Richard Challoner School

Parent Forum

Tuesday 20th March 2018



Present: CD, AL, CJ, MM, CM, KF, SS, AA, MN, EH, AO, CD, EH, JM, TP, LO, AS, SM

Apologies: CN, MC, SY

Discussion Areas and Action Points

- The school will ensure the cost of school trips is as reasonable as possible, as we realise some trips are expensive for many.
- The students will be made aware of the cost of potential A' Level trips before choosing an A' Level. We realise the importance of making these trips accessible to all, while ensuring it gives the best possible experience. School will help, where possible, with the cost of curriculum trips if the family concerned gets in touch.
- ParentPay offers a payment plan for food and trips, where parents can pay into the plan and save towards trips. Parents will be informed about this.
- Online books for A' Level Geography are not easy to use; they are slow to download and only certain parts of the book are available. The Geography Subject Leader has said it was the most cost effective way to give the students assess to what he considered was the best book for the A' Level course.
- It was suggested that students should not receive bad comments for poor performance in a test. Perhaps it could be written as information for parents to action and support? Teachers will make every effort to praise if they notice pupils doing as they should do.
- An estimate of the cost of trips and activities through the years will be added to the school website.
- We will continue to ensure there are some less expensive options for Activities Day.
- We are trying to improve how environmentally friendly we are. As a school, we actively encourage recycling, we no longer offer plastic cups, most of the school is now double glazed and we have made alterations to improve our energy rating.
- We will be running an Academic Dinner in the Autumn term for progress.
- It is often best to email the school office, rather than send direct emails to teachers, as the
 office staff know the best person to deal with your query and are very respectful of people's
 privacy.
- The school is developing an area on our web page to signpost who to speak to for wellbeing support.
- An exam support timetable has now been sent out to Year 11 parents.
- Queues at Parents' Evenings were discussed and this has been addressed by SLT at school, but due the North and South split, this seems to be the best procedure that fits our school.
- Parents are happy for their contact details to come off the school website, as we are receiving a lot of spam emails through them.

Matters Arising from Minutes of Meeting 05/12/17

None

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Pastoral Review

Following an ongoing pastoral review, it has been decided that:

- 1. Year 8 Form Tutors will stay with their groups into Year 9 and Year 10 will follow through to Year 11. This is to give continuity and help build relationships over time.
- 2. Included in the review, we plan to build in some time for the Form Tutors to meet with tutees and their parents.
- 3. It was discussed that Progresso was for behaviour and not under achievement comments.
- 4. The parents said the diary was of no use to them and were impressed with what they were shown about Progresso. Progresso was discussed.

AOB

Finance

We should have a small surplus. Kingston schools have agreed that £200,000 will come from the budget for Kingston schools and be reallocated to high needs areas. We are increasing our staffing in Learning Support, as we expect to have 80+ students on EHC Plans from September.