

## **Parent Partnership Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 09:30am

### **In Attendance**

**Staff:** Miss Kelly, Mrs Whatley, Ms Evans

**Class Reps:** Hannah Johnson Yr4, Sharon Cooney Yr6, Fiona Winters 2F, Eve Fox 5CM, Serena Horgan 5C, Saoirse Burke Yr2, Lynne Holtum Yr1

#### **1. Welcome and Parent Reps.**

- Miss Kelly welcomed all of the staff and reps present with a prayer and confirmed that the Nursery now have a representative who will be present at meetings going forward and that Reception will be confirming their reps before the next meeting.

#### **2. Nativity**

- The staff reiterated that Information about the filming of the nativity play was included in the school newsletter w/e 12<sup>th</sup> November, email correspondence on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November and a hard copy of the order form in book bags on the same day. Only the older sibling of the family will have received this and for a pre-Christmas delivery of any orders, these forms must be given back to teachers by **1<sup>st</sup> December**.
- Miss Whatley advised that the filming will be professionally filmed and edited using 3 cameras and will be a lovely keepsake for families
- As a school we are doing well with Covid numbers with no concentrated outbreaks at present and we are concentrating on keeping people safe in the run up to Christmas.

#### **3. Arts Hub**

- The Arts hub is awaiting the completion of the flooring, the kitchen and the external groundworks before it can become fully operational. All of these are in the works and the school is working hard to get them completed as soon as is possible.
- The Cardinal will be attending an opening ceremony on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2022 where he will deliver a celebratory Liturgy for invited guests.
- On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022 the school will have a day of celebration where all the parents are welcomed to view the Arts Hub for a coffee morning and then the year groups will be visiting and using the space throughout the day.

#### **4. After School Clubs**

- Mrs Whatley has conducted a review of the current offering of clubs– which was put together last minute with the changes in regulations around the Covid pandemic towards the end of the last summer term. She has made changes which will hopefully increase the offering to all pupils and year groups, as well as to reduce clashes.
- New for next term will be golf, archery and dodge ball – Pupils will be offered a taster session before signing up.
- Once the Arts Hub is open the offering can be further expanded

- The idea of the clubs is to give children a taster of a broad range of activities so that they can then go on to further practise the activities they enjoy using the partnerships fostered in the wider community.
- There were queries from a number of year groups about the impact of pick up times from the main after school care club on working parents and when pre covid flexibility may return. Miss Kelly reiterated that this cannot be done until the Arts Hub is fully operational in the new year. The After School will then have its own designated entrance for drop off and pick up for parents.

## 5. Parent Questionnaire

- Please can all parents/ carers complete the Parent Questionnaire which was sent out by text message – we are encouraged to include comments which will really help the school in terms of identifying strengths and areas of development.

## 6. Year Group Trips

- Year 5 have now got a confirmed trip to the Lea Valley this term and another being organised for March.
- Years 4 & 6 – are well underway with the preparations for their residential trips. Y6 will have an information evening in the new year to confirm all details and requirements.
- Trips will stay on the agenda going forward given how many have missed out during the last few years, with the pandemic and lock downs.
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## 7. Year Group Mass

- Year 6 have had their Mass which was a wonderful event for all.
- Sharon Cooney mentioned that there has been comment from some parents over the fairness of the allocation of main parts and readings in such school events. Miss Kelly said the teachers are mindful of this and distribute parts throughout the school year for example if a child doesn't have a speaking part in a mass they may have a speaking part later on in a nativity or concert or prayer service. Ms Evans suggested that any parents with concerns should contact the school directly so that they can address these so that Teachers can make any changes if appropriate.

## 8. Permission Slips

- All parents/carers are asked to check that they have filled in an up to date permission slip for each of their children at the school for ad hoc events such as visiting the postbox or attending an All Saints mass. If you are contacted by the school to confirm any permissions please ensure you respond so that your child doesn't miss out.

## 9. Upcoming School events to remember

- **8<sup>th</sup> December** – Please can you remember to sign up for the School Christmas Dinner if your children usually bring packed lunches.
- **10<sup>th</sup> December** – The school will have a Christmas Jumper Day

- **13<sup>th</sup> December** – There will be carols for all in the playground after the school day ends at 3:15pm. There will be collection buckets for the school as well as mince pies and tea & coffee on offer.

## 10. Fundraising

- The PTA have many planned fundraising events going forward but this is always something the School is looking to expand on. Notably they are looking to fund
  - o An improved speech and language assessment offering in the first few years at school
  - o Expanding the diversity and inclusivity of the offering of books in the school library.
- The idea of a monthly year group fruit sale, after school on a Friday was tabled- this is to be discussed and expanded on
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- It was queried why we can't have more own clothes days to raise money –
  - o This is not always fair for children who perhaps don't have a wide range of clothes and become self-conscious.
  - o Miss Kelly suggested that these days do not always raise a large amount of money. Hannah Johnson suggested that perhaps being able to pay for these events in cash on the day would help to increase the takings and Miss Kelly confirmed that going forward it would be reiterated that these days can be paid for online or in cash.
- It was also queried why there are events requiring one item of clothing rather than a full own clothes day. Miss Kelly and Mrs Whatley explained that this enables the school to celebrate a diverse number of activities and events without a large time or cost burden to parents and carers and once again reduce the occasions for some children to feel left out.

## 11. Questions/ AOB

- It was queried about an after school netball club for Year 6s who did not make a team after the recent try outs. Ms Whatley asked if any parents are interested in netball or if anyone has any connections in netball who could help out, to please contact the school as this is something they would like to offer but have exhausted all avenues in trying to staff.

**Next meeting** Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 9:30am (Virtual)