Subject	Parent Council Minutes Term 3 2015/16	
Date of Meeting	29 January 2016 at 2pm	
Present	Valerie Quest (Headteacher) Tracey Brough (Topaz) Rachel Hathaway (Emerald) Vicky Dummer (Pearl) Sarah Quick (Crystal & Diamond) Rebecca Woodward (Crystal & Diamond) Tracy Ryder (Amethyst) Juliet Jones (Amethyst)	
Apologies	Gayle Holcombe (Sapphire) Polly Jones (Jet) Kerry Widera (Jet) Jackie Howes (Amethyst and Crystal)	

Agenda Item	Description	Action
3. Minutes of last meeting	Ms Quest to circulate previous minutes.	VQ (Complete)
4. Matters Arising	<u>Notice Boards</u> : Ms Quest reported that the new "You Said We Did" notice board is now up in the reception area and the new celebration board has been created outside the school gate.	
	<u>Assessment information for parents</u> : A meeting has been held for all Yr 6 parents re the upcoming SATS. The meeting was well attended and useful. There is also a KS1 SATS meeting soon and in the last newsletter a date for further discussion of Assessment has been set as the 20 <sup>th</sup> of April. Maggie Cook (Local Authority School Improvement Advisor) will be in attendance and the Friends are to provide wine and nibbles in order to make the evening more fun and relaxed. It is hoped that the evening will be well attended and parents were asked to spread the word.	ALL
	<u>Homework</u> : The school hosted a meeting of the "Good to Outstanding" Headteacher group with the homework grids and homework sharing as the main topic. The group were impressed with how the system is working, the children in general like the grids and parents have a better understanding of what is required. Also being set termly gives families	

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	time to plan in homework completion to avoid busy weekends etc. One case was reported where a child had no comments at all on their work. Ms Quest to feedback to teachers to ensure that they comment on all work. Feedback from the children was that they would like to share more, therefore the school plan to include the Yr 3 & 4 children to view the upper year's work and hopefully be inspired. Yr 1 & 2 learning journal sharing with parents was also discussed and has been positively received. A parent had asked if it is possible to review learning journals online. Whilst there are plans to review IT which may include this, the documents are primarily paper based. It was suggested that the learning journals could be brought home over a weekend to share at home.	VQ
	<u>Reading Books</u> : As mentioned at the last meeting staff have been reviewing a new set of reading books for the school. A rep had visited with samples of the books but they were not found to be suitable so further research will be done. It was suggested that parents of older children could pass books into school once grown out of for the younger children to enjoy.	
5. Parent Council items	It was raised again that often items aren't available on the lunch menu once the older children come in to eat. TR suggested that in some schools children say at the start of the day which option they would like so that the kitchen can cater accordingly. Ms Quest requested some more information as to how that would work in practice and in the meantime will speak to the kitchen staff	VQ/TR
	Parents of some of the younger children had raised the subject of music videos being played at the school Christmas discos. Some of the videos were thought to have been a little inappropriate for the younger children. This was the first disco with a new DJ so comments will be fed back. Overall though the video screen seemed to have gone down well with the children.	VD/SQ
	Some parents queried why the school bells are no longer operating and also that on several occasions children are coming out of school far later than 3.30pm. Ms Quest confirmed that the bells had broken but the decision had been made to leave them off as they are very loud, which can affect children with specific special educational needs and it makes	
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	for a more peaceful school environment. Many other schools are sharing this approach. Ms Quest will however speak to teachers to ensure that lessons finish promptly at the end of the day	VQ
	Topaz class were unsure of the school's behaviour policy, in particular the different levels that pupils can be on. The topic had been clarified during discussions however Ms Quest directed parents to the school's behaviour policy which is available on the website.	
	The old website needs to be taken down and the minutes of the last parent council meeting were not on the new website. Mrs Johnson continues to work on ensuring that the new website is up to date and now has instructions of how to remove the old website from Google searches.	
	It was also requested that homework could be posted onto the class pages on the website in case it is not brought home by pupils – deliberately or by accident! Ms Quest will feed this request back to teachers.	VQ
	Some children have been told not to wear hooded sweatshirts for outdoor PE as they can be grabbed by other children. Ms Quest was unaware of this and will investigate. The uniform policy does not cover a sweatshirt or similar for outside PE, just shorts, jogging bottoms and house t-shirt. It was suggested that coloured house sweatshirts could be made available although it was thought that the cost of these would mean that parents may not purchase. Ms Quest would also like to keep the school uniform as simple as possible.	VQ
	Some schools participate in a "morning mile" or similar run round the playground or playing field and it was suggested that the school might consider this. Ms Quest pointed out that the current policy whereby children can come into school from 8.50 and get on with their morning challenge makes for a calm start to the day and running or similar may disrupt this.	
	The white lines at the top of Honeybourne Way were discussed and thought to be a good thing. They are currently being well observed and make the traffic flow and visibility much better making for a safer	

road.

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	Finally cross country club was raised, in particular the school's fantastic performance in the county trials at KLB and the chance for children to represent the school. It was thought that many parents and pupils don't understand the benefits of the club and the fun games etc. that are played.	
6. SIA visit	The School Improvement Officer has recently visited the school and looked through the children's books. She was impressed with the content and also the feedback and marking. She found this to be very good, particularly in comparison with other schools.	
7. Feedback to children – pinks and blues	Ms Quest introduced the school's new marking system. Children will receive "brilliant blue" marking on good work and "think pink" marking on careless mistakes or things that they should know such as keywords spelt wrongly. It is hoped that over time their books will show successes as pinks will become blues.	
11. AOB	Steve and Juliet Jones are to be thanked for their hard work building new cabinets and storage for the school crossroads. Juliet has also worked hard to clean up all of the school's trophies.	
	Topaz class are delighted that Miss Johns is now back at school as she was very much missed.	
	Date of next meeting - Friday 18 March – 2.00pm in the Blue Room	