

Llanhari Primary Parent Council

"Together we
care, share
and achieve"



Please find below a copy of the minutes from our first Parent Council meeting of the year. Parent council members are happy to raise any questions and concerns you may have. Please feel free to speak to them about any issues raised in these minutes.

Minutes of meeting - 23rd October 2017

Present: Nisha Price (Class 3+7), Lynne Hill (Class 4+6), Gareth Emery (Class 6), Vicky Morrow (Class 3+4), Claire Hunt (Class 3+4), Jodie Gibbons (Class 5)

Apologies:

Agenda:

- School Development Plan
- School Vision
- Successful elements of the school
- Questions from parents

School Development Plan and vision

Targets for this year's school development plan were discussed with parents. Targets are decided following the schools self evaluation and assessment results. Areas for improvement are prioritised based on national initiatives and school identified needs. This year's targets are:

1. To develop raise standards of writing across the school
2. To develop leadership further to support the school's capacity to improve
3. To further develop the successful futures curriculum

Parents discussed the content of the targets and how the school intends to implement them. The school's visions and aims will also be reviewed and updated this year in light of the new curriculum changes being developed by Welsh Government.

Parents discussed how they could contribute to the work of the school this year and agreed to help the school to review the school's aims and vision.

Successful elements of the school

Parents were asked to bring to the meeting any positive elements that they think the school does well. These included:

- The ice hockey family trip

Questions from parents

Parent council members raised a number of questions and discussed issues of concern:

- E Cigarettes: Are E Cigarettes allowed to be smoked in the yard?
School response: No, smoking of any kind is banned from school premises.
- Bikes and Scooters: Can older children be reminded to cycle/scoot slowly in through the gate as they are frightening the nursery children?
School response: Yes, we will remind the children in assembly
- Termly homework: What is happening to homework this term?
School response: Following on from the questionnaire we sent out on homework at the end of last year, we have decided to revert back to regular homework weekly rather than the 6-8 termly projects as this was the preferred choice of most parents.
- Reading books: Why are children in the juniors only reading their scheme book every 2 weeks instead of weekly?
School response: In the juniors the children read their scheme book and a 'guided reading' book on alternative weeks. Guided reading books are kept in school and develop the children's higher order reading skills. This ensures that they have a range of reading experiences.
- School photos: When are school photos this term?
School response: They have been booked in for Wednesday 8th November.
- After school clubs: Could Netball and Dance be extended to include year 2?
School response: Dance classes have now finished as the teacher is on maternity leave. Historically netball has been for only years 5+ 6 and we have already extend this to include year's 3 + 4. Netball is very popular at the moment and the class is full. However, we will look into after school clubs for year 2 in the New Year.
- Changing for PE: Why are the older girls having to change in the corridor?
School response: Older girls usually change in the toilet, but as they have been under refurbishment we are limited to a suitable area to use. The older girls have been using the IT suite if it's free or the area by Mrs Coates', room whilst the boys change in class. Fortunately the toilets are now up and running and this shouldn't be an issue moving forward.
- New tests: What are the results of the new online tests being used for?
School response: The new tests that the children have recently undertaken are for internal purposes only. The tests are marked immediately by the computer and a diagnostic report on the child's next steps provided for the teacher. These have been very informative in developing individual targets for the children and identifying children who need a bit more support. When we repeat the tests later next term we will also be able to measure progress.

Next meeting:

Date of next meeting: Monday 27th November 2017