



WHITTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Common Lane, Whittington, Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 9LG

Tel: 01543 432487 Fax: 01543 432764

Headteacher: Mrs N Leeson

E-mail: admin2@whittington.staffs.sch.uk

Web Site: www.whittington-school.co.uk



29th September 2022

Parent Council Meeting

Minutes

- Attending: Nichola Leeson (Headteacher), Helen Fone (Chair of PC), Sam Quinn, Della Shipton, Kate Carter-Walford. Apologies, Liz Wood
- NL - School Priorities
- NL gave us an update on the current school development priorities for this academic year. These fall into 5 areas;
 - 1). Quality of Education - 3 issues; curriculum development to ensure a broad, balanced, progressive and challenging curriculum, improve outcomes for writing, introduce new phonics and reading scheme.
 - 2). Behaviour and Attitudes - 1 issue; ensure the school culture reflects the high expectations all staff have of the children in school.
 - 3). Personal Development - 1 issue; develop pupil involvement across the school so pupils make a positive contribution to school life.
 - 4). Leadership and Management - 2 issues; convert to an academy, make effective use of tutoring to support identified pupils.
 - 5). Early Years - 1 issue; further develop Early Years curriculum.
- NL - Academisation
- NL talked at length about the journey the school has travelled so far in deciding to become a part of an academy trust, and selecting the best fit academy trust for Whittington School. The process has been ongoing since 2019 and is due to be completed in November. NL, the staff and the governors have thoroughly researched and narrowed down from 5 possible trusts selecting John Taylor Multi-Academy Trust based on its professionalism, size (including several Primary Schools) and its values. NL explained that the main changes after academisation will be within the school office, changes to payroll etc. As parents and children we will not notice direct changes but teaching

will benefit from improved professional development. For example, the Maths Improvement Lead has visited school today to begin working with the school to further refine / develop maths teaching.

- HF - Distribution of sweet treats when celebrating birthdays

- HF raised a discussion passed on via several parents about the amount of sweet / sugary treats children bring home from school. Some parents have expressed concerns - 1). That this is contradictory to the "Healthy Eating" policy of the school. 2). That their children are being handed a large proportion of their recommended daily sugar allowance several days most weeks which is a) unhealthy and b) prevents them from being able to treat their children as they have already consumed their sugar allowance. 3). That it is unfair to children whose parents cannot afford to buy treats for a whole class as they feel excluded. Parents within the room had very mixed, and strong opinions about this! NL suggested it might be good to carry out another survey asking parents for their opinions. HF will liaise with the office to send a short survey to all families.

AOB - Do we need to / would it be advantageous to build links with the pupil council?

DS - researching options to purchase a bulletin board for PTA and PC information to improve communications with a wider group of parents/carers. Funding has been secured through PTA.

Future Agenda issues:

Parent Council - School Council meeting

Maths developments

Extra-curricular activities (clubs etc) Another meeting: How to increase challenge