



Parents' Council

Thursday 13 October @ 7pm

Agenda

Attendees	Apologies
Acorns Faye Roberts & Luke Parry Catkins Marta Jankowska (Partner) Conkers Afzal Shabbir & Suzanne Swan Hawthorn Fatima Jabalpurwala & Jac Parsons-Moore Holly Janak Kailey Laurel Tad Zapasnik & Sophia Matthew Douglas Kimberly Preston Pine Hannah Rourke Spruce Katherine Ramsden Apple Simon Henry Pear Emma Turland Cherry - Dr Y Rahul & Laura Morgan Acer Kimberly Preston Cedar & Maple Kelly Houlby Ash Danielle Reed & Nadia Mogul Beech Neil Buck & Shelley Porter-Good Sycamore Beckie Reeves Silver Birch Sathish Panguluru Horse Chestnut Francesca Mills & Sonella Hessling Oak Kirsty Berry Ms Kate Guymer Miss Steff Merrick Miss Charlotte Withers Sonia Aldridge	Catkins - Marta Jankowska & Nicola Granger Holly- Janak Kailey Cherry - Dr Y Rahul Beech - Shelley Porter-Good Silver Birch - Sathish Panguluru Horse Chestnut - Francesca Mills

No	Item	Owner
1	Welcome	KGu
2	Minutes of the last meeting (summer 22)	KGu
	Lost Property – we have a trolley that is full. The year 6 prefects children sort it on a Friday. The items are then returned back to classes. Kirsty has also helped sort through this. A sharpie has been given to teacher to name items that were unnamed if needed. YouTube – Kate - we will look at YouTube videos.	

	<p>Communication – How can we share with you. If it isn't in the form of a YouTube video it may be in a different way.</p> <p>Phonics Screen – The children did are doing well. Kate - We did a phonics workshop this week. For both reception and Year 1 parents. That was very successful.</p> <p>Back-to-school money – Sonia - we can pay in bulk if needed. We can set it up. Means for charity days, you can pay £10 in bulk for the year. We can do it for the school disco's if you want.</p> <p>Orchard/Music – one app. School dinners - PAY360</p> <p>Roof on scooter shed? Sonia - We are looking at improving that at the minute. By the front office.</p> <p>Dinner money – Sonia - We are looking at a low budget reminders.</p>	
3	Start of the Year	KGu
	<p>Kate - We feel it is nice to start the year in a normal way. The children have settled and enjoying normality. Clubs are going well. We have reacted well to sort the safety when letting the children leave.</p> <p>Reception have settled in well.</p> <p>We are teaching the curriculum slightly different now. Topic based lessons are no more. It is more subject based. We are focusing on naming the subjects and ensuring everything is taught well.</p> <p>We have some new students in school, that are doing well.</p> <p>We are creating some child friendly spaces around school. 'The Nest' which will be a nature space. We have changed the Reception cloakroom and we are now creating a 'sensory space'.</p> <p>Sonia - The children are enjoying the AstroTurf and it is much safer in the outdoor areas. The trees have been removed at the front, ready for the bike shed/store. The AstroTurf has been tested, as we don't want it dangerous or too hot in the summer.</p>	
4	Parking	KGu
	<p>Kate - Parking is always an issue. SLT are doing drive duty every day. We have seen some dangers during the school mornings. It's always on the newsletter as it's a big issue.</p>	

	<p>Kelly Living Streets – dissolved it. We managed to get some lines painted, but they haven't supported much.</p> <p>Sonia - The signs have not been outside the school because children from Ashlawn were defacing them, then parents were actually hitting them with their cars. Residents were asking us to bring them in daily. We would like ideally signs on lampposts as there are no signs at eye height to remind people of driving speeds.</p> <p>Living Streets? Ask Kara Smith?</p> <p>Parent messages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local school have the older children putting thank you cards on cars - could we do staggered timings? Kate – I don't think it would work. - Working with your neighbours is best to support each other to reduce the parking around school. There are loads of empty roads, but most people park right next to the school. <p>Driveway/gate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can we remind people picking up from clubs they use the gates? Sonia - Ok - Can we make sure the gates/side gates are open and not locked? Sonia – Ok - Gates are open and also cafeteria doors are open? Is it a safeguarding issue? Sonia – they are not usually open. 	
5	Extra-Curricular Activities	KGu
	<p>So happy with the clubs.</p> <p>Hotshots – very unorganised today. Sonia – its outside agency, you need to speak to them directly. They knew weeks ago and did the faster last week. Please feed it back to them.</p> <p>Gymnastics – why is it not happening? Sonia - Lottie emailed last minute at the end of the Summer holidays. Obviously, we didn't reply as it was the Summer holidays and when we did reply in the Autumn Term the remaining slots had gone.</p> <p>Sports Club? Being told to get changed in the toilets? CW – Children should be coming into school in PE kits.</p> <p>If someone is off sick (staff) can children go to another club or the orchard? Kate - It may be that</p>	

	we have to combine clubs and maybe even put them into the hall doing a completely different club? We can look into this, but it may mean that your child comes home saying they have been to a completely different club.	
6	Suggestions for improvements from parents	All
	<p>Reception</p> <p>Acorns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication. People miss the newsletters lots. Can important dates be linked on the Friday newsletter? Kate – Miss Texera should be sending out a newsletter. We thought the newsletter had lots on it that was relevant. We were thinking about important dates and that's the priority. - The new phonics is great, so thank you. <p>Catkins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phonics training was brilliant. We were making lots of mistakes as parents, so thank you. <p>Conkers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children are writing cursive when they come home. The handout was brilliant. Thank you. Are they meant to be doing lead ins and lead-outs? Are you doing fine motor skills? SM – Yes, we do lots of fine motor in Reception. - I am worried about the pre-writing skills. SM – They are doing lots of fine motor skills and we are supporting them where appropriate. - Thank you for the bits at home. - I have noticed my child is very picky, Mr Baldwin is trying to help her with food. My child does not like the sauce on the food. Can it be separate. Sonia – I can talk to the kitchen staff. <p>Hawthorn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey conducted last year? Can we have feedback. Sonia – Yes, we can sort feedback. - Amazing support. I am very happy with the teachers. Lots of support. My child is happy to come into school and enjoys learning. <p>Laurel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subject overview? Can we have it for half term? Children do not tell us what's happened during the day? Can we find out more about what we are learning? Kate - New Subject overviews will be updated and uploaded onto the website. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Numbots? Is it being used? CW – Yes - Can the children have a day off in the day to go on a family trips because the weekends are too busy? Kate – No - Do the class have internal or external supply? Kate - We do both, depending on staff. - Supply teacher – The children were unsettled, can we be told in advance if my child is having a supply. Kate – we can see what we can do. - Can we have more than one reading book to take home? CW – yes. They have one book banded book, one phonics books which has to be read three times and also a library book. - School photographs – we haven't had anything yet? Sonia – We have chased the company. We are using a new company. We are awaiting the proofs through. <p>Spruce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents wants to know about homework. CW – reading, phonics and maths. White Rose for Maths/TTRS/Numbots - PE was missed on Friday? Do they get indoor PE? Why was it missed Kate – we will do our best to get the children outside, or the children will do PE in classrooms. - Sports day – why didn't it get reorganised? Kate – we completed it in school in the Autumn term. - The investment in the library is great. <p>Douglas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the website, it says the staff context. Can pictures be on the website of staff so we know all the adults? Kate – we feel its not right to have personal staff photographs on the website. <p>Pine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents evening – slots are full? Some parents wanted the face-to-face but got TEAMS. Kate – First come first serve. - Trees – can parents be told when they finish a tree? My child has finished a tree but I don't have any. Kate – will talk to staff. Recap with parents on the newsletters about trees. CW – children receive a leaf postcard after the 4th 5th and 6th tree. <p>Apple</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very happy to see the teacher during the meet and greet. <p>Pear</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very happy with the reading event. The parental response was crazy, thought 50 people were attending. Some people did not get an email about the reading event. - My child was very emotional by the supply teacher she had at the start of the week, she was in floods of tears. - If we have completed forms, please can we stop getting reminders? Sonia – we cannot control who it goes too, it sends to all. Kate – we can flag it and say we have sent and reminded, this is your last reminder to complete the form. <p>Cherry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication. It has been covered. - Cursive – should the children be doing cursive? Kate – Children in EYFS should not be doing it in Reception. The children in Year 1 will learn pre-cursive and then start to join as they move up the school. <p>Acer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bike sheds – I noticed bikes have been left. They have been left since Easter. Kate – they can either go to squirrels or they go into the skip. - Is there any way to work out by formal assessment for the children to show us if our children need a tutor? Kate – look at the child's Pupil Profile in the Autumn Term. Look at this and make the decision yourself as a parent? - Celebrations in newsletters are missed? - What are the plans for Paddox for the new headteacher? Kate – I am not coming into school to change things and my job is to watch and learn and talk to people. That will give me more directions of the school. I want to get to know people, and learn what we do well and what we can do better. This is a different place to my old school, and I want to do it right? - Could you do a surgery after school? Once a term? Kate – yes - Communication – can an invite be sent which then goes into your calendar? Could I then sync that to my personal calendar? Sonia/Kate look into it? <p>Cedar and Maple</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School Council? What is this? Is it the same children every year? CW – the children complete a 'School Council Manifesto'. Then they share it. In Class assembly, the children vote for the child they want as the rep. Mrs Ayres – Can it be different children each year? So different children have 	
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	<p>opportunities and its not always the same children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Orchard – Parents want to know if they can book the orchard in advance and find it onerous to book each session for each child. Sonia/Kate - Sessions are available to book to up until Christmas and we are looking at a solution for block bookings. <p>Ash</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5/6 play on the carpark area – can they have play equipment? Sonia/Kate – look into it? - Meetings times – the meet and greet was at 2.45 if you work fulltime, how does this work for those parents? - Manor adventure – very informative, could that have been done via TEAMS as we didn't have to come into school for a reason. We also have not had any feedback. Some events are nice to come in for. Online makes it easier for some people to attend. - Meet and Greet – I could not attend because I work in a school. So how was that fair? Kate – we can think about how to look at this. Sonia – we are looking at maybe doing early drop ins at the start of the school day. <p>Oak</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The pork on Wednesday is too fatty. My child is cutting too much fat off the meat. - Year 6 hoodie – can they have them earlier? Kate/Sonia - Library club at lunchtime? For those children that don't want to go outside. Kate/Sonia - Money – being capped at a minimum of £5? Kate/Sonia - Ashlawn exams? We can try and sent out a reminder. Kate/Sonia - Will we get information on Year6 SATS? Kate – yes - What is going at parents evening? What is the focus? Kate – It is going to be able settling in, behaviour, friendships, how they are getting on. - Homework – are we going to be getting loads of homework at Christmas because we have had nothing just yet. Sonia – The children will get the books soon. We don't want to send too much now because we don't want them to worry. - Please can we do WBD a week late because of the children in Year6 missing it? Kate – yes 	
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	<p>- What is the heating situation at school? Sonia – we are testing the heating in October, we are going to check it still works. We are looking at adjusting the thermostat.</p>	
7	AOB	All
	<p>Apps – I am getting way too many emails throughout the day. I think we need an APP to put the messages out there. Kate – At my old school we did use something similar. We do think an APP would join stuff together. Sonia – we need a live calendar for your year group. We will do emails for urgent emails.</p> <p>Do parents look at blogs? No</p> <p>Communication for your child – ensure it shows the year group. Please do not write the tree name. Sonia – okay I will look into that.</p> <p>Communication from FOPS. Year Group, Teacher, School. Can they not be centralised?</p> <p>Why has the newsletters stopped? Lots of us want it back? Kate – it hasn't stopped, its just paused and we want to make sure we are doing it right. Parents don't want the section about no nuts, we all know it. Sonia – Not all parents read it though. Kate - We will talk in SLT about newsletters. We are looking into something called 'sway'. We may start looking at Class Dojo/seesaw, I have experience and think it's a great tool. We may trial it in two-year groups. In Reception and one other year group.</p>	