

St Luke's Science and Sports College  
Parent Council Meeting  
7<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Present: L Jewell; C. Hepworth Wain; M. Ebbatson; S. Fitzgerald; D. Willingham; P & N Jeffery; M & S Waite; A Ridgeley; C Stopforth Knowles; R Hayes

Apologies: E Mourant;

### **Charity Commission**

Anne has kindly filled in the charity commission paperwork and sent it off.

**Action:** Terry Hammond's name needs removing as trustee and replaced with Mark Pinchin's at the autumn AGM.

### **Student Reception**

Parents had heard that student reception had been moved downstairs and amalgamated with visitor's reception and wondered why. Clare explained that we are one of the few schools to have two receptions and students were getting too reliant on staff in student reception. Having one reception would reduce costs and increase efficiency. All the facilities – first aid, time outs etc will still be done at reception downstairs & students will access this though a separate door and window to the ones visitors sign in at.

### **Sampling Day**

Sampling Day/Evening is on July 1<sup>st</sup>. *If any parents are interested in representing the parent group and drumming up support to the new Year 6 parents **please e mail me to let me know.***

### **Meet the ..... Department**

Parents had very positive feedback on the 'Meet the Science' department meeting we had. Parents would like a 'Meet the Learn2Learn' team at the first meeting in September as it would be beneficial to both new year 7 parents / existing parents who are unsure of what the content and purpose of the course is.

### **TMG's**

Parents asked when the next Termly Monitoring Grade's would be out. The answer is very soon! Staff are collating grades as we speak so should be with you in the next few weeks

### **Biometric System**

We have recently become a cashless school. This means that students may use their pin numbers and top up with cash or cheque to make purchases in the canteen. Some parents questioned when cheques would get activated.

**Action:** Laura to liaise with canteen staff to ensure all cheques brought in before first period would be put onto the student's account by break time.

**Outcome:** Carillion have assured Laura that any cheques brought in before first period will be put on by breaktime ready for use that day. Any cheques brought in before breaktime will be put on by lunchtime.

The security of the pin numbers was brought up. Clare assured parents that the use of pin numbers was secure. Carillion staff check students pictures when they enter their pin at the till.

### **Menus on Website**

Parents informed us that the lunchtime menus are out of date on the website.

**Action:** Laura to speak to Carillion and get correct menus put onto the website.

**Outcome:** Carillion were aware and are getting the menus changed on the website

### **Communication**

One parent made us aware that there was a clash between 2 excursions her daughter was going on.

**Action:** Clare to make all staff aware that it is important staff know when trips are planned to avoid clashes happening again.

### **Sports Day**

Sports Day has a new format this year after conducting a review amongst students. Their feedback after last year's event was that they didn't like doing the traditional athletics and they didn't enjoy going to the arena. Also, they weren't keen on such a competitive atmosphere.

This year students will be taking part in small teams doing a carousel of numerous games such as volleyball and rounders throughout the day.

**Action:** Laura to e mail PE staff to find out if parents will still be invited to watch their children take part.

**Outcome:** Mrs Lander (Head of PE) has informed Laura that parents will be invited to Sports Day but at the moment she is unable to give any more details as the logistics are still to be worked out.

## **House Points**

Parents asked if they were still being used. Clare told us that Julie Phelan had started to review the reward system before she took on her secondment. Many students were not taking up the places they had been awarded on the reward trip simply because their friends were not going or they didn't want to go. There was no reward trip last term but students are still encouraged to collect H.P's for when the reviewed reward system is in place. A raffle of reward prizes was something suggested as an alternative to reward trips.

**Action:** Parents will be made aware when the new system is confirmed.

### **Outcome:**

#### **This term:**

Rewards to be issued on the following criteria:

Those students who consistently get 'A' for commitment

Those students with 90% attendance or above

Those students who have the most HPs

Those students who are showing the most improvement on our internal tracking system.

## **Parents Evening**

Parents were very pleased they had attended the parents evening and had positive feedback, but were disappointed they didn't get to speak to all the teachers. This was due to students not being able to make appointments with all teachers at short notice and some teachers leaving after their last appointment and before 6pm. Parents would have liked teachers to remain seated until 6pm even if they had no further appointments booked so parents had the opportunity to speak to them if they were free.

**Action:** Clare to pass this feedback onto teachers to see if they would be willing to stay until the end of parents evening.

**Outcome:** Mr Pinchin has asked all teachers stay until 6pm at Parents Evening so they are available to take ad-hoc queries and get a chance to see parents who may not have had an opportunity to make an appointment.

## **Bringing in new parents to the Parent Group**

The 'Meet the Principal' evening was really successful and suggestions are that the Parent Group hosts a 'Meet the Principal' evening once a year to bring new parents in to hear about the past years successes and what the plans are for the forthcoming year.

**Action:** Clare/Laura to speak to Mark to see if he would like to do a Meet the Principal evening annually.

**Outcome:** Mark Pinchin would be pleased to do it and the date will be put in the diary for the autumn term.

## **Gifted and Talented**

Who is this years G&T Guest speaker?

**Action:** Laura to liaise with Torsten Payne (G&T Coordinator) and see what information he has.

**Outcome:** Mr Payne has told us that he cannot confirm the guest speaker yet as 'he has many hot irons in the fire'!! We will inform you as soon as we know who is booked

### **First day of New Term**

The first day back is September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Staff come back on September 1<sup>st</sup> for 2 inset days. Parents asked if Year 11 students come back on the Friday before they go on work experience.

**Action:** Clare to find out and make students/parents aware.

**Outcome:** Yes, Year 11 students do have to have to attend on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

### **When are the Summer Term Celebration Evenings?**

A number of parents queried the absence of the Creative Arts Evening, Summer Awards Evening, G&T Evening and Sporting Excellence Evening. Are they still taking place? If so what are the dates. If not...why not?

**Action:** Clare to find out and make students/parents aware.

**Outcome:** Dates of evenings are as follows:

#### **Creative Arts Evening**

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June

By invitation only

#### **Evening Of Sporting Excellence**

TBC either: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June / Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June

By invitation only

#### **Sampling Day- Evening meeting for prospective parents**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July

6pm

For all Y6 parents

#### **Music/Drama/Dance Evening**

13<sup>th</sup> July

7pm

Open invitation - buy a ticket

#### **Gifted and Talented Celebration Evening**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July

By invitation only

### **What are parents invited to?**

One parent wanted to know what events parents were invited to. Clare explained that it is usually evening events such as the Creative Arts Evening, Dance show etc as well as Sport Day and Year 7 science fair. As a rule of thumb, parents are usually invited by letter.

**Action:** Laura/Clare to see if it is possible to put on website if parents the events that parents are invited to.

**Outcome:** Gail Whalley has confirmed that in future she would like to see celebration evenings publicised on the website. If they are invitation only it will be clearly stated which students would have received letters, and for any other parents that would specifically like to attend the e mail address of the teacher organising the event will be on the webpage.

