COLLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENT FOCUS GROUP
18th January 2024, 2pm – staff room

MINUTES

PARENT FOCUS GROUP MEMBERS

School

Kevin Hogston (KH)	Head teacher & Chair
Stephanie Knight	Minutes

Parents

	Children
Joanna McDermott	R-Foxes
Julia Parker	R-Owls / 4L
Katharine Philips	1-Giraffes
Amy Hartland	1-Giraffes / 3LB
Gail Hammond	2-Glow-worms
Jennie Gower-Smith	2-Dragonflies / 4D
Cindy Le	3D
Sarah Bates	3F
Georgia Mann	4D
Marta Sibliska	4D
Lucy Cartmell	5W / 3D
Karen Cook	5L / 2B

Governor Representative
Donna Littman

CSA Representative
Cindy Le

Apologies
Amy Hartland, Georgia Mann, Lucy Cartmell

Introductions

A brief round of introductions was held.

Role of the Group

KH outlined the mission of the PFG to be a sounding board for ideas and events and give constructive feedback to the school from a Collis parent's perspective. KH emphasised that members of the group are representatives of their year groups and not responsible for them.

Minutes of previous meeting
Agreed.

1. **What is working well?**

KH asked for feedback on what was working well at Collis. Of particular note were:

- Young Voices concert at O2
- Year Group Christmas concerts and productions – cohesive, high standard and a great atmosphere
- Morning music in the playground by the gate – great start to the day
- Music classes – appreciation of different instruments and the music studio

2. **CSA Update**

Update from Cindy Le. Discussion regarding the lack of CSA involvement from KS1 parents. Efforts to be made highlighting time commitment for each major event and encourage small sign-ups for volunteers to establish confidence and interest.

Current vacancies – Secretary, Treasurer, Co-ordinators - Cake Sale / Christmas Fair / Uniform / Merchandise / Christmas Jumpers.
AGM on Friday 2nd February in Colliseum Hall

3. **Future Class Mixing**

An overview outline of class mixing was presented, emphasising the significant benefits it brought to the three-year groups that underwent mixing at the conclusion of the 2022/23 school year. The primary goal of class mixing is to foster equality among all children in every class, promoting the development of new friendships across classes. Additionally, it serves to prepare children for Year 7, where they will encounter different classmates for various subjects and from diverse schools.

A suggestion was made to formalise class mixing as a school policy to provide clarity to parents in the future.

KH agreed this is going to happen and confirmed that there would be no class mixing at the end of this current academic year, as we mixed three cohorts last summer. But there would be mixing the following year with details shared in advance (Autumn 2024).

4. **Matters Arising**

With Rachel Cronin leaving the school at Christmas: KH outlined the new structure of safeguarding and wellbeing. Mrs. Petts taking over wellbeing and health; Mrs. Macartney is the new safeguarding lead with Mr. Dowsett and Ms. Busby-Spears as deputies.

Staffing: PE Team: Mr. Laks (yr2) is joint head of sports with Ms Axten (5A) and Mr. Romp (Football).

Higher Attaining Learners: Question regarding classroom provision for high achieving learners. KH highlighted the move away from “sets” and explained the input was for all with –scaffolding (SEN)/stretching (higher attaining) formula adopted in classrooms to secure equity for all pupils.

Clubs: Offerings different clubs to other area schools – KH explained clubs are dependent on staffing (teachers/volunteers) and many clubs managed via CATS program. Item tabled for next meeting.

Snacks: Discussion on ensuring snacks are as healthy and beneficial as possible. New policy outlined to all KS2 parents (for clarity) since the meeting.

OPAL: KH announced after listening to feedback an increase in football days for Y2-6 and the introduction of Friday as girls only. OPAL scheme very popular with the majority of parents. Some parents concerned that the choices within the OPAL program may be overwhelming for some and children may look for guidance and encouragement from adults rather than play independently. KH confirmed PD to attend future PFG meeting and potentially have further information days for parents.

Agenda items for next meeting

1. Clubs / CATS
2. School Meals
3. Pupil References/Fees
4. Cake Sales
5. Library
6. INSET days

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 29th February 2024 – 2.00pm