

Subject Parent Council Minutes Term 2 2015/16

Date of Meeting 13 November 2015 at 2pm

Present Valerie Quest (Headteacher)
Gayle Holcombe (Sapphire)
Sarah Quick (Crystal & Diamond)
Kerry Widera (Jet)
Tracey Brough (Topaz)
Rebecca Woodward (Diamond)
Tracy Ryder (Amethyst)
Juliet Jones (Amethyst)

Apologies Rachel Hathaway (Emerald)
Jacqui Howes (Crystal & Amethyst)
Polly Jones (Jet)

Agenda Item	Description	Action
3. Minutes of last meeting	No comments.	
4. Matters Arising	<p><u>Notice Boards</u>: The general assistant who used to be responsible for the boards has left, Ms Quest is waiting for a replacement general assistant and once in post the boards will be finished and kept up to date.</p> <p><u>Assessment letter to parents</u>: As the assessment procedures have changed since the letter was sent out in July, the school has been considering a number of ways to keep parents informed. It was agreed that another letter explaining the changes and a presentation evening after Christmas would be the best way forward.</p> <p><u>Communication</u>: for short messages the school is trying to include all information into the main body of emails rather than having short attachments.</p>	<p>VQ</p> <p>VQ</p>
5. Parent Council Reps	Gayle Holcombe has confirmed that she will be staying on the Parent Council representing Sapphire Class and Tracey Brough has joined the Parent Council as the representative for Topaz Class. A representative from Pearl Class has still to be found as Sonia Cronin has decided to step down from the Parent Council.	
6. Friends Update	The PTA has changed its name to Friends of Alexander Hosea. A newsletter explaining this change and who is on the friends' committee is due out soon.	

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7. Parent Council Agenda Items	<p><u>Reading Challenge.</u> Ms Quest confirmed that the child has to read the book (not the parent reading it to the child), but that Adults in the family should include all the books that they have read. It was suggested that books on the list should be highlighted on the scholastic book brochure.</p> <p><u>Easy Fund Raising.</u> Flyers explaining how parents can raise money for the school when shopping on the internet will be sent out next week.</p>	
8. Science Events	Great feedback has been received about all the science events that have taken place in school, particularly the forensic science and the lifebus. Ms Quest confirmed that the lifebus is different for each year group so that it can be used each year without becoming repetitive.	
9. Website Launch	<p>Very positive feedback had been received about the new website : more user friendly, better photos & looks more professional. At the moment the old website still appears when you do a search but this will be resolved in a few weeks. A twitter account is also being set up with an option to introduce facebook at a later stage.</p> <p>The parent council discussed ideas for what to include on the new website- ideas included :</p> <p>A list of facebook administrators for each class.</p> <p>A list of Parent Council Members for each class. It was agreed that each member should email Ms Quest a photo of themselves together with a small paragraph about themselves – so that this can be added onto the website.</p> <p>Calendar of events that happen throughout the school year with a short explanation for each which will help answer questions particularly from parents that are new to the school and are unfamiliar with the jargon that is frequently used.</p> <p>An explanation of the Key Stages referred to in education, what years they cover and the key aspect of each.</p>	All
10. Class Newsletters	These will be going on the website from next week. Ms Quest clarified that these would not necessarily be weekly newsletters.	

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11. Homework	Very positive feedback had been received about the homework sharing and the aim was continue this for the remainder of the year and try to look at ways of extending it to other years	
12. AOB	<p><u>Mental Health.</u> A query was raised about mental health and whether this was something discussed in school. Ms Quest confirmed that this was a huge area particularly in relation to anti-bullying and internet safety.</p> <p><u>Mathletics.</u> This is a computer based maths programme that the children can use in their own time to practice maths questions and to do set homework on. Parents of children who use Mathletics all agreed that it was a brilliant tool.</p> <p><u>New reading book system.</u> The school would like to introduce a new reading book system, which is expensive and have been working with the Friends to consider the best way of raising money for this and ways in which to involve the children into raising money.</p> <p>Date of next meeting : 2pm Friday 29 January 2016.</p>	