

Parent Association Meeting
Thursday 4 December 2014
Agenda

1. Introductions

2. Apologies:

3. Co-chair, Ms Natasha Barnes

4. Review of Minutes of 2 October 2014

5. Updates

- Lockers
- Early Examination Entry
- LPPA – signage project
- TFL
- Safer Neighbourhoods Team
- New signage re: parking and safety concerns
- Community Support Officer
- Work with Valerie Springer – Safer School Travel Planner
- Show My Homework (SMH) – It's Coming
- WOW TV Talks
- Work Experience Placements / Careers Days
- Co-operative Trust Forum Representation

6. What can we do better?

7. Parent area of website

8. AOB

Parent Association Meeting Thursday 4 December 2014 Minutes

Present (name of parent and form of child): V.Mathushanan (7M), C. Man (7T), A. Antoniou (7E and 7T), K. Shinwari (7S), N. Rai (7A), Z. Pirnajmeddia (7A), O. Agabani (12R), V. Kubenika (7A), M. Elnaiem (7R and 10R), T. Selvarajah (7A), V. Luxmy (7E), N. Hasan (8T), R. Laryea (9), Others in attendance who did not sign attendance sheet.

1. Introductions – ice breaker activity

2. Apologies: PC Paul Rodgers, Schools Safety Police Officer

3. Introduction of Chair, Ms. Natasha Barnes

4. Minutes from previous meeting approved as an accurate recording of the 2 October 2014 meeting by Mr. A. Antoniou.

5. Updates in response to the previous meeting were provided to the forum by Mr. Graham, Assistant Headteacher:

- Lockers – 108 lockers had been purchased as part of a Phase I Programme introducing lockers into the school. Letters had gone out this week inviting year 7 students to sign up to a locker rental agreement. If Year 7s did not opt to 'hire' a locker for the academic year, then the offer would be extended to other year groups.
- Early Examination Entry Policy Statement – this had now been drafted and was on the school website.
- LPPA signage project. At the advice of the LPPA appointed advisor, Jeanne LeBars, the school has been advised to engage with parents to ensure that the site is 'friendlier' to visitors. Ms Barnes, Mr Antoniou and Mrs. Chowdhury, a Governor and member of the Co-operative Trust Forum have volunteered to support the school.
- TFL – the school will continue to work with TFL this year. As part of this project, we are hopeful to have dedicated 245 bus at the bus stop each day at 3:20. Upon filling up the bus will depart. We continue to lobby the LA and TFL to get zebra crossing on Forty Avenue.
- Safer Neighbourhoods Team – an update on the last meeting of the SNT and the specific references made to Preston Manor School were (namely continued problems relating to traffic flow and parking) was made.
- Linked to previous item, the school has purchased at considerable expense, twelve signs (six for each site) which have helped ensure that parents do not park illegally outside the front of the school. Several local residents have come out to express their gratitude to the school and the area does appear to be more orderly and safer at the end of the school day.
- Community Police Support Officer – PC Paul Rodgers continues in this role. He had hoped to attend this evening but was unable. He will try to attend the next meeting.
- The School is working with Brent Safer Schools Transport Officer, Valerie Springer. She arranged for Engineers to come and assess road safety on Forty Avenue – area where bus stops are located in front of CLC. The school is lobbying for a zebra crossing and better road signage to make the road safer. Engineers have also been to the Lower School to assess road safety. Will continue to update as news received.
- Show My Homework – this award winning educational tool will be introduced in the school during this year. We are currently migrating data across from CMIS to the new Management Operating System of SIMS. School will make decision on start date once full migration is complete.

- WOW Talks – Some photographs from the evening were shown to parents and an explanation of the work of WOW Talks was provided as well as student feedback from the event. A further WOW Talk will take place in the New Year.
- A plea was made to parents re: whether they were able to support the school in finding work experience placements for one week in June for the Year 10 cohort. It was explained that we sometimes struggle to find enough high quality placements and are always seeking new opportunities. A plea was also made to parents to consider whether they could support on Career Days.
- A plea was made by Mr. Graham for parents to consider attending the Co-operative Trust Forum meetings which take place 3 x a year. Mr. Graham stated that there was the need for greater representation by parents on this constituency.

6. At this point, parents were invited to openly talk under the banner of 'what could the school do better'.

- Several parents brought up this issue of provision for Gifted and Talented (More Able) students. Mr. Graham explained that the school had appointed Ms. Eiran Clancy as G&T Co-ordinator the previous week and that she had already hit the ground running on mapping and identifying provision for this cohort. Mr. Graham asked if the Association would like Ms. Clancy to come and speak to them at the next meeting and there was strong support this. Mr. Graham to arrange for her to attend and give presentation followed by discussion in 15 minutes slot at beginning of meeting.
- The issue of trips was raised again. Many of the parents gathered felt that more trips needed to take place, particularly in the style of Aim Higher and Widening Participation trips to Universities.
- Ms. Barnes, the Chair, asked the attendees to consider ways in which we could increase attendance at future meetings and to bring these to the next meeting.

7. The Parent area of website was brought up on interactive whiteboard and reviewed. Parents were asked to consider how this could be made more parent/carer-friendly and to email parentassociation@preston-manor.com, or to bring suggestions to the next meeting.

The next meeting will take place at 630pm in LRC on Thursday, 5 February 2015