

**St Luke's C. of E. Primary School Parent Council  
Minutes of the Meeting held 18/03/2021**

**Attending:**

**Staff:**

Dan Bates (Deputy Headteacher & SENDCo)

Hannah Jones (Secretary)

**Parents:**

(Class rep Yr R) Hannah Jones	(Line 19 parent Yr R)
(Class rep Yr 1) Jenny Olsson	(Line 19 parent Yr 1)
(Class rep Yr 2) Sarah Gaston	(Line 19 parent Yr 2)
(Class rep Yr 3L) Alex Adams	(Line 19 parent Yr 3L)
(Class rep Yr 3K) Alexia Cammish	(Line 19 parent Yr 3K)
(Class rep Yr 4) Vicky Loewer	(Line 19 parent Yr 4)
(Class rep Yr 5A) Vinny Annear	(Line 19 parent Yr 5A)
(Class rep Yr 5D) Nathalia Irons	(Line 19 parent Yr 5D)
(Class rep Yr 6)	(Line 19 parent Yr 6)

**Agenda:**

**1. Welcome & Introduction**

- 1.1. Mr Bates welcomed the parents to the Parent Council meeting.
- 1.2. Action points from the previous meeting covered. See minutes from the previous meeting.
- 1.3. Wonde Feedback - It was felt that the system made the children more independent and worked well for families generally. The Google classroom app on the iPad meant getting into meetings was troublesome but most families found a work-around.

**2. Frequently asked questions section for the website - Parental suggestions**

- 2.1. DB requested any questions be sent to the office email.

Several suggestions have been received by email from parents following on from the meeting. Thanks for those.

**3. Newsletter feedback, are the blogs useful?**

- 3.1. Key Information – can there be a highlights section at the top?

Yes - Mr Dutton has introduced the 'In Brief' section at the top of the newsletter.

- 3.2. Questions arose as to whether it could be formatted to be easier to read on a phone? Majority of people read the newsletter on a phone.

We looked at the newsletter on a mobile phone and the rendering (I think this is the word) was to fit the screen size and it appeared easy to read. Perhaps it might be an issue on a different device? Testing was on an iPhone.

- 3.3. One parent asked if changes/additions on the calendar could be highlighted – perhaps change the colour.

This idea has been passed for Mr Dutton to look at.

#### 4. Tutoring feedback

- 4.1. One parent mentioned that the tutoring has been really helpful for her child. Another parent notes that her son's tutoring fell on the same day as one of his clubs. But DD has encouraged and inspired him to the point that he's quite content to go.

The positive feedback received was feedback to the teacher.

- 4.2. It was felt that 30 minutes is too long to concentrate, especially for the younger children - would a shorter session, conducted more frequently be more advantageous than once a week for longer?

DB noted that finding the time for the tutoring is a tricky balance with not missing other parts of the curriculum and teachers' time.

#### 5. Update on parent teacher interviews

- 5.1. The Parent-Teacher interviews have been moved to 18th & 20th May. They will be remote sessions again but this time, two parents can now join from separate locations and two teachers also. Going forwards the school will look at continuing to offer some kind of remote access in future to supplement the in person sessions.

- 5.2. A question was raised about whether there can be longer sessions for each child to allow parents to ask more questions? Currently the session is 10 minutes long.

DB explained that adding more time to the appointments would mean adding a third evening and that this would be an additional workload for teachers who already have a very long week when it is parents' evening. It was also noted that if parents had concerns or queries then they could make an appointment with class teachers at any time.

#### 6. Residential journeys

- 6.1. The current year 5 children have missed out on the Hindleap Warren residential. The plan is that the current year 4 children will go at the usual time of year in October and the current year 5 cohort will go in November 2021. The 21/22 Year 4 trip to Sayers Croft will be booked in, if possible, after the lockdown is released and their staff return after furlough.

#### 7. Catch up planning. Plans for 'catch up' sessions for children.

- 7.1 Tutoring is the major contribution and currently one third of the school have been offered catch up tutoring in this academic year.

(NB. Mr Bates had left his notes in the office during the meeting and misremembered the figure. I have written the correct figure in the notes above. The figure which I gave in the

meeting of 53%, related to the non-unique number of children who have had tutoring. The one third figure is the number of unique children who have received tutoring. DB)

**7.2.** Tutoring will continue as long as the funding allows and staff will continue to assess needs and prioritise accordingly.

**7.3.** The remote learning provision has been better during lockdown 3.0, than during the first partial school closure and the school feels that, due to this, the majority of children are not as behind as they were, when they returned in September. The school is also keen to avoid the children developing a sense of 'being behind', or 'having missed out', because of the potentially negative effect this will have on them. The main goal for the school is to get them back into a good place mentally, to get them used to the routine of school and to help them to be happy and confident in their learning again. The school will then use its usual internal monitoring and assessment procedures to identify any need for additional help.

**8. Date for 3rd (Summer) meeting**

**8.1.** Everyone agreed on the **20th May** as the date for the next meeting. The parent council also indicated that they felt that continuing to offer the parent council meetings as a remote session would be a good idea, even after the Covid regulations have been lifted. The school will bear this in mind for next year and it should be feasible.

**9. A.O.B.**

**9.1.** Do we know when external school clubs will restart? Hopefully after Easter, subject to Covid regulations.

External clubs will begin after Easter, the information letter was sent out via the school newsletter on Friday 26th March.

**9.2.** Continuing the buddy system - Could the buddy system for the Reception children be extended for the current reception class when they go to year 1? This was raised because it was felt that they had missed out on having a buddy due to the lockdown and Covid restrictions.

Yes - this would work out well as there is a bulge year going into year 6 in September so it will mean that all of year 6 will be able to have a buddy from either Reception, or Year 1.