

Friends of the Mead (FoM) Meeting

Thursday 27/02/2020

Minutes

Attendance: Ruth Campbell, Tammy McIntosh, Emma Kent, Nicky Roche, Alice Patience, Melissa Morgan, Alicia Faith, Emma Thorton, Jacqueline Hicks, Rachelle Sanford, Matthew Grogan, Claire Chattenton, Katie Lillie

Apologies: Gemma Taylor, Tamasin Absolon, Cheli Wadsworth

1. Welcome

- Welcome to all parents by EK.

2. New committee member - EK

- No volunteers have come forward as yet.
- EK mentioned again the idea of splitting roles rather than having a committee of four. For example, individuals could be responsible for one event, ie volunteer to help with website, run Meadfest, Movie Night or Winter Fayre etc.
- EK asked all in attendance to spread the word again about volunteers for the new committee.

3. Quiz Night - TM

- 12 tables booked for Quiz Night to be held in the gym on Saturday 29th February 2020. Start time is 7.30pm, finishing at 10.30pm.
- TM has asked for volunteers to help set up at the beginning of the night and move tables from the dining room to the gym and tidy up at the end. TM will ask all attendees to take rubbish and bottles home.
- There will be prizes for best dressed table/team, best team name and Quiz Trophy for overall winners.
- NR to run charity heads and tails, to support the three charities the children have chosen within their houses. These are: Fegans, Hospice of the Weald and Porchlight. All funds raised will be split evenly between these charities.

- We will ask all in attendance to help move tables back up to dining room and help restore order at the end of the evening.

4. Library – AP/NR

- AP and NR attended a library meeting with RC and Mrs Wilson to discuss the library.
- FoM have now spent almost £2,000 on new books so staff and FoM members are keen to get these new titles displayed effectively and introduce a welcoming and comfortable reading space.
- NR and AP will arrange a new system which will include tidying up books, colour coding the books into key stage groups and reducing duplicates to create space for new titles.
- Once set up, NR and AP are hoping Year 6 students and parent volunteers will help maintain the new system.
- It was suggested a referral scheme could be introduced or “Book of the Week”, details TBC.

5. Playground – EK/AW

- Work on the new playground will commence in the Easter holidays around Pied Piper holiday club, and a board with plans will be displayed in reception.
- This project will have a number of phases to allow for time to assess the best use of the space.
- A parent asked whether there would be enough space for swings or tennis table tables. There was debate around the safety of swings, however, space for tennis tables would be considered.

6. Other funding proposals/purchases - ALL

- TM attended the student council meeting on the last Wednesday before half term. The student council presented her with a “wishlist” of playground items, including skipping ropes, pogo balance balls, frisbees, netballs, basketballs, sticky catch mitts and balls and hula hoops.
- FoM agreed £400 to purchase these items. UPDATE: these items have been ordered and now in use at playtime.
- New basketballs nets/posts ordered and delivered since the previous ones were damaged in Storm Dennis.

- Mr Liddle has emailed in a suggestion for an interactive “Proms at the Mead” day at a cost of £3,600. It may also be possible to split this cost with another school for a half day performance/workshops. There was discussion about the high cost of this event and interest from students. RC to ask TL for more information.
- Breakfast club have asked for another Polydron (magnetic) bucket, all agreed in favour. (Who is going to buy these?)
- Gym – no further news or updates at this stage.

7. Meadfest – EK

- The date for Meadfest will be Saturday 16 May, 2pm-7pm.
- A Parentmail has been sent regarding Maddisons boards, AF mentioned her email went into SPAM, so EK asked class reps to spread the word and check emails.
- EK keen to ask for teenage volunteers (maybe children of staff or ex Meadites) to help man stands at Meadfest and tidy up at the end.
- Extra bins will be ordered.
- Tickets will go on sale 1 April, with a free glass of Pimms offered as an early bird special.
- Food vans and entertainment booked.
- NR to confirm DJ.

8. AOB – all

- Mr Webster confirmed Phase 1 work on the playground will start in the Easter holidays and the cost for the overall project will be approximately £12,000. Wishford will contribute funds to this.
- A parent volunteer has offered to run a “Costume Swap” for World Book Day, RC to follow up on days/times.

Next meeting: Wednesday 25th March, 8.30am, all welcome

