



*Streetsbrook Infant & Early Years Academy
Parent Partnership Team Meeting
Thursday 9 November 2023*

Present:

Elspeth Miller – Deputy Headteacher, EM
Rachel Turner – Governor, RT
Kate Llewellyn – Governor, KL
Zoe Gibson (Oliver, Rockets)
Louise Whitticase (Thomas, Acorns)
Vicki Richardson (Oliver, Bluebells)
Krisma Chudasama (Tulsi & Radha, Bluebells & Kingfishers)
Samera Jabbar (Ariana, Robins)
Kelly Hardcastle (Leo, Owls)
Gemma Kiddle Morris (Edward, Puffins)

Apologies:

Louise Minter – Headteacher, LM
Childcare

Minutes: Rachel Lazar - RL

Minutes of the Meeting

Welcome & Apologies

Apologies received from those mentioned above.
All members were warmly welcomed by EM.

School Items:

Terms of Reference for Parent Partnership

EM shared the Terms of Reference for Parent Partnership with the group. PP read through and confirmed they were happy with the contents. EM highlighted the below statement;

It is not a forum to discuss or air grievances about individual children or indeed individual staff; if parents have any concerns of this nature, they should go directly to Mrs Minter.

School Improvement Plan

EM shared the School Improvement Plan with the group. The SIP for 2023-24 has English based targets and is centered on the Ofsted inspection that took place in January 2023. EM reported that in June 23 90% of children in Year 1 passed the Phonics Screening Check (97% with an adjustment for children disapplied due to SEND). This is a massive achievement and above the national average.

A member of PP commented that it's slightly unfair of Ofsted to comment on English when Streetsbrook had only just started with Little Wandle. KL said Ofsted just look at a snap shot of that particular day and commented how great the phonics results are.

A PP member commented that it was good to see reading for pleasure on the SIP as the eBooks don't feel like reading for pleasure. EM commented that the eBooks are more aimed at the technical (decoding) aspects of reading but all children also choose a reading for pleasure book which can be changed as often as they like.

Swimming Pool

EM discussed the swimming pool. Due to the age and high use of the pool it is working hard to maintain its current standards. We have already spent £3,000 on the pool this academic year and are awaiting a quote for further work that needs to be carried out. The pool will be something that will need to be considered in the future if it is to be a viable part of the school. We have now changed to a 'Pay as you go' system for school swimming lessons. We have been overwhelmed by the people who have paid for lessons and who have paid voluntary additional contributions. Parents commented that they were happy to pay for lessons and agreed it was a life skill.

A parent asked if the school received funding for the pool? Could we receive funding for the EHCP children to swim? EM confirmed that although we can't use the PE funding for the pool our Business Manager would be looking into all possible avenues regarding funding.

Accessibility Plan

EM said that herself and LM had been updating the Accessibility Plan and asked for feedback on accessibility around the school and website etc. A parent commented that the ground is uneven on the pathway as you walk around the school by the Year 2 classrooms alongside the swimming pool.

All PP team agreed the website was user friendly. Everyone including Governors commented that the newsletter was very informative a pleasing to look at. The links all work and the reminders are useful.

A Reception parent said it is very helpful that the Reception teachers write on the large whiteboard outside of the classrooms with reminders etc. She will often take a photo of this and post it on the Reception WhatsApp group for parents who may not have seen it.

Thank You

EM expressed a heartfelt thank you on behalf of Mrs Minter for what has been an emotional start to the academic year. All staff were extremely grateful for the support that was received.

Parent Items:

Drop off and Collection Times

LM has met with the Headteachers of Sharmans Cross and Blossomfield to discuss parents' concerns. A plan is being discussed but any changes will need to be approved by Governors. This is on-going.

eBooks

A member of PP raised a request from her year group (Year 2) for 'real' books to be sent home as some families were having difficulty with accessing eBooks. EM explained that on financial grounds this would not be possible but asked that the message be conveyed that any families struggling in this way should let school know. A member of PP expressed the view that embracing the use of technology is an important part of current education. This view was echoed by a member of PP representing Childcare. It was further discussed that the eBooks are a 'learning to read tool' and children should still get pleasure from reading actual books. A parent commented that they treat the eBooks as 'homework' and then set up a den with books for 'reading for pleasure' at home.

Maths Homework

A parent from Year 2 had asked for examples of how Maths problems are worked out in school so that they can help their child with their homework. This request has been shared with staff and already been implemented on this week's homework. EM reminded parents about the KS1 Maths workshops coming up in January. These could possibly be moved forward to the Autumn term next academic year.

Price of School Photographs

A parent had asked if it was possible to get a sibling discount on the school photos. EM said this is something we cannot guarantee but we will enquire about discounts in the Summer term when the photographer is next in school.

Date of Next Meeting

EM thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Date of next meeting Thursday 7 March 2024, 9.00am.