

Parkroyal Community School

Parents Forum

Minutes from meeting on Thursday 31st March 2022 14:00-15:00hrs

1. Welcome, Introductions and Reading of Opening Statement

- *The Chair of the Parkroyal LAC welcomed everybody present to the meeting, introducing the Head, Deputy Head and Assistant Head Teachers, along with himself.*

- *The Opening Statement outlining the protocols for the meeting was read out as follows: “The Parents Forum is an open meeting to discuss and exchange views on issues that affect the whole school in a relaxed and respectful way. Anybody with an individual or urgent concern should in the first instance contact their class teacher or Mrs Beaumont directly. We expect the forum to remain a respectful and relaxed meeting with no personal issues or agendas. We hold our Parents Forum once a term and try to alternate between meeting at different times of the day and evening to accommodate everybody. We ask for any agenda items to be submitted in advance, although we also have an ‘any other business’ item at the end of the meeting. This is time permitting as we try to limit the meeting to an hour. Some topics may also require prior collation of information or data, however we would take note of any other items and add them to the agenda of the next meeting.”*

- *The chair added that other than himself and members of staff, all other speakers would remain anonymous in the meeting minutes unless they specifically requested to be named.*

2. Declaration of Any Other Business

- *No AOB was declared.*

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting, Actions and Matters Arising

- *There were no additional updates to report from the previous meeting that aren't addressed in the agenda for this meeting.*

4. Friends of Parkroyal

- *The Chair and Treasurer from the Friends of Parkroyal were present to promote the PTA and informed all those present that they were looking for support from parents and carers to help with the sensory garden project. The work has been scheduled for this coming Saturday, 2nd April and will be largely undertaken by a local gardener. However volunteers are required to help clear the area first. It was hoped that the work would only take an hour and that the more volunteers present the quicker this will be. If parents and carers are able to help with tools such as spades or wheelbarrows this would be appreciated too.*
- *FOP members present confirmed that following the last parents forum, each year group now has its own Facebook group and designated admin.*

5. Educational Visits / School Trips

- *Following the last parent forum the School were able to confirm that the PGL trip was booked with deposits paid. The Year Five residential to York had gone ahead as planned and was deemed to be a success. The Chair commented on feedback he had received directly from the accommodation regarding the children's positive behaviour. Coming after two years of disruption and periods of lockdown this was a real compliment and credit to the School. However, the year four overnight stay was cancelled for this year.*
- *Educational visits have been phased back in for all year groups where possible along with external visitors coming into School to provide activities. Members of the PTA announced that they have funds available to support theatre visits or groups coming into School. Traditionally Parkroyal has sought to provide one educational event per term for each year group that ties in with what the pupils are being taught from the curriculum.*

6. End of Year Reports

- *Following the previous meeting's discussion around School reports being open to review the School reiterated that they were open to reviewing the current format of the End of Year Reports and establishing 'what a Parkroyal report looks like'. The School have previously sought input from parents and have received mixed feedback suggesting that there is no 'one size fits all' solution.*

Whilst the format of reports is a work in progress, for the forthcoming Summer Term the School said it would ideally like to be in a position to invite parents and carers on to the premises for an 'Open Afternoon' to see their children work. This would form part of a 'blended' solution as there are many benefits of holding online parents meetings for staff and carers alike.

7. Proposal for a School organised Whats App group

- *There was a discussion around new initiative proposed for parents and carers of children joining in September. This was based on a suggestion from a member of staff who's child attends a different school where:*

- *At the start of the year, school invite parents to join a year-group specific WhatsApp group.*
- *At a given point, the school administrator removes themselves from the group.*
- *A member of the school's PTA takes on the administrating role.*
- *The group is great for keeping involved and informed of events.*
- *The group has helped new parents to engage and develop a network.*

Whilst nothing was agreed or confirmed by those present it was agreed that it would need careful planning and possibly some guidelines given.

Members of the FOP suggested that this could be something that they look at as a more robust way of pointing new parents to the PTA.

8. To discuss any other business declared at the start of the meeting

- *No other business had been suggested for discussion.*

9. Date of the next meeting

— *No date has been confirmed as yet for the Summer Term meeting.*