

School Council Meeting

Minutes of the 4th March 2005

Apologies:- Allan Bridges (ill)

Matters Arising

Bob reported that Andy, the Site Manager had seen a copy of the last School Council Minutes and had sent a reply (see attached)

1. Changing room and swapping them over – there is a difficulty with the storage. Bob said he would talk to Andy about it.
2. Andy thanked the Council for bringing the matter of the broken Wendy House to his attention. He recommended that they pass back to their classes that if they notice something broken, or a hazard that they either write it in their link book to the council or tell their teacher so it can be put in the premises book.
3. Andy reported that the Heating has now been fixed.

4. Supporting Charities.

As mentioned in the previous minutes, as requested by the School Council, Comic Relief is going to be supported as a school wide event, with every class being involved where possible and staff as well.

5. Bullying. It was reported that though there is still some that goes on, that most of the council members felt there had been less bullying since the anti-bullying events.

New Business.

Bob then suggested that each person went through the suggestions put in their link book and discussed them. As these overlap they have been categorised into similar areas;

Computers/ICT

Various Council members stated and agreed with the fact that over time all the computer equipment needed to be upgraded, but in the mean time they were looking at short term solutions. It was their belief that some of the problems with using the computers was due to things not having the correct versions or upgrades or plugins. They would like that looked at if possible. Smartboards were also requested as a long term goal for all.

The council members once again requested less filtering but clarified what they were talking about. Popular sites, which they are allowed to access have some games blocked possibly because of something about them. They were wondering if they could be ‘unlocked’ at all. For example – Miniclick, Moonflip, and Puffgames.

Bob suggested it might be useful for Tutors to have a timetable of when Adrian is in case they need something.

Rewards

Tom Calley raised the issue that there is the feeling that people who are good all the time don't get rewards in proportion to how good they are. They discussed that there might be more consistent ways of doing it. Shawn talked about his groups ‘Scoreboard’, and there was a general feeling that not as many stickers or merits are given out. They would like this looked in to so it is fairer. They were aware that there are different reasons for merits for different area's but they were worried that just because someone was being good all the time that meant they were not being recognised.

Lockers for KS4/KS

Mike Chant said that his group have requested lockers for their bags. Bags fall off and the contents get trampled, or sometimes things get stolen because they are exposed. The other members agreed, though it was recognised it's not such a problem in the ASD area.

Option to Stay on for other area's

Mike Chant brought up that there were quite a few people in their area who would stay on as the ASD pupils could if they had the option. They wanted to know why if other places had the equivalent of a sixth form that Fosse Way could not.

Bob explained about the need for other subjects and different types of qualifications but he said he would discuss it with Mr Gregory and Ms Pitts.

Vending Machines.

Though a tuck shop was still a request, they understood the problems of running one when items and money had been stolen before. They suggested that a vending machine would be a better compromise, and (reluctantly) agreed that a healthy vending machine would be better than none at all.

Lunchtime – Break time clubs.

Laurence felt that the food had not become significantly more healthy, but the others of the Council disagreed. They had noticed a difference.

Vicky informed them of a Food meeting that was going to take place on March 17th so if they wanted comments passed on maybe they could ask Ms Pitts if they could send a representative or tell her what they wanted saying.

The little ones would like fruit juice available at lunch as well as water.

There were still concerns from everyone that the cutlery appears dirty – it is possible this is water marks and scaling however. However, it apparently puts some of them off of eating.

They requested a spitguard be put in place.

Tom pointed out the need for more Dining tables as things were difficult at the moment.

They were still keen on there being break time clubs available as they had asked before.

Playground

Shaun Mathias brought up the fact that the little ones are still very keen on more seats in their play ground – but seats that face each other so they can talk.

Security/Premises

Mike reported that there was a fence down behind Mrs Moreton's class.

Tom reported that the locks on the boys toilets are very stiff and difficult.

The council wondered if it might be appropriate for the water fountain to be somewhere else or different as it is often dirty and in a position where unpleasant things can happen to it.

Nathaniel reported that at the last fire bell the fire exit in the DT room was locked or jammed.

Also that the slight channel near the main doors in the play ground can get slippery and it has been enough to tip a wheelchair over before.

The stool in the changing rooms at the pool are uncomfortable, and they asked the question that why is there a toilet in the girls changing room at the pool and not the boys?

Bob said that he would take their points to Mr Gregory and Ms Pitts and reported back at the next meeting which should be about 2 weeks after Easter (Date to be set)

Meeting ended 1.55pm