



Meeting Date: Friday 20th October 2023

Many thanks for all those who attended the Parent Council meeting on Friday 20 October. I would once again like to thank all the year reps for their help in collating agenda items, and to everyone who has spent time communicating with the PC.

Introduction

Jemma (Shacklewell Parent Council Chair) welcomed attendees to the first meeting in the academic year and reminded everyone that this forum is for whole-school issues or those that affect a significant amount of children and families - individual issues will not be discussed.

Headteacher Update

Children have settled in well to the new year, especially KS1 children moving to Year 3 doing well with new expectations.

New teachers and school staff are also settling in well. The school now has increased numbers of non-classroom leaders.

Thomas Fairchild school is now part of the federation and has had a recent Ofsted inspection.

Children this term have been working on an art project with the theme '*Pride of Hackney*', looking at different aspects of the borough's community. Parents will be invited to view the completed project after school on Thursday 2nd November.

Behaviour expectations

Ready to learn, stop and think, and home contact methods are mostly enough to ensure children behave well but in rare cases whole-class sanctions are used such as keeping children in at a break time. This is always a last resort as time for play outside is very important. However, the use of this policy could perhaps be better communicated to parents and the upcoming school revised behaviour policy will be reviewed to make sure this sanction is mentioned clearly. Individual cases of children being kept back from breaks should be a matter between parents and their child's teacher, who should be available to discuss any issues.

Sports

The funds raised by Shacklewell Families have been invested in new equipment.

Parents should notify the school of any special skills their child has in sport or any other areas so that they can be celebrated in school and the child put forward for teams that are selected on proficiency such as the football team.

Kids not selected for school teams will have opportunities to join in with other activities, such as the eco-council.

Sports events will be better publicised.

Options for a proper school sports kit are being looked into.

KS2 'girls on top pitch' policy allows access for girls only at selected times to ensure they're not excluded from

the space.

There will be a headteacher update next term on progress on the above.

Food

The school website will be updated and parents invited to give feedback on the menu. With portion sizes, children should ask for more from kitchen staff if needed.

Chair Update

Feedback on out-of-school provision has been excellent. Parent Council year reps helped raise the awareness on tax-free childcare/vouchers – hopefully people who are eligible are now using this scheme. It was asked that the PC nudge families to settle any outstanding club/ourspace arrears.

The ice cream van is not allowed within 60 metres of the school, parents should report to Hackney Council if they see any vans that breach this rule.

Dog and bike at pick up and drop off guidance will be reissued as a reminder to parents.

Parent Council Reps will be raising awareness and parents may see them at various school events. Whatsapp groups will also be broadened to ensure parents know about them if they would like to join.

NEXT MEETING - Friday 15th December 0900am