

Pastoral and Community Committee

Minutes 8th October 2015

Present – Sarah Coleman, Lisa Jefferson, Jenny Leahy, Kim Law

Apologies – None

Minutes – None available. No outstanding actions.

Attendance

School average currently at 97%. Target 96%.

New guidelines state that any child with attendance below 90% threshold should have an action plan written and parents involved. At the moment we have 5 children below 90%, but this early in the term that may only be a few days absence. Three of these children are already monitored externally. After half term any children with less than 90% absence will have parents informed and actions agreed.

1 child with very high absence last year is now in school most days, this is a great improvement.

Behaviour

Behaviour in school is good and parent questionnaires, from last term, recognise this. (Out of 17 returned, 11 strongly agree, 4 agree, one doesn't know and one declined to answer. Older children, once they have finished packed lunches, are now allowed into their classroom to do quiet activities until it is time to go outside. This has helped the noise levels in the dining hall.

Rachel Simpson is now in school over lunchtime to support a child with behavioural issues. She is also organising whole school games for the last 10-15 minutes of the lunch break for those who want to join in. This is proving popular with the children.

Ann Morris is training new Young Leaders who will be able to organise games and activities at break times.

Safeguarding

One safeguarding referral has been made.

The new Ofsted framework has made some changes to safeguarding. LJ will look for a course on safeguarding updates.

SC is to attend 'Prevent' awareness training about radicalisation in schools.

SEN

We currently have one child with a statement.

One child has an EHCP (Educational health care plan) which has replaced statements, this is more outcome driven.

Each of these children receives a high level of support in school including break times and lunch times.

We are working hard to close any gaps that children have with extra 1 to 1 or groups work. Kim Poel is currently undertaking a middle leadership course, with a focus on interventions and progress.

Website and Facebook

Facebook is being used regularly and easily keeping parents and friends updated with what we are doing.

The website is up to date apart from banner photos on the home page. These give an impression of the variety of things school has to offer, even if they include some children who are no longer in school.

Community Links

Our schools Comic Art is being displayed in the window of Armstrong Ward in Kendal. Year 5 and 6 children attended The Priory Day with other local schools and Jenny commented on how well behaved our children were and how smart they looked.

Four children from Y5 went to the Pupil Parliament, opened by Tim Farron. They were very confident and worked well with children from other schools.

Our new school council has been elected. This year we have 2 children with responsibility for values and ethos, 2 Eco reps, 2 charity and fundraising reps and 2 Y6 children who will link with Class 1, representing the younger children.

An open day/ evening will be arranged within the next couple of weeks, for any new or existing parents to look around school.

Toddler Taster sessions have been planned for the year, one in each half term with a different focus. The first is 'Messy Autumn Fun.'

Collective Worship and Church School ethos

The Development plans for Religious Education and Collective Worship have been given to the committee. The main focus for CW is for children to become more involved with taking part and planning.

JL will come into school on Tuesday 10th November to watch a class collective worship.

LJ and JL will come into school to speak to children about collective worship and the school Christian ethos. They will also speak to parents and staff to monitor this.

A School Christian Values day is planned for Friday 6th November. It will focus on our 5 Core values, with children taking part in different activities and prayer spaces. Staff will look at Collective Worship and school values and ethos in next Mondays staff meeting.

Pastoral issues (confidential) - None

Date of the next meeting – Thursday 12th November, 10.00am.