

LEIGH TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY **PARENTS COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 6th February 2012

Attendees:

Academy staff: Pete Finnegan - Principal Chaucer College

Parents:

BRUNEL: Tracey Roblett, Wendy Rose

**CHAUCER: Michael Holmes, Ann Burch, Mo Jenson, Jacqueline Ellis,
Sharon Coles, Sandy Taylor**

DA VINCI: Karen Brooker

DARWIN: Lindsey Deakin

Apologies: -

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

Michael welcomed everyone and gave apologies

2. Principal Q&A

Website

Michael and Tracey attended a meeting with The Leigh's Principals to discuss changes to the website. Pete Finnegan offered to discuss the development of the Parents' Forum area during the meeting and listen to suggestions. Some of the ideas / recommendations discussed were:

- Revision Class Information
- Letters section could be clearer with more sub headings, eg, College,

- Year Group or week
- Parents Council (To be known as Parents Forum) to have its own side bar heading

Parents' Forum Webpage

This needs to be inviting, separate from the Parent Information page and needs its own side bar heading on the main front page. It needs to include frequently asked questions including either an email address for contact or a contact us button. Sub sections could include minutes, second-hand uniform shop link etc. P.F suggested that we include include photos of members as it appears more friendly. It was also suggested that we attend the next parent/ tutor day to hand out flyers directing people to the website and letting them know more about what the Parents' Forum does.

**Action MH liaise
with PF**

3. HMI Visit – PF explained that Alan Taylor-Bennett would be coming in to look at maths in the school. It is a routine visit to help compile a report on maths from early years to 18, he will be visiting a number of schools. He will then write a letter and provide feedback but this is not the same as a full OFSTED inspection. Sir Michael Wilshaw is now in charge at OFSTED and the standards are being changed to raise the bar still higher.

4. General matters raised

The Head of P.E is in the process of organising something for the Olympics.

Merits - P.F confirmed that Chaucer was not using merits but had a range of other rewards in their place.

Road safety - Children are not waiting at the lights to cross and are often on their phones, could road safety be brought up maybe in Assembly.

McDonalds - McDonalds have applied for planning permission for a drive in by the petrol station, it was agreed that the Parents' Council would send a letter of objection.

York Road - York Road has been placed in special measures. A plan is being put together to move the school forward.

Class Reviews - P.F was asked about whole class reviews taking place in Year 8. PF explained purpose and is more than happy to explain in further detail if Chaucer parents want to contact him.

Principal left the meeting

Minutes of previous meeting - Agreed.

5. Parent Governors / Forum

The first Governors' meeting is tomorrow (07/02/12) The Governors will be visiting a College for 3 hours, observing lessons, meeting students. They will find out if the reports from this will be available for parents and/or parent council to view.

Parents' Forum - MH will draft up headers for the website and email the school so that they can update the website. It was thought that if possible we could put the agendas online showing which school representative would be in attendance.

Flyers needed, these could be given out at parent/tutor evenings and open evenings.

Longfield Parents' Council's next meeting is 12th March. MH to attend. Frank Green agreed that it was a good idea to attend.

Action
MH/

6. Recycling Shop

There is still not much stuff collected but the plan is to open in June. Need to find out the cost of flyers, MH will ask Longfield the costs of their leaflets. It was suggested that a College competition could be held to design the leaflet for the recycling shop as that will get the word out.

Action TR/MH

7. Olympics

Various ideas were discussed and prices looked at for commemorative

items to mark the Olympics. Rubber watches or wristbands were quite popular but the final vote was to go with commemorative pin badges. Maybe a shield shape as in the school logo with 2012 logo within it. These will be priced up ready for the next meeting, to try and speak with the school as they have pin badges and maybe able to provide a contact.

Meeting ends 8.55pm

Next meeting Monday 23rd April 2012 at 7pm