Richard Challoner School

Parent Forum

8th November 2016

MINUTES

• Ailish Southall explained that the Parent Forum contact details had been moved from 'Contact Us' to the 'Information' area on the school website, as some of the parents on the Forum had received confidential emails from parents. A letter will go out to all parents explaining what the Parent Forum is and how to get in touch with their representative.

• Strategic Priorities

Sean Maher is working with the Senior Leadership Team and teachers on:

- Improving formative assessment
- Learning and Teaching Communities
- Developing the ethos and beliefs of the school

• Alumni and Friends

We are contacting old boys, their families and former staff to develop an 'Alumni & Friends' group.

• New Chapel

Sean Maher showed plans for the new Chapel, as the old one is too small for the number who use it.

• End of Year Reports

- Parents discussed having an end of year report and how they liked the detail. It was discussed how the aim of formative assessment was to give thorough feedback on work and queried if the value of a written report was the most effective use of a teacher's time?
- Parents suggested a buddy system for some of the Year 7 boys. It was explained that some boys doing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh in Year 10 were going to spend time with some of the more vulnerable Year 7 and 8 boys, listening to reading and doing some maths.
- It was explained that the Year 11, 12 and 13 students had just had an assembly on stress and exam anxiety and that we would be developing our pastoral support in school over the coming months.
- It had been requested that we put the inset and start of term dates more clearly on the school website. This information is sent to new students by letter prior to commencement, but we will look into also adding inset days and mornings, etc, to the school website.
- Parents would like to know more about forthcoming trips over the year, to enable them to budget and prioritise trips.
- Parents asked us to take care with ParentMail headings, so as not to alarm parents not involved.
- Could most ParentMail letters be sent out on a particular day (perhaps Monday or Thursday) instead of numerous times throughout the week, unless necessary? Also, could all letters be saved on the website to enable parents to search their particular year group for those which specifically concern them?
- Meeting finished at 8.00pm
- Date of Next Meeting
 - Tuesday 14th March 2017 6.30pm