

Minutes of the Parent Voice meeting - Tuesday 15th July 2014

Held in The Barn Cedar Studio

1. Welcome and introduction

Mr McIntosh (Deputy Head teacher) welcomed parents, introduced himself to the group and outlined the purpose of the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting and action points

- **Uniform**
To be discussed as item 3.
- **End of year class photos**
These had been arranged in-house and taken by staff shortly after the last Parent Voice meeting and orders had already been made. The photos would be distributed by the end of the term.
- **Sharing exam feedback**
This would be arranged next year. Due to the heavy workload involved in marking the test papers, feedback could not be given until the first or second week back after May half term at the earliest, as teachers use this half term to do this and to start on writing reports.
- **Year 3 Educational Visit**
Year 3 had participated in a visit this year to Sandford Mill. This was part of their Science topic of Materials. The usual visit to Colchester Castle could not be taken this year as the Castle had been closed between January 2013 – Spring 2014 for refurbishment. To be most effective, educational visits needed to take place during the actual time of the topic studied. Year 3 had studied Romans, the topic associated with the Castle visit, in the Autumn term of 2013.

3. Update on new uniform supplier and samples

This agenda item was requested by a parent.

Mr McIntosh was able to share samples of the school uniform as produced by Tesco's embroidery service. This was agreed to be of good quality and look smart. Tesco had just started to supply the uniform and some parents had already made orders. The benefits of using Tesco were outlined as follows:

- The quality of the material is good
- The cost is cheaper than the present supplier
- Tesco Clubcard points can be earned by parents
- Orders can be made online, with no minimum quantity
- There is free delivery to home
- The school will receive a 5% cash donation for every item purchased
- There is an introductory promotional offer of £5 off a £25 spend (until 28.02.15)

The school uniform can still be bought from One Stop School Gear for the time being. All uniform with the current logo already in possession can still be worn.

Tesco's embroidery service website can be found at www.tesco.com/ues

4. Update on new PPA provision

This agenda item was requested by a parent.

Next year, PPA would change from the current format of 4 afternoons (one per year group) to two full days. Classes would follow a weekly alternating pattern of mornings and afternoons on a single day; Years 3 & 4 would be on Tuesdays and Years 5 & 6 would be on Wednesdays. The following lesson provision would be in place:

- Years 3 & 4: Music provided by Stavehouse, PE/Games provided by Colchester United FC and RE and/or PSCE taught by Mrs Leonard.
- Year 5: Computing taught by Mr McTaggart, PE/Games provided by Colchester United FC and RE and/or PSCE taught by Mrs Leonard.
- Year 6: Music taught by Mrs K Green, PE/Games provided by Colchester United FC and RE and/or PSCE taught by Mrs Leonard.

Mr McIntosh stressed that Colchester United will provide the full spectrum of curriculum PE/Games and not just football! They had been awarded the contract to provide PE/Games after a fair and open bidding process had been undergone, with several providers being invited to tender their bid, including the current provider, Chelmsford FC.

5. Parent survey

Parent surveys had been issued with reports on the previous day. Mr McIntosh urged the group to help spread the word to other parents about the importance of receiving their feedback about the school. This was particularly for our own benefit, to gain positive responses about things that we do well and also information that might help further improve the school, but it will also be very useful to Ofsted when they inspect the school in the near future. Mr McIntosh also directed those present to Ofsted's online survey for parents, Parent View (after which our survey was modelled), as this will also be important for any future inspection. This can be found at

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

6. AOB from attendees

- A request was made that, on events such as Sports Day and the forthcoming Commonwealth event, children could be reminded to bring in and to wear their hats and also remind about sun cream being applied before coming to school.
- Sports Day taking place in June was commented on as a good decision as this would have allowed time in the remainder of the term for a reserve day that would not have overcrowded the final weeks, had that been necessary. A request was made for Go Bonkers to also be earlier for the same reason. However, it was generally felt that an event like Go Bonkers fits well near the end of term as it is seen by the children as a 'reward' for their hard work at school and this hard work needs to continue right to the end of term. A request was made for a substitute plan to be considered should future Go Bonkers events be rained off, as it had been very disappointing for the children that it had to be cancelled this year. The suggestion of a disco in the hall was made. Mr McIntosh said he would pass this on.
- A question about confirmation of Breakfast Club places was asked; Mr McIntosh would find out and ensure they would be issued by the end of term.

7. Dates/events

Mr McIntosh outlined some forthcoming dates and events as follows:

- Year 6 production – Tuesday 15th 7pm, Wednesday 16th 7pm, Thursday 17th July 1.45pm (the latter for grandparents)
- Pupils of achievement assembly (pupils only)
- Joint BFJS/BFIS Commonwealth Games event – Friday 18th July
- Year 6 leavers' BBQ and disco – Monday 21st July
- BFJS's Got Talent final – Monday 21st July pm (invited parents of acts only)
- Last day of term – Tuesday 22nd July (no early pick up)
- Non-Pupil dates for 2014-2015
 - Wed 3rd September, Friday 24th October, Mon 23rd Feb, Fri 22nd May, Wed 22nd July.

Mr McIntosh thanked parents for their attendance and reiterated that any requests for agenda items could be made to him in advance. The meeting concluded at 9.50am.

Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 16th September at 2.15pm (coffee/tea from 2.00pm) in The Barn Cedar Studio.