

St Luke's Science & Sports College
Parent Group Meeting

Present: Kathy Norris; Viv Arendal; Anne Ridgley; Cath de Wolf; Delia Willingham;
Jayne & Ian Turl; Helen Aplin; Cathy Cottingham; Carolyn Purslow;
Michelle Rogers; Emma Hutchins; Haya Tripp; Teri Chudley; Ali Taylor;
Julie Phelan; Clare Hepworth-Wain; Becks Clark (part of meeting);
Martyn Esau (part of meeting)

Apologies: S Vickery; C Hoskin

Kathy opened the meeting and welcomed everyone along, particularly Michelle Rogers who is new to the group.

Feedback from Ofsted Inspection

Julie outlined the experience of Ofsted last week and was pleased to be able to announce that we had received the grading of a "Good" school with "Outstanding" features for many areas. A full report will be sent to Terry this week and a letter will go home to parents as soon as we are allowed to do so. It was a very positive experience for St Luke's and Julie thanked all the parents for their support and for their children's support as the students' views were a key factor in the inspection.

Minutes of the last meeting

Overview of subjects

This is still a real area of concern for parents:

Action: Julie and Clare to go around and collect information from curriculum areas to enable parents to be more informed.

Music

Mr Coates, the Music Teacher is putting together a music evening which will take place in the near future. It was felt that the "christmas" feel to a lot of the songs in the talent show made it difficult to put on in January.

Homework

There still seems to be disparity in amounts of homework given to students in all years, and not corresponding with the information in planners. Can information regarding homework and coursework for all years go into the newsletters and onto the website.

Action: JP & CHW to liaise with CTL's. Also to provide coursework deadlines for parents in Years 10 & 11.

Awards Evening

The different types of awards evenings were explained, and suggestions were made regarding the acoustics for the entertainment in the cathedral (possibly give them microphones) and also for the Gifted & Talented evening - could the names of the students be displayed (perhaps on the projector screen) celebrating the reason they were there.

**The Way Forward:
Parents Council**

Clare explained the procedure that we would go through to change from a traditional PTA to a Parents Council - and the group agreed that this process could begin.

Julie asked if St Luke's could keep its charitable status as this was difficult to regain and this was agreed but we will need to check our mission statement to make sure that it still applies and amend it if not.

Action: CHW to continue with the process of changing the groups emphasis to become a Parents Council.

AT to check with Charity Commission regarding our mission statement.

Back to School Evening - 19 March 2008

The Parents Council together with Teachers have organised a fun 'Back To School Evening'. Its your chance to be 'the student' for the evening and to be 'taught' by students at St Lukes. Designed to give you an insight into your child's school day, it will include an 'assembly', 4 'mini lessons' and a 'break time'. It promises to be great fun! Put the date in your Diary: Wednesday 19th March.

Clare outlined how the evening might look - with the emphasis on fun! The students would be actively involved in this - possibly as "teachers". The itinerary for the evening would run along the lines below:

TIME	ACTIVITY	KEY PERSON
6.00PM	Parents 'assembly'. Welcome speech to parents. Parents are split into 5 Houses and timetables are given to each parent.	SLT and HoH (or HoH representatives)
6.25	Bell sounds and parents (accompanied by their House Representative) move to lesson 1	HOH or HOH representatives
6.30	Lesson 1	Subject teacher and 'student teachers'
6.55	Bell sounds and parents (accompanied by their House Representative)	HOH or HOH representatives

	move to lesson 2	
7.00	Lesson 2	Subject teacher and 'student teachers'
7.20	Bell sounds and parents (accompanied by their House Representative) move to 15 minute 'Break time' in the Atrium	All staff to mingle 'on break duty' with parents
7.35	Bell sounds and parents (accompanied by their House Representative) move to lesson 3	HOH or HOH representatives
7.40	Lesson 3	Subject teacher and 'student teachers'
8.00	Bell sounds and parents (accompanied by their House Representative) move to lesson 4	HOH or HOH representatives
8.05	Lesson 4	Subject teacher and 'student teachers' SLT and HOH go to last lesson and speak for a couple of minutes at the end before 'releasing' parents on the sound of the bell to go home.
8.30	End of Evening	SLT and HOH in Atrium to say goodbye.

We would want as many people as possible to come along and make this a great evening for all.

Viv suggested that we invite parent governors to come along as well.

Action: Ali to invite parent governors along to our back to school evening, and also to our next meeting of the group.

Ali to email out a full copy of the above timetable.

Extended Services Agenda

Becks outlined the plans for the Extended Services agenda. All schools have to work towards 4 elements of a core offer including:

- Providing a Varied Menu of Activities
- Community Access to school facilities
- Parenting support
- Swift & easy access to specialist services

We are focusing on extending our Enrichment curriculum after school further, and promoting Family Learning by providing a range of courses and activities on the school site in the evenings. Early thoughts include offering:

- Yoga
- Salsa dancing
- ECDL
- Study skills

Any ideas/thoughts from the group to be emailed to Ali who will pass them on to Becks – who will look through the proposals and have something up and running by the summer term. Initial feedback from parents suggested that they would like to be able to do something with their children, and that the popular time for this appears to be between 7 & 8 pm. We will work with Carillion to make it happen where possible, and the most popular projects will be ongoing.

Action: Emails to Ali to pass on to Becks

Options Form

Ali passed out a proposed options form for 2008 together with a copy of last year's option forms and asked for feedback from parents on the ease of understanding and completion of the form.

Action: Return forms to Ali as soon as possible with your comments.

Any Other Business

Clare suggested that it would be good to have a list of people's contact information for the group that each person could have. After discussion it was agreed that there would be email addresses primarily and some phone numbers – where agreed. This list will not appear on the website, but it was suggested that Ali's email address should be put on there as a point of contact – obviously parents can also contact the school and they will put anyone who is interested in touch with Ali as well.

Action: Ali to draw up list for next meeting of contact information. Ali to ask for email to go onto website under parent group.

Date of next meeting

4 March 2008 in the LRC at 6.30p.m. Possibly with Meet the Maths Team – Ali to check.