



Alexander Hosea Primary School

Parent Council Meeting 23rd November 2017

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

Agenda

	Notes (PC = Parent Council)
1. Terms of Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check the ToR. ToR agreed. Action: Mrs W to arrange for the updated version to be put on the website.
2. Catering Working Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met twice – has Parent Council rep (Ms Days), HT/DHT, one more parent, SMSA representative and catering manager and area manager. Circulated parent questionnaire and pupils have been consulted. Some mixed messages in data gathered (e.g. overall a group of parents said that there is not much choice and this is the reason they don't take school meals, however the families that do have school meals say that there is sufficient choice). Discussed portion size. As every child pays the same money (either from home or UFSM), they are entitled to the same sized portion. Talked about whether there was an opportunity for older children to pay more and have more, but this is not a viable option. Talked about the possibility of children choosing their meal at registration in the morning using a new system which is being piloted in a couple of schools. Mrs Williams is due to meet with a rep about this and there is a cost to the school, which would need to be considered by governors. Talked about the feedback from parents about their perception that school meals are not particularly healthy and use too much processed food. Catering area manager notes that to have achieved the award from the Soil Association the meals need to be of a certain standard and have at least 75% homemade food. Talked about having visuals to display near the hatch so that children can see what their choices are before they reach the hatch to help the queues to go down faster. Mrs Williams is due to meet with Bev Crossland (Area manager) before the next meeting to review the full range of parent feedback and draft a FAQ document for parents. Mrs Leighton would like to be involved as she has a nutrition background. Action: Mrs Williams to book the meeting – before the next catering working party meeting (12th January). Catering Working Party to be in place until Easter/Whitson to respond to the questions raised at the last Parent Council meeting.

3. Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion at INSET about how to make sure that provision and expectations are progressive. • Devised a new standardised format. AM drafted a letter to parents about this – on class pages on website. Item in newsletter last week. • Teachers are now expected to post their homework grids on the staff room notice board so that colleagues and subject leaders can comment before they go pout to parents. This will start properly from Jan 2018. • Y3 parent requested that there is a transition arrangement for Y3 so that they can be eased into the expectations. The parent noted that they feel there is a lot of homework for Year 3 and it's quite a jump from Year 2. Noted that in other schools, children may be set more homework than this in Year 3. Action: Mrs Williams to talk to SLT about this. • Parents said that they would like to have a homework book rather than pieces of paper. Action: Mrs Williams to raise at SLT • Discussed the value of homework shares for parents to come in. some parents really like them and others think it feels a bit odd that they are going into school to see homework that they have already seen at home. Some feeling that there is competition. DW shared that the arrangements have been changed (in Mrs Moncrieff's letter), so that homework sharing to parents will happen in alternate terms and children will share with their peers (in partner class) in the other terms. Parents felt positive about this
4. Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DW and SW discussed the length of the phased entry and feel that it is appropriate and is comparable to other school's arrangements. • DW visually reviewed the suggested congestion in R/Y1 playground at the end of school. DW feels that the majority of this is caused by the matching of siblings as this adds to the volume of children in this space. SLT are considering various options to improve this. Action: Mrs Williams to bring to next meeting (1st February 2018) • New teacher has been appointed for Jet Class maternity. We are seeing whether she might be able to attend one of the Christmas shows so that parents can introduce themselves if they would like to. Action: Mrs Williams has contacted the new teacher to see if she might be available. If so, let Jet parents know. • SLT to consider whether it may be possible to run an informal meet the teachers in the summer term, before children join their new classes. The traditional 'Meet the Teacher' in September would stay the same and focus on practicalities: PE days, expectations etc). Action: Mrs Williams to schedule (if agreed at SLT) and inform parents. • Discussion about whether parents could be told earlier about who their child's class teacher might be – currently children find out in reports. Action: when teaching team have been allocated to classes and allocations confirmed, Mrs Williams will consider informing parents earlier in Term 6.
5. AOB	<p>Clubs – follow up on request to be able to complete forms electronically and return, rather than having to print out. DW checked with office staff, who said that this is possible and some parents do this already. A member of the PC said that this would be suitable for people who can use word, but asked whether the school could look into whether an electronic system linked to the website might be possible. Action: Mrs Williams to find out from Mrs Packer (website coordinator) whether there is a known way of doing this.</p> <p>Communication – a parent gave feedback that they feel that the school communicates too much information. There is a lot of information to share and we are keen to make sure that parents have the information they need. Mrs Hall has reviewed the information that we send out and the methods we use. Could PC have a look at and consider for the next meeting? Action: Members of PC to feedback at the next meeting.</p>

Meeting dates for the rest of the year:

Term 3	Thursday 1 st Feb 2018 2:45-3:30pm
--------	---

Term 4	
Term 5	
Term 6	