

Minutes of Class Rep Meeting

Tuesday 9th November 2010 2pm

Attendees:

Fiona Charlesworth (Y2), Sally Thomson (Y4), Becca Hambidge (playgroup), Bex Jewell (Y1), Louise Glasspoole (Y3), Laura Rothwell (Y3), Lizzie Cox (Y3), Siggi Halling (Y5), Libby Piper (Y6), Caroline Arnold (Y5), Nicky Larard (Nursery), Rachel Hylton (Y5), Carla Robertson (Y1), Sara Rose (Y4), Sue Rose (Y5), Caroline Millen (Y4), Sarah Bettis (Y2), Alison Jarvis (Y3), Sally Adams (Y3), Helena Veldkamp.

Apologies:

Kate Luzar, Penny Semple, Anne Grady, Felicity Hardie, Helen Lee

Matters arising from last meeting:

A job description of the role of the class rep is attached with the agenda.

The problem of lost items was raised at the staff meeting. Staff will do all they can to re-unite children with their property but cannot disrupt lesson time nor ask children to search each others bags. Lost items which do not eventually turn up does not appear to be a frequent problem.

Emma Milbourn is no longer Reception rep.

Issue of group discipline for the bad behaviour of a few was also raised at the staff meeting by Mrs Thomson. This happens very rarely but does sometimes work, for example, the traffic light system in assembly.

Plea for help with book fair during parents evening

Volunteers are required to man the book fair during parents evening 15th and 17th November. Can reps please ask their class to join the rota once their own parents evening slots have been confirmed.

Questions raised by parents:

Creche during Nativity Plays

This is an excellent suggestion but does require parents to run it. The playgroup classroom could be used for the Foundation performance on 10th December and the KS1 performance on 14th December but not for the afternoon performance on 15th December as the room will be in use. It was suggested that KS1 and foundation parents help at each others' events. **ACTION:** KS1 and foundation class reps.

Teaching Staff for Years 1 and 2 after Christmas

This is in relation to maternity cover for Mrs Bancroft and Mrs Stark. Mrs Thomson will be discussing this at a meeting on Thursday and will inform parents next week.

Indoor and Outdoor PE

All children receive 1 hour of indoor PE and 1 hour of outdoor games a week. Children do occasionally miss outdoor games due to bad weather if conditions are unsafe.

Swimming

A parent was disappointed to learn that our pool is not used all year round. All children receive 1

term of swimming; the younger ones in our pool during the summer months and the older ones go to Amersham pool. The cost of upgrading the pool to be usable throughout the year would be very high.

Cold weather uniform

Can children wear boots in the cold weather? The answer is yes if they are black or navy and smart and sensible for school. Children may arrive at school in other footwear and change for the school day.

Portion sizes at lunchtime

Comments of too small portions from some parents but also too much from others! The portions are the recommended size for the children's ages. Children have been told that dessert should be a portion of fruit and a biscuit/flapjack or yoghurt.

Contact lists for other classes

A request for class contact trees which are issued by the office to be updated and sent out to classes. **Action:** office. Class reps currently arrange their own contact e-mail list to send out messages from PTA and on matters regarding their class. Permission has to be obtained to use parents e-mail addresses and to circulate to rest of class. Could the office parent consent form be changed to ask parents at the time of their child starting school to give their permission to be on a class circular list. This was seen as a good idea and will be implemented in time for the new school year. **Action** office and Mrs Thomson.

South Heath Bus

Parents in South Heath are frustrated that a half empty school bus passes them each day but their children are unable to use it without paying for it. Bucks County school transport specifies a distance from home to school under which it will not provide free transport. The bus picks up children from The Lee where they are eligible but South Heath is too close to school to qualify. Mrs Thomson will ring the school transport team and see if she can do anything about this. **Action** Mrs Thomson.

Tracksuits

The tops are too small and the bottoms too long! Mrs Thomson will speak to the supplier and also discuss new designs.

Photo feedback

The photographer is keen to hear feedback and improve next year. Most parents are very happy with their photos.

Other comments:

not liking the fence in the picture

some pictures are over-exposed

the combination of sizes could be improved.

Home learning during half-term

Teachers are encouraged not to give too much holiday home learning. This half-term year 5 and 6 had one piece each which shouldn't interfere with a family break. Year 5 were expecting a clip on the VLE which didn't appear until the end of the holiday, many children had to do their work without it. A similar problem has occurred with some maths work. If home learning relies on the VLE it needs to be put on promptly.

HS2 leaflets

The school has to be seen as neutral and not in any way political. The HS2 leaflet was an

information leaflet but it was not known at the time of sending it out that there is more than one HS2 action group. We did not intend to promote one group over another.

Testing in year 6

This happens and will continue to happen. Children are required to do the tests and parents want to know how their children are progressing.

Christmas parties for your class

Christmas party 27th November in the Memorial hall. Class reps please contact your class and use this as your xmas get together. 110 tickets available. **Action** class reps.

Greg thanked everyone for their help at the firework night, another fantastic success. Mrs Thomson thanked Greg who as usual worked incredibly hard to make it work.

Growing Great Missenden Market-feedback

A great success, Year 5 enjoyed organising and running it, apple juice was lovely! Next event will take place on December 10th at 2.30. Year 6 will be organising as their mini-enterprise. It will take place in the hall, and include school Christmas Puddings.

Any other business

Home learning logs are too big, don't fit in bags. Smaller next year?

Year 4 concern over potential change in staff after Christmas. Mrs Banks is returning from maternity leave part-time. Mrs Thomson will be discussing staffing at a meeting on Thursday and will let parents know when decisions have been made.

Is there a Key Stage 2 Christmas event for parents to attend? Yes, the carol service in church on 16th and 17th December. The choirs are practising hard and will also be singing at the Dickensian evening in Great Missenden.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25th January at 2pm.