

**Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday 19th January 2016**

	Key Points of Discussion	Action Points	By whom and when
1.	<p>Welcome and Terms of Reference Mr Harris welcomed the assembled parents and thanked them for their time. He shared the draft Terms of Reference and noted some changes.</p>	<p>Redraft Terms of reference Purchase a Suggestions Box Text a reminder before the next meeting</p> <p>Seek to have Council chaired by a Parent Governor</p>	<p>RH – next meeting AS – ASAP RH – day before next meeting RH – next meeting</p>
2.	<p>Communication There has been much progress on this front. Parents appreciate the weekly newsletter, the detailed date information letter and the use of text/email systems.</p>	<p>Implement Home/School books (Y1 – Y6) Record Group Reading in Yellow Record books Detailed letter about Mums in School Day 11+ Information evening</p>	<p>RH – by Easter All teachers – now RH – after ½ term RH – summer term</p>
3.	<p>Extra-Curricular Activities Following the review of wraparound care, Mr Harris updated parents about the progress in this area. The school are looking at the costs involved and will aim to resolve this matter as soon as possible. Parents reiterated the need for flexibility.</p> <p>Parents appreciate the amount of activities currently available, particularly for the younger children. It was mentioned that there is a lot of sport provided and parents would like to see other cubs offered.</p>	<p>Decision needs to be made regarding the wraparound provision</p>	<p>Governors – by Easter</p>
4.	<p>School Meals We discussed whether school staff check the children are receiving the food they order. They asked if meals could be ordered online in advance. There was also some specific feedback about the vegetarian option.</p>	<p>Staff to check the children are eating as ordered Look at online ordering Vegetarian feedback to Caterlink</p>	<p>All staff – now AS – ASAP RH - now</p>
5.	<p>Healthy Schools Initiative Parents asked if they could have clarification on the school's stance regarding healthy eating. There was a discussion about sweets being given out on birthdays as well as what should be in children's lunchboxes.</p>	<p>School to confirm with parents what is expected and what the school policy is regarding healthy eating. (This is still in progress)</p>	<p>RH/NG/LM – Easter</p>

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6.	Year 6 Residential A residential opportunity has been offered to children in Y6	CLOSED	
7.	Road Safety Parents mentioned traffic in Datchet and how dangerous the roads outside school are.	Look at the potential of a road traffic survey being completed by RBWM (Imogen Leonard) – No response as of yet	RH to chase up – Feb 2016
8.	Site Safety There was some concern about the gate to Percy Place being open all day. This means that members of the public are able to walk through school grounds. Whilst there is no danger to the children, it was felt that this was not a satisfactory arrangement. Governors have reviewed site safety and whilst they acknowledge the perceived risk, feel that all appropriate precautions are taken.	CLOSED	
9.	Music Appreciation It would be a good idea to theme the music that children listen to in assembly. It was felt that this would then educate the children on different types of music. Two children in Y6 have taken this on.	CLOSED	
10.	Drinking Water Parents asked if fresh water could be available for children at lunchtimes in the canteen. Parents also asked about the arrangements for drinking water in the classrooms and whether or not water bottles were permitted.	Look at installing a water fountain in the canteen Find out what arrangements are in place	AS – now RH – Feb 2016
11.	Attendance and Punctuality Parents felt that school should follow up persistent latecomers and there should be suitable penalties. Mr Harris explained that the current approach is to incentivise and praise good attendance/punctuality. Punishing the children is not appropriate as it is often not their fault. We have seen an improvement in this area and will continue to take measures to further improve attendance levels.		
12.	Homework We had a discussion about arrangements in different classes as well as expectations and feedback. We discussed an online maths programme called 'Mathletics'. Mr Harris felt that it might be similar to MyMaths that the school already subscribes to but will pass on to Mrs Phillips (the school's maths subject leader)	Ensure all parents are aware of arrangements	All staff – ASAP

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13.	<p>Christmas Church Service It was noted that parents were disappointed about the sound quality in church for this service. Mr Harris noted the concerns and will endeavour to ensure it doesn't happen again. He also explained that there will be opportunities for parents to see children perform assemblies in school in the near future.</p>	<p>Ensure sound quality in church is improved</p> <p>Arrange class assemblies</p>	<p>RH with Rev Wyard – Mothers' Day</p> <p>All classes - Term 3</p>
14.	<p>Date of next meeting The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22nd March at 6.30pm.</p>	<p>Reminders in the newsletter in advance</p>	<p>RH/AS – Beginning of Term 4</p>

We would appreciate feedback, comments and suggestions from all parents. Please email rharris@datchetstmarysacademy.co.uk if you would like to contribute but are unable to attend the meeting.