

Stanford Infant School
Minutes of Parent Class Representatives Meeting 21st March 2019 @ 9:15am

Attendees:

Madeleine Denyer (MD), Katie Floyd (Alex Class); Julia Pettigrew, Martin Hansford (Palace Class); Esther Shepherd, Susannah Kyriacou (Pier Class); Emily Long, Jess Biggs (Dolphin Class); Nisha Sharma (Lagoon Class); Paul Garner (Ocean Class); Lucy Lefroy (Pavilion Class); Clare Nolan (Regent Class).

Apologies received from:

Amy Robbs (Alex Class); Alison Kennedy (Lagoon Class); Helen Hauduc (Marina Class); Lucy McCune (Pavilion Class).

In Attendance: Miss Parker (Bursar/Office Manager)

Matters Arising:

SchoolPing – main agenda item!

BA Academy – Miss Parker has been in discussion with BA Academy around the Childcare Vouchers. She explained that she has sent them all the registration forms and was waiting for their response. Yesterday, a representative from BA Academy had phoned to discuss with Miss Parker; however, she was out. She will contact them today and hopefully resolve the issue. If the issue cannot be resolved then the school will look into an alternative provider, as we appreciate it is important for families to be able to use their Childcare Vouchers for After School Activities.

Class Feedback:

School Ping (Miss Parker joined the meeting for this agenda item)

Comment: *parents/carers did not receive the notifications for Parents' Consultations; some would prefer a text reminder to the app.*

Response: MD said the school prides itself in positive communication between home and school and wants to ensure that we get it right. All feedback is a gift and we WILL work hard to resolve any issues.

Unfortunately, 'SchoolPing' had an issue with its notification on the same week that we sent out communication regarding Parents' Evening. As soon as the school was aware that there was an issue, it was reported to 'SchoolPing' and we have been informed that the issue has now been resolved.

Many parents/carers really like the app, whilst others have difficulty accessing it. Miss Parker offered to run a 'SchoolPing Support Table' at the forthcoming Parents' Consultation Evening, so that parents/carers could share any issues directly and Miss Parker will aim to resolve them. Individual parents/carers can also contact the 'SchoolPing' advisors directly. Their contact details are 01273 201701.

As a school, we have experienced many positive advantages of 'SchoolPing':

1. Significant reduction of paper use, therefore much more eco-friendly.
2. More than one parent/carer to receive the information.
3. Far more efficient and effective response to permissions, etc. MD gave an example of the recent Year 2 Handwriting Project, where we had sent the information via 'SchoolPing' and received a 100% response rate; however, another local school had sent the information in paper form and only received a 50% response rate. The UCL (London's Global University) were so impressed with our response rate!
4. Streamlining of all communication – you only receive information relevant to you/your child and the calendar provides all dates relevant to you. Your Parents' Consultation Booking is on your calendar.
5. Less administration time – we can see who has received the communication and viewed it.
6. Lastly, far more financially viable. Significant cost benefits, as it is one package. Sadly, in our challenging financial climate, this is important.

P.T.O

MD also reminded everyone that everything circulated via 'SchoolPing' is also on the School's Website. The reps asked whether the school could let them know when communication has been sent from school to home, so they can ask whether everyone has received it. It was agreed that we would trial it for a couple of weeks. The reps suggested MD reminded families about the purpose of 'SchoolPing' and 'Classlist':

SchoolPing: we use 'SchoolPing' for all of our school communication. This is designed to streamline our communications, providing a 'one stop shop' for all things Stanford Infants; including newsletters, parents' evening bookings and school trip consent form.

Classlist: this is designed to enable our families to communicate easily with each other. This is for parent/carer communication, including Parent Reps and the PTFA.

Toilets 1!

Comment: *can children be prompted to go to the toilet before they leave school, as often children are desperate on the way home?*

Response: MD will ask teachers to do a quick reminder; however, wants to avoid all children going to the toilet at the end of the day, as this will delay the end of the day and impact on collection arrangements!

Toilets 2!

Comment: *some children have commented that the downstairs toilets are often not flushed, or the doors locked from the inside but not being used, and the taps do not stay on for long.*

Response: MD said that she would monitor and would speak to the School Council about this issue; however, is aware that the girls' toilets fall short of expectation and has been working with the LA to get them refurbished over the summer holidays. The boys' downstairs toilets were refurbished last August. MD has provided all the CDM pre-construction information to enable the LA to progress with the drawings and tender documents. Fingers crossed and watch this space...!

Changing of School Books

Comment: *children still aren't changing their school books regularly, even though parents/carers know the children are reminded collectively to do so.*

Response: MD said children are encouraged to change their home reading books and we have replenished all of the book colours. MD suggests speaking directly to class teachers if individual children are not changing their books regularly. A reminder that parents/carers are welcome to come into school to change books with their child if they want to.

Uniform Swap Box Suggestion

Comment: *a parent had suggested the addition of a costumes swap box.*

Response: MD thought this was a great idea and will organise immediately! Parents/carers can donate dressing-up clothes for others to use, especially useful for dress-up days!

Stay and Play

Comment: *could the school remain open after school for 10 minutes so that parents/carers can chat whilst their children play, to save them going to the park?*

Response: this would not be appropriate, as there are After School Clubs that use the playground, and from a Health and Safety perspective, the school is still responsible for children whilst they are on the school site and therefore would need to maintain supervision levels. One of the reps mentioned the 'Stay and Play' sessions the school used to provide; MD said she would organise one for early in the summer term. The reps also mentioned the community street opportunities they organise in Compton Road and Coventry Street respectively.

Class Rewards

Comment: *some parents/carers missed information about a class reward, as it was only displayed on the class door and had not been communicated via SchoolPing.*

Response: MD will discuss with teachers and all further Class Rewards, where children need to bring something to school, will be communicated via 'SchoolPing'.

Lunchtimes

Comment: *one child mentioned that they had been told to get their pudding by a buddy before getting their lunch.*

Response: MD said she was surprised this would happen, as the Midday Meals Supervisors (MDSA's) line the children up and invite them one-by-one to select their correct colour tray – the buddies are not involved in this. MD would ask Mrs Edwards to remind the buddies of their roles and responsibilities!

Library

Comment: *do the children visit the library weekly or fortnightly?*

Response: the children are invited to visit the library on a weekly basis, as long as Alison (Parent Librarian) is available, or if nothing else is going on, for example, on the week of the 'Book Swap' the children did not visit the library.

Other Items:

Let's Dance Thanks

Year 2 families wanted to express their thanks to Mrs Slater for all her hard work in relation to Let's Dance.

Summer Fayre Stalls

The PTFA have allocated most of the stalls for our annual Summer Fayre; any remaining stalls were filled by the reps.

Pavilion Tennis

One of the reps mentioned that Pavilion Tennis were offering free lessons to the school. The tennis club is also very generous in the PTFA raffles. MD said she would investigate further.

Open Theatre

Another rep mentioned that the Brighton Open Air Theatre also provided links with schools. The rep has since sent the information to MD, who will follow-up.

Other Agenda Items

Interim Review of the School Development and Improvement Plan

MD said she had undertaken an interim review of the SDIP and the items on the family-friendly version were as follows:

Effectiveness of Leadership and Management

Communication – a work in progress!

Poverty Proofing – item above regarding 'costume swap box' support this

GDPR – there is a page on the School's Website dedicated to all things GDPR!

Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Assessment – all teachers will be providing information to families on their child's progress and achievement at the forthcoming Parents' Consultation Evening.

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare

Behaviour Regulation Policy – how is this working in practice?

Keeping Children Safe in Education – there is a new page on the School's Website dedicated to Child Protection and Safeguarding: <http://www.stanfordinfants.co.uk/child-protection-and-safeguarding/>

Attendance – an ongoing priority and the school welcomes parents/carers support in this important area of the school's work.

Outcomes for Pupils

PE and Sport – new wall bars are being installed over Easter. The 'Real PE' programme is going down a storm and Mrs Slater has received further training on 'Real Gym'.

Outdoor Learning – MD said she was exploring Forest Schools, as we would love to transform the woodland area in the top playground.

The Meeting ended at 10:00am.

Date of Next Meeting: **Thursday 16th May @ 9:15am**