

Parent Council Meeting

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 30th September 2015

Present: Mrs S Sankey, 8 Parents, Mrs H Watkins (Clerk)

Mrs Sankey opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.

1. E-Safety Parent Agreement form – the uses of digital images and video

Parents were reminded that a new Home School Agreement was sent home in September which had been updated to include internet use. Mrs Sankey then informed parents that a new E-Safety Policy will be put in place next half term. The new policy will include 'Acceptable Use' form for Staff, Parents and Children. Mrs Sankey explained how there would be a KS1 and a KS2 poster version of this and a copy would be on the wall in each classroom for children to sign. Parents were shown examples of the KS1 and KS2 Acceptable Use policies and all said that as a parent they were happy for their child to sign.

Mrs Sankey said that she would consider adding this to the children's school diaries next year.

Parents were then shown a copy of the proposed 'Parent Acceptable Agreement' which also includes the use of digital images and video. Mrs Sankey explained that there had been cases of parents secretly filming assemblies or taking photographs on their phones, even though this is not allowed. Mrs Sankey then went on to explain how there were some children in Engayne who are adopted or looked after children (i.e. in care) and that they must not be photographed or filmed. Parents said they had not thought of this and that by Mrs Sankey explaining, gave a better understanding as to why filming and photographs were not allowed. Parents suggested highlighting this information on the agreement to make it stand out to parents. Parents said they would be happy to sign but requested that paper copies be sent home and not sent home via parent mail. Agreed. Two copies will be sent home one for parents to keep and one in another colour to sign and return to the school. Mrs Sankey will also send home an accompanying letter to parents with the Acceptable Agreement. Parents suggested that it would be a good idea at the beginning of each assembly if a child reminded parents that photographs and filming is prohibited. A copy of the Acceptable Agreement Policy will also be added to the school website.

2. Safeguarding at the end of the school day and procedures for picking up

Mrs Sankey asked parents for feedback regarding the procedures in placing for picking up children in KS1 at the end of the school day. A discussion took place and it was agreed to continue using the chairs and the current procedure.

3. Any other business

Healthy Award

Mrs Sankey explained how we had achieved a Bronze Healthy Award last year and now needs to meet the criteria for a Silver Healthy Award this year. A tuck shop is being built. Children bring in healthy snacks for break times. However, we would not meet the criteria for a Gold Award unless packed lunches sent in from home were healthier. School dinners already met the criteria. A discussion took place regarding the type of food parents are currently sending in and the portion sizes. It was agreed that a list of healthy options should be sent home to parents with guidelines on how many items should be included (e.g. No more than 5 items). Mrs Sankey asked if parents would object to children only being allowed water to drink in a packed lunch. The school would provide jugs of water. Only water is available to drink with a school meal. Some parents had no objection, others said they would swop their current choice of drink to flavoured water. Mrs Sankey said that the idea is raise parents awareness and to vary the packed lunches. It was agreed that it was difficult to police and that some children were fussy eaters. Mrs Sankey said that this would not be launched until the Spring term and that she would draft a list and guidelines and bring to the next parent council meeting.

Informal Parent Meetings

Mrs Sankey asked parents if they had attended the informal parent meetings and if they had also attended the workshops held afterwards. All parents present had attended both. They said that the workshops were well attended and a very good idea. They felt that the workshops made it more worthwhile attending rather than just spending 15 minutes in the classroom. Mrs Sankey thanked parents for their feedback.

New on-line Parent Evening Booking System

Parents were asked if they had booked an appointment using the new system and if so, what they thought about it. Parents unanimously agreed that the new system worked well and that they preferred it. They had heard of some parents having difficulties accessing the system and it was explained to them that unless a parent typed in exactly the same details as held on the school system, access was denied. Any parents with problems had been quickly and easily helped by the school office.

Meeting Closed. 10.15am

Date of next meeting: Thursday 12th November at 9.15am