



Minutes of a Meeting of the Parent Forum

Present: (15) Sean Maher, Clodagh Jenkins, Aileen Almond, Jane Mathew-Byrne, Anne O'Brien, Antony (Tony) Lorenschitz, Clare Darney, Colette Wong, Eoin O'Connell, Karen Fox, John Trend, Margaret McCormack, Mark Naylor, Yolande Kurlatov, Amanda Treacy

Apologies: Amy Lubarda, Ailish Southall

Minutes:

- 1. Finance :** The finances have been set for the school year ahead. Overall Government funding per student is up on last year (£240k total), however reduced for special needs students. Despite the Covid19 pandemic, the school is in a good place. £60k - £80k down on school facility lettings. There is a cumulative saving in the School Fund. The RC Lotto brings in approx. £12k per annum. The funds the PTA brings in goes a long way towards supporting the school. £120k approved to build new sports pavilion which shall be used for school events and lettings. The new classroom block will be fully completed w2 Sept'20 for Economics & IT Helpdesk. The front of the school upgrade project has been completed.
- 2. Covid19 :** The school continues to follow the guidance from the government. Now that the lockdown restrictions are starting to be lifted, more tutor / year groups shall be returning to the school before the term finishes 17th July. The parents' forum backed this initiative, with reintroducing the students to school life before the summer break. It is expected that in September that normal service can resume. Any student learning gaps to be assessed / identified and addressed accordingly with the emotional well-being for the student also being a focus. No school classes being undertaken over summer holidays. To be decided later in year what 'essential' trips shall go ahead. The school is hoping to run some trips, as it is essential for the students' development and always a highlight for them. The parents Forum group complimented the school and staff for the way the pandemic situation has been handled over the past 4 months and the actions taken – the duty of care initiatives put in place to ensure students and school staff were not put at risk, food bank for those in need in the community, regular communications, RAG reports, Mr Cannons virtual choir, PTA quiz, Mr Maher's story-telling, Live assembly on Zoom, etc.
- 3. Student Diaries:** It's been decided by the school to discontinue the student diaries as their effectiveness has been questioned. Discontinuing these will also help save the school £2k per annum and support the school with going green / CSR. For next term some form of digital solution shall be introduced to track student progress so parents can continue to view the students/sons progress and support where necessary.

4. **School digital solutions:** The school will consider hosting a training / overview session on school tech solutions which parents & students use. E.g. Cloud School, Apps etc.
5. **AOB :** The Alumni & Friends groups continue to flourish. It is hoped that in the new term an 'Old boys' football team / league shall be established.
6. **Date for the next meeting tbc.**