers informally in the summer term, before children join their new classes. The traditional 'Meet the Teacher' in September could stay the same.

Action – Mrs Williams to feedback to Mrs Windmill.

Action – When the maternity cover teacher has been appointed, Mrs Williams will arrange an opportunity for parents to meet them informally before they start work (around Feb 2018).

Clubs

- A question was raised about free clubs after school. Mrs Williams responded that all teachers will be running a club during the year, so there will be other clubs as the year progresses. Information will follow with clubs lists from the office.
- PC asked whether there is a way that forms (e.g. Clubs, school trips etc) from the school office to parents, could be on a format that they can complete electronically and email back. Many parents would like to use paperless systems and not have to print out unless absolutely necessary.

Action Mrs Williams to follow up with school office staff to see if this could happen in future.

Fence around the field

- PC raised a talking point about the fence being inconsistent in height and wondered about the possibility of having a fence like the front of the school. Mrs Williams responded that the Governors H&S Committee have discussed the perimeter. High fencing is expensive, so other ways of enhancing the boundary are being looked at. Hedge saplings have been acquired through the Woodland Trust to help in areas where the fence is lower.

Next meeting date proposed as Thursday 23rd November at 2:45pm.

Dates for the rest of the year will be set at this meeting – all members to bring diaries.