

MINUTES OF SMSA MEETING - December 2012

Wednesday Dec 12th, 7:30pm in the staff room

Present: Karel McNamee, Ruth McBurney, Lynne Riley, Sally Holyland, Anna Liepe, Maria Trinder, Helen Barrison, Claire Haseltine Adam Garfunkel, Jessica Worthington, Tanja O'Regan, Mrs Ross.

Apologies: Bill Nathan, Lucy Tudor, Claudia Wordsworth, Jeremy Wells.

Help required or Reps action – see yellow highlighter.

1. Introductions/apologies & welcome from the Chair.

Mr Ross attended the start of the meeting. He wanted to say a big thank you to the SMSA on his and the year 5 childrens' behalf. His class have made some amazing decorations including angels and a fantastic nativity scene. The whole idea is to thank the SMSA for the new desks and trollies, and all its hard work. The extra things that the SMSA provides, improves the whole working environment. The Angels can be found in Mrs Ross' office. The Nativity is outside the school office.

Mrs Ross reporting that the RE Inspection was really great. It couldn't have gone any better. We have been awarded outstanding status. Thanks to the hard work from the staff. It was a whole team effort. The inspection report is to be circulated.

2. Matters arising from last minutes Lynne Riley

The calendar is not going to happen this year. We will try and get it done for next year.

Update on laptops. The Google notebooks that Google have very kindly donated to the school unfortunately do not suit our set up for whole class use, as they require Internet access and the school does not yet have wireless Internet. However, they can still be used to help children with specific learning needs and taken home if necessary.

Afterschool club. Mrs Ross has looked into this. The afterschool club at Highgate Primary was set up with Sure Start funding which has now gone. The private company that now runs it will only provide an afterschool club for pupils at Highgate Primary.

Could we set up afterschool club? Mrs Ross is intending to do a survey of families who would be interested in a breakfast club. She thinks that this would be popular. *(Now circulated to parents via groupcall).*

Realistically the school is just looking into setting up a breakfast club at this stage. Maybe provide an afterschool club in the long term. Ms Ross suggesting that they could extend the survey to include whether families would also be interested in an afterschool club.

School Website. Following our discussions at the last meeting, the issues regarding updating of the website is going to be discussed at the Governors next meeting. **There are parent volunteers willing to help, others, contact Lynne.**

Mrs Ross is to arrange for a GROUPCALL of the user name and password for the school website.

3. Treasurers' Finance Update Karel McNamee

Christmas Card profit is nearly £850. A similar amount has been made on puddings and about £5,000 profit from the Christmas fair.

Battle of the Bands raised £3,047. Probably £1,500 of which is profit. TMD paid £849 in sponsorship.

Since March 2012 £1,200 has been earned from the SMSA shopping website. Last year we made £1,000 for the whole year so we are well ahead. We have about £37,000 of funds available.

4. Governors' updates Karen R-C; J Wells

No Governors present except Adam Garfunkel. He is the new Foundation Governor for the school. He has not attended any Governors meetings yet.

5. Wish Lists and discussion Tony Lanfranchi

Mr Lanfranchi not here today. Mrs Ross saying that everyone is on board with the grounds project.

Reminder that cake sale money should be used for smaller purchases.

Aware that there are some things that teachers may urgently need, and the SMSA will always consider these requests.

Mrs Ross explaining that funding is to be reduced again. We are getting in the region of £3,800 per child whilst other parts of the borough get about £6,000 per child. Lynne and Claire Haseltine will liaise to consider setting up a petition about this.

Good feedback about the fresh coffee following the purchase of the coffee machine.

SMSA will be funding a class Christmas present for each class as they have done in previous years. They will donate about £30.00 to each class.

There was an old peoples Christmas function that we had at the school. Total was about £25.00.

We have had thank you cards from some those who attended. It was very well attended.

6. Sponsorship Jessica Worthington

Estate agent boards will stay up until 21st December. Jess has spoken to Ancombe and Ringland. Last year paid about £750 for the boards. This year they will pay £900 for an extra 10 boards. They now want 30. **We need the Reps to go out and get more volunteers to have a Board outside their houses.**

Discussing starting a partnership with Jacksons Lane Community Centre..

They could give us a limited amount of cheaper tickets in return for highlighting them at the foot of our monthly minutes. If they let us have a code we could use it when booking tickets. All agreeing it would be good to deepen the relationship between Jacksons Lane and the school. In the past we have done things with them such as "Taking the St Michaels".

7. Library update Julia Weiner

Following the last SMSA meeting Julia and Laurence are going to start a drop in session in the library for Key Stage 2 on Fridays starting on the 11th January. The library will be open for 30 minutes on Friday after school.

8. Garden update Alicia Pivaro/T Lanfranchi

Lynne, Ruth, Troy and some Governors had a meeting with Mrs Ross looking at ideas for the updating and redesigning the grounds with Alicia and Lucy. This would be costly and would be a joint project between the Governors and the SMSA. The idea is that there will be a phase of planting in the springtime. Lucy to draw up some bedding designs. Hopefully get more plans in place. The whole project will be done in phases.

9. SMSA Website & shopping Laurence Penn

Keep on shopping!

10. Review of recent events:

Battle of the Bands 3 – Kath McGeary

All tickets sold. Only capacity for limited audience once the band members had bought tickets. Discussed the possibility of using other venue opportunities, but this would change the atmosphere of a school event.

Christmas Fair – Ruth McB:

Great success. It was Ruth's 3rd Year organizing it. The wait for Santa's Grotto is still a problem. Need to try and quicken up the wait time. Discussing buying a Polaroid camera to take the pictures. To be discussed at the next meeting. Deciding that in future because the Grotto is such a huge task Year 1 will jointly do Santa's Grotto plus another stall.

The Christmas puddings stall need to be allocated in September. It is suggested that one of the Reception classes do the Puddings in future? Could sell lots of Santa's hats and antlers?

11. Forthcoming events/important dates:

Panto (Feb 7,8,9) Kath McG & Sarah Rayment

We will try and schedule a quiz night for the Easter term. Glen and Joe have taken up the challenge ?

January SMSA meeting – Thursday Jan 24th, 2013!

12. AOB

Xmas shopping? Click through to online retailers via the SMSA website (shopping) and earn easy £££££ for the school (www.thesmsa.co.uk)