

## **Parent Council Meeting Minutes – 18/1/23**

*Present: Miss Page, Miss Butler, Ms. Polanco, Ms Simmonds, Ms Hampshire, Mrs Emmott, Ms MacAulay, Mr Cummings.*

Feedback from parent reps to date: (School feedback from PEC in red)

**After School Clubs** – More information needed about what's on offer and to which year groups. Is there the possibility of more being offered to younger year groups?

Urged parents to always check all forms of communication – newsletter, website, noticeboards, Marvellous Me messages and Twitter.

*Explanation of staff expectation from MM as a medium for communication according to messages/ activities per week.*

**Pick up/Drop off times** – Concerns have been raised by the parents about the safety of children at transition times. At the start of the day and the end of the day there is heavy congestion on the roads and the pavements with the sheer volume of pedestrians from different schools. Could the gates be opened earlier/ left open for longer to ensure safe passage. Also concerns for children being dropped off and that parents are letting children out of cars at hazardous places to get them into school on time. Requests made for person of authority to be on duty in the car park. Suggestion made of reinstating the walking bus from pick up points around the school – popular historically although problematic as needs organisation and commitment from parents to walk the routes daily. Look into the possibility of a lollipop lady (if there are any) to patrol on Queen's Road at school entrance at busy times.

*Investigate this as a school and will ask Mrs Duran to enquire about the Walking Bus – links to Walk on Wednesday.*

**School dinners** – Concern over quality and portion size. Requesting the option that jacket potatoes could be a choice every day. Very little choice for children with a preference for simpler food.

*Issue raised with Mrs Buckley FLO – investigating other options currently.*

**Communication** – A request for accuracy of information given from the office – Important dates/ events have been missed or wrongly advertised on newsletters – particularly for things such as school start dates for the new entrants. Attachments have been left off and has required multiple emails.

*Passed to SLT.*

**Uniform** – Greater clarity and speed needed with uniform orders made through the school.

*Contact made with the Friends, issue under review.*

**OPAL (Outdoor Play And Learning)** - Explained by Miss Butler as the new initiative in the school to make playtimes and outdoor times more sociable for all. All fences are to be removed to enable children from all year groups (excepting EYFS) to play with their friends and siblings from other year groups. Other outdoor play resources are being introduced to

improve the quality and engagement at playtimes. Ms. MacAulay volunteered to be the parental link in the OPAL committee.

*OPAL working well with children enjoying the opportunity to find a quieter space and see other friends. Pupil Voice suggests children have received it well, despite the mixing of ages being initially daunting.*

Meeting closed at 4.30pm

Date of next meeting: Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup> 3.30pm