

## Davies Lane Parent Council Meeting 5th July 2018

<b>Present:</b>	Victoria Holbrook, Josie Hunt, Charlotte Beulah, Jane Jin, Kalina Boeu, Luke Selby, Amanda Barker, Veselin Nikolov, Nabila Lebdjiri, Wilford Roberts, Helen Westerby, Jack Tremewen,, Sham Hayat, Samim Patel, Sabina Kosek, Eleanor Ireland, Scott McMillan, Fiona Sinclair, Bronwen Chalmers, Rebecca Corderoy (LC)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Thula Mangena, Jack Fortescue, Annette Loakes, Sarah Cottrill, Kate Roberts, Jenni Walsh, Sarah Falola
<b>Absent:</b>	Saima Khan, Ayesha Shafqat, Nardjess Bououdine
<b>Next Meeting</b>	11th October 2018
1.	<p><b>May Minutes Sign Off</b> The minutes were signed off without amendment</p>
2.	<p><b>Review of Actions from Last Meeting</b></p> <p><i>Still To Action</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Homework</b> – Still not up to date on the website</li> <li>• <b>PC Members to write testimonials</b> – the school would very much welcome more testimonials from parents to put on the website</li> <li>• <b>School Garden</b> – The school will need to touch base with Parent Garden Volunteers at the start of term as so much is happening over the summer. Children will be using the garden a lot more to support the agriculture component of the new curriculum</li> </ul>
3.	<p><b>Learning Council (LC)</b></p> <p>The Learning Council reported back to the PC on a learning walk that they had completed where they were checking for creative displays, good handwriting, tidy and organised classrooms, good behaviour and fun activities.</p> <p><b>The good...</b> The LC really liked seeing work on the walls on topical issues such as ‘animal cruelty’ and ‘pollution’. They thought that Y4 &amp; Y5 displays were very good and Reception even got a ‘wow’...</p> <p><b>Room for improvement...</b> The LC felt that they would like to see improvements in tidiness in some of the classrooms, they didn’t feel that the Y6 displays were creative enough and they observed that some classes a little when changing for PE.</p> <p>Next year the focus for the LC will be on Classroom Environment across the school and class displays.</p> <p><b>Q:</b> Do the LC representatives stay the same each year? <b>A:</b> Yes the LC stays the same but the School Council (SC)</p>

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4.

### **School Led Topic – End of Year Overview**

#### ***Book Scrutiny***

The PC first looked at books as a whole group. Maths, English and Science books were looked at for different year groups. The Council were specifically looking for evidence of good progress.

Parents fed back that they had observed:

- Visible improvements in handwriting and presentation over time
- The learn, practise, apply method being used to good effect
- Targets that were individualised and up to date
- Lots of evidence of marking and pupil follow up
- Evidence of higher order work appearing up year groups
- A high level of sophistication in terms of vocabulary used

The parents then split into two groups to look at Data and do Classroom Observations

#### ***Data Group Feedback***

The Data Group were shown 3 year trend data (2016-2018) The format was well laid out and easy to understand which the PC appreciated.

The trend data showed a generally good improvement trend over the three years with a blip in 2017 for KS2 which the school believes to be cohort specific.

Good improvements from 2017 in Reading at KS2 show the impact of the school reading focus over recent years.

School performance remains above national in all areas, with the exception of greater depth in numeracy, reading at KS2 in 2016/17. However GD figures for 2018 are expected to be at a much higher level.

Y1 phonics screening results are about as high as they possibly can be at well over 90% and the school are not really expecting to be able to secure any more year on year improvements here.

#### ***Observation Group Feedback***

PC members observed Y5 preparing a sales pitch for Dragons Den.

Pupils were looking at all the different things to go in a sales pitch and talking about the use of rhetorical questions and persuasive language.

They worked together as a team on product and sales pitch and then picked people to do the presentation.

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	<p>Parents felt that the teacher was really good and all children were engaged at all different levels and that the children were learning real life skills.</p> <p>The school explained that they are trying to prepare children for jobs that don't even exist yet so are trying to find ways to give them life skills and the ability to think for themselves and think critically. Philosophy will now be linked to parts of the curriculum and also taught as a stand-alone subject in an attempt to develop critical thought.</p>
5.	<p><b>PC Self Evaluation</b></p> <p>The PC were asked to self-evaluate their performance for the year. Key points arising from the evaluation were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>School Trips Programme</b> - The PC felt that they had really added value with their input into the new school trips programme.</li> <li>• <b>Attendance</b> - The PC felt that they had fully supported the drive for better attendance and were very happy to see improving performance on this front.</li> <li>• <b>Fun in the Curriculum</b> - As this is seen as a major concern by the greater parent body the PC felt that exploring all that DL offered in terms of the wider curriculum and being able to feed this back to parents had been very useful.</li> <li>• <b>Great chairing</b> - The chairing of the meetings was excellent this year leading to fewer meetings overrunning.</li> <li>• <b>Remit</b> - Members were much better at sticking to remit and had a clearer understanding of which issues were PC and which were not than in previous years. This also helped meetings run more to time.</li> <li>• <b>Induction</b> – Reception reps fed back that it had taken them a bit of time to work out the purpose of the PC and what their role actually was. It was decided to look into an induction pack that included an information sheet and a buddy system for next year's new recruits.</li> </ul> <p><b>School Feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school felt that PC input had been very useful on helping with school trips as they do not always have the local knowledge that parents do. This was also very timely given that the school were rewriting the curriculum.</li> <li>• It is always very useful for the school to get the parent perspective on things.</li> <li>• The school thanked the PC for all their feedback and assured PC members that whether it was seen directly or not PC views do filter back to impact on school decision making.</li> </ul> <p><b>Feedback to other parents</b></p> <p>PC members still felt that better feedback to the greater parent population could be attained. At the moment, apart from newsletter updates this is very ad hoc and differs between reps. Some PC members were worried about the apparent gap in provision for someone to take up parent concerns than may not be PC remit and representing them at</p>

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	<p>coffee mornings or other forums. There was some discussion around a Class rep type of role and that some PC members would be happy to fulfil that role as well but that others would not. It was decided that this should be something to be discussed in the new academic year but that any PC members that wanted to attend coffee mornings and bring up parent issues for other parents were quite welcome to do so.</p>
6.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Font used in School Communications</b> - Some PC members felt strongly that the handwriting font used on school communications was very hard to read, particularly for anyone with sight problems or who doesn't have English as a first language. The PC asked for the school to move back to a more readable font that was more accessible to all parents.</li> <li>• <b>Recruitment</b> - PC members noted interest in joining interview panels to for the recruitment of existing class vacancies and new reception class reps in September.</li> <li>• <b>Thanks</b> - The school thanked the PC for their work over the course of the year.</li> </ul>
7.	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Homework</b> – To make sure homework is up to date on the website</li> <li>• <b>School Garden</b> – School to co-ordinate with Parent gardener volunteers in Sept</li> <li>• <b>Vacancies</b> – PC to recruit for all vacancies. Current gaps in membership are Y2 Rowan, Y6 Cypress, Y4 Willow and Y4 Elder. The Chairs to also contact members with low attendance to see if they are able to continue next year.</li> <li>• <b>Parent Feedback</b> – School and PC to think about feedback to other parents and ways of filling the 'Class rep' type gap in offering, particularly for parents that may not be able to interact with the school during school hours</li> <li>• <b>Newsletter Font</b> – School to consider moving back to a more accessible font that is easier for all to read</li> <li>• <b>Induction</b> – PC to include more information and consider a buddy system to enable new recruits to understand their role quicker</li> <li>• <b>PC Member Testimonials</b> – The school would welcome any testimonials from PC members that could then be published on the website</li> </ul>