



Coxheath

Primary School

Parent Council Minutes – 14/09/23

Attending

- Giacomo Mazza – Headteacher
- Clare Nursey - Governor
- Sally Lang (Minute taking)
- Katie Price– Leeds
- Alison Farrant – Hever
- Chelsea Farley – Rye
- Sam Southby – Thurnham
- Aly Semenco – Bodiam
- Louise Barden – Tonbridge
- Angie Holland – Scotney
- Amy Jones – Rochester
- Ann Read – Canterbury
- Sarah Howe – Herstmonceux
- Joy Ogbonna - Pevensey

Apologies

- Francesca Boulton – Allington
- Victoria Gest – Walmer
- Dover no parent rep

Welcome

GM started the meeting by welcoming and thanking the new faces and issuing terms of reference to each representative.

Actions from previous meeting (25/03/23)

- Lack of food – GM has continued to check.
- Reading – New reading initiative rolled out for this year.
- Emails and forms – Notifications of received emails now sent out to parents when they email in to the school.

- Twitter – has been discussed with teachers to put more pictures on for classes esp for Hever, Allington and Rye.
- Adult education courses – This term there is a wider variety of day and evening courses (these can be found on website and this week's Newsletter).
- **Road crossing** – Ann Read updated us on road crossing.

There have been meetings with KCC, Highways and Parish Council. We are not allowed a zebra crossing because of the width of road / pavement.

Barrier under discussion.

A tactile paving at the crossing has been agreed.

The Parish Council have been asked to extend the double lines to help visually.

Double yellow lines opposite the school have been asked for – Parish council need to agree.

Signs on the road are to change to say 'School' and move one to make more visible so drivers are aware that there is a school on Stockett lane.

The question has been asked to paint 'Slow' on the road – needs to be agreed.

Parents have been asked to report near misses, try and get photographic evidence. Please feed this back to other parents.

Could the children get involved? Design leaflets to hand out?

New Matters to Discuss

Wider experiences

- There have been meetings with staff developing wider experience for the children. As a school we already visit beaches, London etc and have external speakers each year such as police, firemen, but if anyone has any other connections for guest speakers to speak of other roles, then please get in contact with the school. The school would like a guest speaker every term.

PTA events / Trips

- Parent council agreed that they would like more fund raising events and trips. They do not feel that we have too many.
- Events for the school year on a spreadsheet would be helpful for parents to know upcoming events, including fund raising events, trips etc to give enough notice to be able to volunteer with help.
- PTA are going to start up a PTA newsletter with information.
- Please remind parents to follow and check the PTA Facebook page.

Diamond Celebration

- GM informed everyone that there will be an end of year celebration as the school is 60 years old.
- If anyone has any ideas then to please feedback. We discussed linking to history, something cultural, having a picnic on the field. It will be a whole day event celebrating with food, music, parents invited, community feel.

School photos

- Light blue background instead of white. Fizz photography have been informed to bring the blue backdrop when they come in October.
- DBS parent volunteers to help with ensuring children are smart before photos. Please can parents ask if anyone is available for this on the 12th October? If they are, please contact the school office.

Feedback from class Reps

Hever

- Can fish and chips change to chicken nuggets and chips on some Friday's? Some children do not like the fish.

Bodiam

- Number of emails is still high (23 in 9 days)
- Year group in subject so parents know which child it is referring to.
- Can club information all be in one email.
- Parents queried if Mrs Ray was teaching more in Bodiam. It was explained that the extra day was because the usual teacher was off that day, so it was for cover.

Canterbury – no feedback

Tonbridge – no feedback

Rye – no feedback

Herstenceux

- Girls and boys changing for PE, there is a window where girls can still be seen.
- Could PE kits be worn in on PE day? GM discussed how it is a good skill to learn (getting changed quickly and efficiently, eps in KS1 years). For older children, it may not be so pleasant to stay in clothes all day after a PE lesson.
- Year 6 residential trip. This will be discussed at Meet the teacher. It will be more expensive this year, price not yet confirmed, but it will be about £290. There will be a payment plan to help spread the cost. More information to follow once prices have been released from the venue.

Pevensey

- Parents would like a clear idea of year 6 activities which will be happening throughout the year.
- Curriculum trips to be advised to give warning on when help may be needed for transport for trips.

Thurnham

- SATs, were discussed if they are compulsory in KS1. GM informed parents that they are not a requirement from the government now, however they are used as an assessment for the school. Parents spoke who have experience from previous years and reassured parents that they are relaxed and not pressured tests.
- It was questioned if there were any other free after school clubs. GM mentioned that the school relies on teachers to offer up time to make them free for parents. However there should be some more clubs available to younger years later on in the year.
- It was asked if there could be a reduced charge for pupil's spending less time in ASC. This idea has been visited before and unfortunately the price as it is, is a trust decision.
- Can the school invest in some more fans per classrooms or raise money for air con? It was discussed that maybe some of the PTA funds can go towards this.

Scotney

- PE day, Year 4 don't seem to get a break or snacks. GM explained that this was on 11+ day and the movement of classes meant a reduced time of break but they should have got time for a snack.
- Boys summer uniform/. It was discussed if boys would be able to wear polo shirts in KS2 when it is summer. GM reassured that the school does relax the uniform when it is hot. Children can untuck shirts, wear short sleeves, remove tie. All teachers were aware of this and allowed children to do so.
- Learner of the Week. Can the email be sent a week earlier to give parents more notice? This is going to be actioned.

Rochester

- The request for more fans came up.
- Emails – to identify what year group discussed again.

Leeds

- Thanked KS1 staff for helping with the new reception children to settle in so well.
- Language of parents, can this be addressed as some language is not appropriate on the school drops offs and pick up's. A note to be added on to the Newsletter (done).

- Can the side gate always be opened by Leeds classroom to make the flow of parents at drop off in the morning be smoother. This should be happening going forward.

Walmer (Katie price spoke for them)

- Could there be a snappy dresser award for children getting changed for PE / swimming etc. GM advised that there are systems such as going up the ladder in place for this.

Canterbury

- GM was made aware that girls have been asked to wear cycling shorts under dresses when spinning upside down on apparatus. GM explained that this is a miscommunication as it is not a school requirement to wear cycling shorts under skirts, however children should not be spinning upside down on the equipment.

Actions to be taken from this meeting

- KS1 – Parents to wait on playground instead of queuing along path. GM will go and check, but can Parent reps also make parents aware of this. New YR parents may be unaware of this. Add to newsletter **GM/ SL**
- Ask catering company if it's possible change fish and chips for chicken nuggets and chips on some weeks. **SL**
- Girls and boys changing in year 6, there is still a window where children can be seen **GM**
- Yr 5 – Check if they change separately **GM**
- Share assessment year planner with parents **GM**
- Research air con price for classroom
- Check emails are being sent. Some parents only getting texts on eduspot – Office
- Side gate by Leeds to be open for parents at drop offs **GM**
- Cycling shorts on girls **GM**
- Add to newsletter **SA**
- Parents to follow PTA Face book page, add to Newsletter **SL**
- Parents to wait on KS1 playground **GM/SL/Parent reps**
- Parents to be mindful of language, ass to Newsletter **SL**
- Number of emails / condensing emails such as club emails **SA / Office**
- LOTW email, can it be sent earlier. This has been actioned and will happen going forward.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 9th November at 2pm

