



City of Rochester School Parent Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

Thursday 26th May 2022

Present: Sheila Humphrey (Registrar), Robin Born (parent), Sarah Born (parent), Maria Smith (parent).

Apologies: Victoria Crone-Kontemeniotis (parent), Amanda Kemsley (parent), Kelly Lovell (Assistant Headteacher)

Topic Discussed	Ideas/actions
Policy update	<p>Talked about reforming the Positive Behaviour Policy and Behaviour reward system that City of Rochester currently uses and asked for members to read the policy and make any suggestions regarding a change to the current reward system. To be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p> 09.001 CofR Positive Behaviour S</p> <p>A new Policy regarding Healthy eating is also being prepared and a copy of this will be forwarded to members when it is available.</p>
COVID and general safety arrangements.	There are no further updates
Fundraising	<p>Any larger scale fundraising activities have been postponed until the new academic year.</p> <p>Please see the attached proposed plan for the school playground (please note that this is only a suggestion and not the final design as not all elements will be able to be included).</p> <p> City of Rochester design proposal 17_</p>
Workshops /Coffee Morning	<p>The next Coffee Morning will be held on Wednesday 29th June and we have Autism South- East joining us :</p> <p>Autism South-East (ASE) is a family run and autistic led organisation, helping and supporting autistic adults and children and their families throughout the South-East.</p> <p>Amanda Cook has three Autistic children and is autistic herself. She founded ASE after experiencing isolation and a lack of support and guidance. Amanda wanted to share her knowledge and break down the barriers of isolation felt by many families.</p> <p>A flyer will be sent out to all parents and advertised on the school website and Facebook page.</p>
Facebook	Parents asked whether the private Facebook page could be open for members to post pictures etc on to share events and to make this a more social Facebook page where it can be posted if parents and or children are meeting up outside of school so that others can join them (Sheila to take this forward to find out about if the current settings can be amended to accommodate this).

	<p>I have spoken to SLT regarding this request, and they have come up with some GDPR issues that they are looking into and whether a disclaimer on the page would suffice. I will keep you updated on progress.</p> <p>(No further progress to report)</p>
Welfare & Wellbeing	<p>The PAG discussed the issue the school is currently having with students texting each other/using WhatsApp groups. Although this is happening out of school time the impact on students is being brought into school. The school has been working with students and parents to resolve these issues and will continue to do all it can in educating the students to remain safe online.</p> <p>Maria Smith (PAG member) requested that the minutes include her thanks and how impressed she has been with the promptness of the school's reaction to this situation and how it has been dealt with.</p>
Curriculum updates	<p>Next terms experiential (Term 6) is an environmental art workshop with a local artist, Mona Whitton.</p> <p>The children will learn to weave fibres and fabrics (designed to help with fine motor skills). Some of the children will work towards making their own basket using paper straws and plastic bags. Throughout the workshops time will be spent discussing how paper straws are better for the environment than plastic straws and about the impact of plastic bags and recycling. Mercury, Earth and Pluto class will learn about the habitats of insects and what they need, they will work together to build an insect hotel.</p> <p>A brief summary of the activities and interaction/enjoyment of students will be shared with parents as part of the end of term Newsletter.</p>
AOB	<p>New Vacancy – A new vacancy for a driver/handyman was advertised and has now temporarily been filled in house.</p> <p>As previously mentioned, the school is intending to run a pilot scheme providing our own transport to and from school for a cohort of children who particularly struggle with the journey. This is in conjunction with Medway Transport and the findings of this pilot scheme will determine how far we can expand this scheme to other children. (This is still the school's intention, but we are awaiting a special licence that is not likely to be with us until the start of the new academic year and further updates will follow).</p>
Meetings	Next meeting – Thursday 30 th June – 10:00 am