

Cardinal Hume Catholic School

Parent Partners Meeting - LPPA

Date:

18/05/2017

Time:

6pm

Venue:

CHCS

Apologies: K Flynn, D Addison,

Present:- R Flint, F Brennan, M Hopwood, L Maguire, G Bolton, C Morkot, D Cook, L Armitage,
M Ndam

Topics discussed:-

1. Apologies
2. Minutes
3. Family Learning
4. School Policies - accessibility
5. AOB

Comments;**Family Learning**

- At the last meeting Mrs Flint advised that the next set of children will be preparing to transition to CHCS in the Summer term and asked whether the parents in this group would be prepared to attend at the end of some of the Family Learning Sessions to answer any questions new parents may have. Ros showed the timetable at this meeting and some of the attendees volunteered for the sessions. In particular Ros requested help for the 3 cookery sessions which she will be running as the Family Learning representative is on long term sick leave.
- RF advised that the sessions so far have been very well attended and that some of the sessions were being taken out to schools to facilitate families that would be unable to attend CHCS for whatever reason.
- St Albans own school Y6 trip clashes with the CHCS welcome day and therefore a session is to be held at St Albans on 26th June so that parents and children are fully up to speed with schools expectations such as school uniform, hair, general behaviour etc. This will make sure they are back on track with other transitioning families in advance of the next two sessions which are Curriculum days. Mrs McGuire offered to attend the meeting to talk about her family's experience of transition last year.

School Policies - Accessibility

- RF advised that the school was working towards the LPPA Award and suggested that production of a set of “at a glance” school policies would be advantageous to parents. The full set of policies is available to all parents on the school website and remain the legal documents. However a brief summary of key points that parents would most find useful in the policies, drawn out and made available to parents is suggested.
- RF therefore requested the help of the attendees by working through the school policies within the meeting and highlight sections that they feel would be worth pulling out into that “at a glance” addendum. This was completed within the meeting for RF to compile later.

AOB

- Year 7 streaming

One of the parents requested information on the way Year 7 streaming works and when it will be clear where their child sits. RF explained the system which has changed in the last few years and advised that it does become clearer in Year 8. It is felt that too much emphasis should not be placed on where the child is placed in Year 7 as this is a transient year where the child settles in and teachers can get a better idea of the how best to place the child to give them the best school experience.

- The Colours scheme.

Another parent asked whether this was a real system as she had heard that it wasn't seen as “cool” from her own child who was reluctant to advise school of his achievement outside school. It was explained that is most certainly a supported scheme and many of the children wear their colours ties and badges they received in recognition for achievement. The idea basically is to reward and recognise children for skills/achievements, using the three categories detailed in the school motto ‘Fide’ for work to support the Catholic ethos of the school, ‘Labore’ for endeavour in academic achievement and ‘Caritate’ for demonstrating care to others in our community. The scheme is designed to build confidence, helping to encourage students of all levels of ability to strive to be the best they can be.

- After schools clubs.

How do parents know what is available? RF showed the section on the school website and advised that the finer detail could not always be detailed as teachers are doing this in their own time and dates/plans may change. However any child interested in any activity need only approach the contact listed on the table in this section and further detail would be provided.

It was suggested that perhaps a sentence or two at the top of this section on the website explaining this would be useful to parents, particularly new parents. RF agreed to take that forward.

- **More use of tweeting the schools news and successes was suggested as some parents find this very useful. RF will take this suggestion forward.**

Next Meeting

- Further information on the colours scheme.
- 6th form Destinations – deferred from last meeting
- Any other topics parents request
- As it is now close to the end of term, the next meeting will be scheduled for the beginning of the school year, in September/October 2017, to be advised. Mrs Flint thanked everyone for their support and valued work as Parent Partners this year.

Date of next meeting:
TBA for September/October 2017

Time:
6pm

Venue:
School