

Parent Meeting Minutes –Monday 30th September

Present – MJ, VJ, DP

Parents – S Gostick, C Wild, B Pyne, D Selwyn, N Wosnitzka, C Skinner

Introductions – SLT and hub team

MJ outlined the purpose of the meeting and talked about ‘the power of unity’. Jacobstow is a special place and when we all work together, we achieve more for the children – we all need to be pulling in the same direction. The meeting is an opportunity to share direction and to give parents the opportunity to ask questions.

1.1

Cornwall Hub vision – The three schools in the Cornwall Hub are all working closely together for the benefit of all our children. There is strength in numbers and we can share the responsibility so we achieve more – we care about the children across the 3 schools and our aim is to give them the very best offer. We are a family here at Jacobstow but we are part of an extended family with Marhamchurch and St. Marks – teachers, children and parents are all part of that family.

MJ shared Trust vision and values.

Stronger together – we can achieve so much more than we can individually.

We want to ensure that all children across the hub are given the same opportunities. Priority across the last 3 weeks has been to make sure the children are happy, safe and settled. We are now looking at the wider opportunities that we can build into the curriculum.

1.2

MJ outlines **curriculum plans** – Read Write Inc phonics outlined (100% pass rate in 23/24) – when it is taught with fidelity, it gives great results for children’s reading. Core offers adopted from the Trust – working well for small schools across the Trust, giving a broad and balanced curriculum. Teachers have shared curriculum overviews with all parents to let you know what your children are learning. Subject Leadership divided between the schools so that we are sharing expertise.

Enrichment plans – Apollo’s Cabinet (Music group) this week and Farm and Country visit coming up. There will be more for the children to enjoy coming up.

1.3

SCHOOL PRIORITIES – Inclusion for all children, removing barriers, Trust Inclusion lead coming into our 3 schools every week to make sure we are accounting for every child’s needs.

Maths is a priority across the hub – to raise the attainment in Maths as the weaker area for end of KS2 attainment. We need to make sure they are proficient in Maths and ready for their next stage in their education.

School environment – not just the building, long time spent with our Trust premises lead around making the building better for the children. Working on our culture – what does JAC stand for? Who are we? Let’s be the school that people are shouting about in this area – let’s make it greater. If any

of you are available tomorrow morning – we are talking about school vision and values, to take your views in shaping our culture.

New tables and chairs coming for Years 3,4,5 and 6. One of the things I'd like to do is bring parents in to get the school looking better (e.g. painting and getting the community involved). We are blessed with our field, forest school and outside area.

Parent (BP) – Maths – there are some kids here that are high on Maths and want a bit more eg. lunchtime clubs.

MJ – the difficulty with that is staff having their breaks but it is something I can look into.

ACTION: MJ to look into getting more able children together in subjects such as Maths. Enrichment days.

DP – our hub days over the past 2 years have been successful. Cognition Learning – grant funding is in place for workshop days in all three schools. Songfest – we are signing up our schools to be able to sing together in the future. All of the enrichment that has been mentioned, we are acting upon and they are coming. Enrichment is important to all of us and we want all the children in our communities to benefit.

Parent (NW) – I really appreciate your enthusiasm, been part of this school for a long time. We used to be part of the choir group. All of this was stopped last year, sporting events didn't happen last year. The bad reputation is a new thing – now it has gained a bad reputation in the closer future. There was an action plan – a lot of these were being done, parents coming into help, change the acoustics in the hall for example. I hope all these things get actioned quickly.

Parent (DS) – last year it felt different.

MJ – this school has been through a difficult transition time.

Parent (NW) – We have some children who are not academic and they can excel in other areas.

Parent (CW) – I am really excited about getting involved again with the school. I don't feel that we get the opportunity to communicate with the teachers. Like this meeting – I told .. about it.

Parent (BP) – I am excited about all the things that you are saying – this school is a lovely school.

MJ – I haven't moved 5 hours away not to do a good job for the school.

1.4 LOOKING FORWARD

Decision taken not to use Dojo across the 3 schools. We want a more professional route. Hopefully you will see that the newsletter has a celebration aspect to it. We are using Bromcom now – you can email teachers, it will come through the office.

BP – will the teacher be able to email back?

ACTION – MJ to make sure teachers acknowledge correspondence. To clarify with staff.

DP – clarifies communication and the rationale for moving away from Dojo.

SG – I can understand the pressure on teachers to reply to Dojo. The thing that has been difficult for parents, this is also a school and there needs to be an element of informality to communication.

Communication – the Trust came in and parents weren't included. The school experience for the kids has disappeared. That's way things like Dojo – sharing the rationale is important so that we understand.

MJ – Thanks DP for explaining the rationale - sharing the rationale is so important

SG – The fences going up was not communicated –

NW – with MCAS, what I used to like about the Dojo is when on a trip, you would get a message to say they have arrived.

MJ and DP – reassure parents that we can communicate to reassure parents.

SG – Little messages mean so much to parents.

DS – Two way communication.

CW – we want to feel part of the school community again.

VISION AND VALUES – come along and have your say on the direction of the school.

NW – walking into the hall is better than walking in when everything was tripped off the walls.

DS – the tree in the hall is what you expect to see in a primary school.

PSA formation – I need to look into the setting up of this committee. I will send out an expression of interest for anyone who might be interested.

NW – we had got something in place. DS – There was one meeting last year and then it was over to us. NW – JC holds the legal paperwork and Parentkind has been paid for a year.

ACTION: DP – look into getting Parent associations together to have joint events for all our local children in the future.

MJ – support available for parents, FSW available, it is time to forget the past and focus on the future. There may have been some messy times but together we can move forward and create this culture. Staff have been amazing over the last few weeks – clearing out the old and helping to get the school looking great.

NW – historic items around the school. MJ – I would never throw anything like this away. Behaviour book, original bible have been found – these things are the history of the school and part of the community. The church is amazing – bringing everyone together for a Christmas service will be important, keeping links with the local community.

SG – there used to be a wall of ceramic tiles where the children did hand prints – not sure where this has gone.

MJ – we want to make sure that what we have is current and relevant to the children.

NW – if it was removed, it would have been nice to get the children involved in that. Maybe put something out on MCAS about tomorrow.

MJ – This is about retraining ourselves, I have had to retrain to use TEAMS since arriving. Change is sometimes hard but we are doing things to make things better.

ACTION – MJ to put out a final notice that Dojo is not being used.

MJ thanks everybody for attending – meeting ended at 9.55am.