

School Council Meeting 25/01/2017

Minutes

Members of the school council

KS2 – LF	Attended
Year 7- TD	Attended
Year 8- RE	Absent
Year 9- HS	Attended
Year 10- TR	Attended
Year 11- HB	Attended

Today, lessons 7 & 8 (12:10 – 13:10pm) a school council meeting was held to discuss upcoming events in the school and what preparations we as a school council can make. Pupils of the committee gathered in the conference room for lunch and to discuss the highlighted matters.

To begin the meeting, CH welcomed the committee to the New Year and covered expectations and responsibilities. All members enthusiastically agreed and were keen to get started.

New Year – New Action Plans

[Marys School Meals \(Fundraising\)](#)

CH discussed with the council our new action plan for this term. Within the next several weeks, the School Council will be planning our next fundraising event. CH presented council members with a copy of **MARYS SCHOOL MEALS**. Council members discussed the aims of the charity and thought of different fundraising activities we can do to donate. Members of the council are very overwhelmed to know for every £13.90 they raise they will feed a child, in a disadvantaged area, with school meals for a whole year.

Council members were keen to share their ideas;

- Bag Packing
- Bake and Shake morning (very popular! homemade smoothies/milkshakes sold within a school morning)
- Meals around the world (world foods buffet day – donation to take part – pupils and staff)
- Film Night (similar to film club at the moment but this will be available to all school, CH and LK to staff it)
- Sponsored walk
- Give it up for Marys Meals (giving up something for lent)
- Archers Brooks Got Talent

Out in the community

After a successful trip to the allotments - Cow Lane for our 'out in the community' programme, Staff are preparing a date for another visit. As part of this plan, CH and LK asked pupils to select a pupil from their year group who they feel deserve to take part in this activity.

Pupils selected are;

KS2 – TD Year 7 – MT Year 8 – LM/JA
Year 9 – BS/JW Year 10 – OC/CH
Year 11 – LS

Date for next visit to be confirmed.

Review School Champions meeting - Parents Forum

Next to be discussed was the School Champions Parents Forum which was held on the 18th January 2017. HS and HB were asked by CWAC Council to represent all special schools within the community and talk about what we do at our school champions meetings, what the local offer is and how our local authority support young people with additional needs through education.

HS and HB spoke briefly to the rest of the council members about this experience, how they enjoyed voicing their opinions to other parents and answering any questions they may have. CH explained to the group how gratis staff and parents where at the forum for both Harrys contribution.

Pictures and a brief description of the day to be put on school council display

Maths Week

As this week has been about understanding how we can use Maths within every lesson, CH wanted to obtain some feedback from pupils about their experiences.

TR Year 10 – “I didn't realise we use Maths in every lesson, sometimes you use it without even knowing. I think it's good because it shows no matter what job you go into Maths is always going to be used so it's important to get a good GCSE grade”

HS Year 9 – “I have most enjoyed our topic within Science; we have been learning about the planets, how far away they are from the sun and how hot each planet is. We had to accumulate all data into a table and from there, input the data into a line graph to show our results. This was really interesting as we were learning to subjects at once and I now feel more comfortable creating graphs in both Maths and Science”

TD Year 7 – “I have noticed we have been using tally charts within English, we had to count how many times each character's name was mentioned in our book and show our results in a table”

Ofsted – Levels/progress/marking/safety/likes/dislikes/who is who?

Next in discussion was Ofsted. CH reminded pupils about our assemblies last year on 'Visitors', what they are here for and types of questions they may ask pupils. To ensure pupils are prepared, CH set out a range of questions;

- Do you know what stage of learning you are working at in ICT/ENGLISH/MATHS etc.?
- If you are unsure of your stage of learning then where can you go to find out?
- How can you tell if you are making progress within lessons?
- What do you like about this school?
- What would you change?
- Who can you talk to if you have a problem?

Council members responded really positively to these questions:

- Staff show us we are progressing by verbal feedback; telling us we can have gone up a level or feedback within our exercise books - marking.
- Staff tell us what went well (WWW) and even better if (EBI)
- We can find our levels at the front of our exercise book

However, CH and LK still feel further understanding is required. CH brought forward the idea of creating a presentation for the rest of the school? and have our council members take a lead in delivering. The short presentation could be delivered within PSD lessons across the school next week.

Any other areas to be discussed

Suggestions brought forward from our council members and the rest of the school:

- **Horticulture – Outside classroom environment** Harry Smith and year 9 have been thinking of ways to develop their horticulture experiences. Their idea involves having an 'outside shed type classroom' which contains horticulture materials, located near the pond area and would be specific to horticulture lessons if and when the weather is too bad to be outside.
- **JM** – requesting bigger drink cartons at lunch

This meeting was a success, all members of the committee fully engaged. The next meeting will commence on 15th February 2017. Our next steps are to organise a time and date for the out in the community activities, begin planning our fundraising event and create a presentation for PSD lessons.

Regards

Head of School Council

Chelsey Hodgin