

Present	Hilary Gorrie, Roger Walpole, Gillian Meek, Sue Widdicombe, Dee Parish, Laura Thomson, Heather Cameron, Tanya Bolton, Ana Morais.
Apologies	Jim Campbell, Ellie Bird, Rachel Hamada, Sam Murrell, Mark Downie
Date	Wed 13 June
Chair	Sue
Minutes	Gillian
1) Previous minutes / actions	
<p>These were accepted. We discussed the subject of school photographs and the sticker book that was tabled earlier in the year. Laura and Hilary confirmed that the photos taken by Words and Pictures were popular and had sold well. Tanya volunteered to ask them to take our pictures again this year and we will consider contacting parents for their views/permissions on adopting a sticker book in the future.</p>	
2) Treasurer's Report: current balances:	
<p>PC: £734.16 PTA: £6,263.87</p>	
3) Learning journals - We discussed the results from the survey that we did at the recent parent consultations which showed that parents are broadly in favour of learning journals. We had 73 responses.	
<p>77% of parents had looked at the learning journals 20% had not</p>	
Parents liked:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - regular updates - photographs - better than waiting for an annual report - the online aspect 	
Possible improvements:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - updates made more personal/specific - more often - more detail - consistency between classes re timing. (note, all teachers fulfil the minimum number of contacts each school year.) 	
<p>We noted that the journals are intended to enable parents to follow their child's learning progress. Some parents comment on these, which is fine, but is not necessarily expected.</p>	
<p>School staff have compared the old style reports with the learning journals and found that the latter contain much more detail.</p>	
<p>The school and the PC will look to work together to produce a guide on learning journals for parents. School staff will produce a first draft for circulation. This could include:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - when they are updated - password/access info - what to do if there are issues with access - some content from the policy - guideline on comments from parents, ie how and when to do it. 	
<p>We noted that there will be an end of year summary in the learning journals for each child.</p>	
4) School update	
<p>School newsletter will be in bags in the next few days – this details the classes and teaching staff for next year. 2 new PSAs are planned.</p>	
<p>Family fun night took place on 6 June and the plans for the new school were on display for parents</p>	

and others in the local community to have a look. Safer routes to school are currently looking at the new plans.

The Creel (the temporary unit) was planned to be installed 4 June but a warrant is still to be signed. Laura is impressed with the plans for the interior. She also sees this as a chance to test furniture for the new building.

The Parent Council would like advanced notice of the plans for PEF funding each year, with input from parents if this is appropriate. This should be considered around February each year.

4) Religious studies

A parent has questioned the emphasis on Anglican teaching in the lower part of the school, especially around Easter. She shared a worksheet with a scene from the crucifixion which the P1/2s had been asked to colour in. This has had a profound effect on some pupils and isn't necessarily in line with their family beliefs which some parents have found this difficult to manage. We questioned whether the same exposure is given to all religions, very important in a multicultural school like ours.

Laura and Hilary confirmed that all religions are represented but that others may be covered in a story style. The Anglican youth worker from Newhaven Church is aligned to the school and comes to assembly 4 times a year. School staff will consider how the approach can be more balanced and set within the appropriate context for all pupils.

We noted that P1/2 have a visit to the Mosque coming up and that an outreach worker from the Mosque will be coming into school next year.

5) AOB

Gillian will do training on recruitment of school staff.
Gillian to look at Data Protection requirements and email parents if required.
We will continue to meet twice a term going forward.

Next meeting date: tba

Time:

Venue - PC Room