

Parent Voice Wednesday 4th March 2020 9am-10am – Pastoral Centre

Attendees:

GJ (Head teacher), AH (Pastoral Leader), Parents - RD, LT, JF, DS, GE, NMa, HT & RT

The meeting was opened by AH, new members welcomed.

- **Minutes from last meeting to be agreed:**

Minutes of the previous meeting on 22nd January were agreed by all and copies given to take home for new members. All minutes are held on the school website.

- **Review Actions from previous meeting:**

Actions from the previous meeting in October were discussed prior to the actions from the January meeting:

1. **NMi to liaise with B&Q and Harrods**

NMi was not present to be able to feedback on any liaison with B&Q & Harrods.

2. **NMa to identify parent volunteers for the next meeting**

NMa did not feel this was something she could commit to at the time. She was focussing on the Coffee Mornings and growing this. She is also volunteering in school to help with crafts and D&T in the classrooms. GE/RT/HT also keen to get themselves DBS checked and will see the school office regarding this.

3. **AH to advertise the parental coffee mornings and parent courses as necessary in the Newsletter**

Parental Coffee mornings were taking place every Wednesday in the Bungalow between 9am and 10am. They are advertised weekly in the Newsletter but the group is small, so NMa has suggested that it becomes a 'Coffee & Craft' group to try and grow numbers with a view to making items to sell to raise funds for the school/Pastoral Garden. NMa to look into advertising this weekly by telling parents what they will be making the next week.

4. **AH to ensure our Newsletter directs parents to our website for contact email addresses of teachers**

Completed.

5. **AH/GJ to talk about the Pastoral Centre to children in assembly**

Completed.

6. **GJ to look into videos to show the children re jobs and disabilities**

Completed.

7. AH/GJ to create a workshop for parents on all the wellbeing work being done by the school including Nurture UK, 5 ways to Wellbeing, Zones of Regulation, Protective Behaviours and Attachment Awareness (all these all interlink and underpin all that the school does for the children)

Ongoing – AH explained to the new parents what The Zones of Regulation are and what the colours mean. These sorts of discussions take place regularly at the coffee mornings and give parents a chance to put questions to AH about the school.

8. Date of next meeting to be confirmed before the end of Autumn Term to feedback on progress.

Completed (dates for all further meetings this academic term are detailed on the school website along with minutes and agendas from previous meetings).

Actions from 22nd January Meeting:

1. GJ to feedback on the outcome of the SIF bid

The outcome of the SIF bids will be known at the end of March. We have a bid for £10,000 to knock down a wall in nursery so we can increase capacity and therefore increase numbers. We also have a bid for £8,000 to mulch the pathway leading into the school.

2. AH to arrange parent workshops in due course

See above.

3. AH/RD to feedback on the pastoral garden funding

Ruth showed the group her wonderful drawings and explained the plans for the Pastoral Garden Project. These plans will be shown to the children later today. HT said she is having a tree chopped down in her garden in April and asked if we would like the trunk chopped for us to use. Ruth keen to have more tree stumps because the children are loving jumping on them and playing games. JF has also offered for RD to come and remove plants from her garden and have them replanted in the Pastoral Garden. This is very much in line with our 'reuse and recycle' philosophy. RD has applied for hedging which should come in November. If we use bark in the Pastoral garden it needs to be safety bark, which is quite expensive so it will depend on funds. Craft sales could be used to raise funds for this.

4. GJ to arrange Burstons thank you letter

Miss Morgan from Olive class has this in hand.

5. GJ to review Marvellous Me use across the school

GJ has reviewed the use and went through this with parents. It is still not being consistently used across the school but GJ will continue to encourage its use with teachers. It will take time to embed across the school.

- **PTA:**
GJ advised that the PTA have resigned, she is happy to work on individual projects with parents rather than look for a new PTA. However, if anyone would like to discuss this further please see GJ.
- **Parent Advocates:**
GJ explained that The Trust has employed a Marketing Manager who wants to video parents giving their views of Beechfield school to raise our profile in the community and to go on our school website. RT & HT were both happy to take part in this, GJ will feed this back.
- **Parental Coffee Mornings/fund raising:**
See above
- **AOB:**
GJ reported that there will be a Sex Education and Relationships talk for parents on 1st April. GJ to consider if there will be 2 meetings; one in the morning at 9am for parents without staff present but the resources on show. Then a second meeting at 6pm for parents where teachers would be attending so parents can speak directly to staff to ask questions about their children's year group.

New member to the Parent Voice (HT) has come to Beechfield from LHS. She does not believe there was any Parent Council at the school. She says the teaching method is different at Beechfield and she prefers the style here. The other parents talked about the play and stay sessions which take place every so often in Reception and AH said if she needed to speak to the staff she could do so directly or get the teachers emails from the school website. She could also speak with AH or GJ if she had any concerns.

A parent Whatsapp group per class was suggested. GJ will speak to the teachers re setting this up, suggestions of getting parents on board were suggested and to have 1 lead parent per class to coordinate the messages.

GJ said that a TV is being donated which is a new way of passing on messages to parents, this will be installed soon and there was discussion about where was best to place it; perhaps in the first recess.

Concern raised by RD re Y2 computing and anxiety caused when children do not know how to 'log on'. GJ will look into this and consider an intervention for some children to support them.

VE day Celebration will take place on Thursday 7th May – GJ wants to have children come to school dressed in Red, White and Blue. Then parents can come in at 2pm for a family picnic. JF says her son would like to do a charity bake sale for 'Help for Hero's' that day. £1 donations for dressing up could go to the Pastoral Garden Project. GJ will speak with Gavin from Apex re using their equipment that day. NMa will look at making crafts and going into

the year groups to help make crafts to sell. Each class/year group could run a stall and sell items to raise funds for the school.

The Salvation Army will be running a "Recycle with Michael" competition from April until June. Mark Scoulding from the SA will come into school to give an assembly on this in due course.

- **Actions:**

1. Emails/newsletter/text messages to go home in due course re what recycled goods we need for the Pastoral Garden Project.
2. AH to arrange parent workshops for summer term if possible or to discuss topics with parents in the Coffee & Chat Mornings.
3. AH/RD to continue to feedback on the Pastoral Garden Project
4. GJ to arrange Bustons thank you letter
5. GJ will feed back on the SIF bid as the result will be known at the end of March
6. NMa will look at advertising what will be being made in advance at the 'Coffee and Craft' mornings to try and drum up attendance and support
7. GJ will speak to the Teaching staff re a Whatsapp group for each class for parents
8. GJ to look into computing in Y2
9. GJ to liaise with Gavin from Apex re use of equipment for VE Day celebrations. VE Day Meeting will be arranged with GJ. Date of meeting to follow for those interested in helping support this day.
10. AH will feed back further on the Salvation Army Project – recycle with Michael.