

Minutes of a Meeting of Parent Voice Forum held on 21 January 2015

Present: Rose Budge, Helen Cooper, Lorraine Dennis, Heather Fieldsend, Lyn Friend, Dave Lee, Nikki Rostock, Helen Shaddick,

Apologies: Jo Dunbavin, Mark Renton

Rose Budge (School Business Manager) introduced herself and opened the meeting, welcoming parents and reiterating the purpose of the group: to improve communication channels between parents/carers and the school.

Achieving Your Potential – presentation by Dave Lee

Dave Lee (Head of Voyager House) provided a lively and informative presentation on how to support your child(ren) with study skills, with the use of Personalised Learning Plans (available on the school website) and a considered approach to a work/life balance.

Key Points:

- Get plenty of sleep
- Eat and drink sensibly
- Take breaks between studying (20-30 minutes of concentration followed by a break of approximately 3 minutes: fresh air and hydrate)
- Hold revision sessions with friends
- Make sure you have all the equipment you need
- If you feel it is all getting too much, take a break or go for a short walk to clear your mind
- Attend the revision classes at school

The School website contains useful tips on study skills and home learning.

School Events

Rose recapped on recent school events and provided information on information on forthcoming dates for diaries:-

Friday 21 Nov 2014	Academic Review Day
Friday 28 Nov 2014	Christmas Fair – <i>thanks for the support. Over £1,000 made</i>
Monday 8 Dec 2014	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Thursday 11 Dec 2014	Carol Service in Parish Church. <i>Thanks for making it such a success on a wet and cold December.</i>
Thursday 18 Dec 2014	Christmas Break
26 Jan 2015	Yr 11 Parents' Evening
Wed 4/Thurs 5/Fri 6 Feb 2015	School Production: any offers of assistance greatly appreciated
6 Feb 2015	Yr 10 & Yr 8 Vaccinations
9 Feb 2015	Yr 9 Pathway Evening 6 – 9 pm
16 – 20 Feb 2015	Half term/Ski Trip
23 Feb 2015	Yr 11 Revision Strategies Evening 6.30 – 8.00 pm
2 March 2015	Yr 9 Parents' Evening
2-6 March 2015	Comenius Trip to Paris/Yr 10 Work Experience
3 – 11 March 2015	French Exchange visiting France/Italian Exchange at Pilton
10 March 2015	Routes into Languages South West Speaking Competition
16 March 2015	Yr 8 Parents' Evening
Fri 27 June 2015	School Summer Fair

Communication

Rose undertook to investigate circulation of the electronic weekly bulletin and reminded parents/carers to keep school informed of any email address updates. It is planned to display the weekly update on the school website.

Any Other Business:**Princess Diana Anti-Bullying Campaign**

Rose advised of the new initiative within school, which provides confidential peer support.

Catering

The school is exploring ways of adhering to revised catering guidance from the Government to encourage healthy eating options.

Promoting the Parent Voice Meetings

It was hoped to increase awareness of the meetings by advance notification of agenda items, and testimonials in the school newsletter. All contributions welcome. Different formats for the meetings were also discussed, to promote attendance.

Date of the Next Meetings:

- Wed 14 01 15
- Wed 18 03 15 **please note revised date**
- Wed 10 06 15

Rose thanked everyone for coming.