

Parent Council meeting - 14/10/15

Present: H. Gibson, L. Brown, J. Watson, H. Jones, A. McCafferty, H. Jones, C. Gray, J. Langford, J. Blinston, E. Shutt, J. Shaw, L. Byatt, M. Szura, M. Nadova

Apologies: S. Kyte, K. Johnson, S. Wilson

1. Opening prayer
2. HG welcomes all members of the parent council group. Dates for forthcoming meetings are shared. Mr J. Watson and Mrs L Brown are introduced re subject feedback.
3. Parent Council terms of reference discussed - HG emphasises the purpose of the group and the 'golden rules'.
4. Technology feedback – J. Watson distributed a questionnaire re teaching and learning in technology – this was completed and collected. Mrs S. Wilson had raised a concern over recipes and buying in all of the ingredients for different dishes – Mr Watson explained that they were introducing a £10 fee per term to cover the cost of all the ingredients that students would need to ensure all get to cook. Mr Watson shared his vision for the department. The subjects that come under technology were explained as there was some confusion over this. It was also explained that year 7/8 follow a carousel of lessons to ensure they sample different areas within technology prior to options. The parent council group asked for it to be indicated on SMH if containers were needed. Parent council asked when homework club was for year 7's - HG to confirm that this is every day after school in the library from 3:30 – 4:00pm
5. History feedback – History questionnaire to be completed by all Parent council members (this can be found on the website homepage under 'quick links'). Parents have very positive views of History at Painsley and feel that the topics are relevant and exciting. It was mentioned that the History topics have promoted family discussions (around the table) and are encouraging students to compare different cultures. Parent council members commented on the variety of homework in history to suit different learning styles. Mrs Brown asked - Do we support transition in history from KS2-KS3? Parent council member requested that success criteria were more specific in terms of the number of words required for certain pieces of homework. Could an example of a 'good one' be provided – this would show a successful outcome for some students. Mrs Brown reiterated that the History rooms are open every lunchtime for homework support. We also encouraged parents to use staff email with any concerns. Mrs Brown discussed the 'active history' club to take place on a Thursday lunchtime.
6. College development plan overview - key priorities discussed
7. Grades converted to numbers discussed and exemplified with use of the website. Useful aspects of the website were discussed. HG discussed the assessment frameworks and reminded parent council how to log in. Are students aware of the assessment frameworks? Could staff show students how to access them? It was asked if some documentation could be provided to new Year 7 parents at the first induction evening in the summer term – HG to action.
8. You set the agenda – IAG, MfL and Science 24/11/15
9. AOB – Does the school App work? HG to raise with PC. Mateusz Szura 7A7 – has extra English on a Friday period 4 – could he have a Japanese translator? HG to explore and email parents with outcome.