

PSA Meeting December 10 2012

Minutes

Present: Helena Strange, Lucy Curtin, Joyce Kamugisha, Mr Ahmed, Liz Conmy, Ally Dunnett, Lynne Powell, Mr Andrews, Monique Whyte, Caroline Griffiths, John Cropper, Paula Florey, Elaine Dale

Apologies: Joelle Labutte, Laurie Powell, Mr Teeling, Kate Hield

1. Carol concert, 20/12/12

Concert to be run jointly with Our Lady and St John Fisher primary schools, starting at 6.30. Help needed from the PSA with the bar on the night – Joyce, Paula, Lynne and Elaine volunteered. Set-up from 5.30 onwards. Mulled wine, coffee (possibly Irish coffee), wines, soft drinks, water, mince pies, all to be provided for donations. Helena may be able to shop for the refreshments. Mr Ahmed will be there and will provide the float.

2. Year of Faith, October 2012 to October 2013

Mr Andrews explained that numerous initiatives were being run as part of the Year of Faith, and asked for initial interest in a parents' prayer group meeting monthly in the Chapel. This would be likely to start during the week after an ecumenical week in the New Year, but further details will follow in the school newsletter.

3. Quiz Night report

November's Quiz Night was the most successful yet. £400 of the money raised was donated to Children in Need. The Sixth Form Business Studies group did a great job, and would be welcome to run future events, though will be busy with exams next year!

4. Air Ambulance event report

There was a great variety of stalls, activities and live music at the BOB Air Ambulance Event, though as awareness of all it had to offer was limited, attendance could have been better. Mr Ahmed will investigate whether there'll be another similar event next year, which we could help publicize more widely.

5. Achievement points reward

Mr Ahmed raised on Mr Teeling's behalf the proposal for students to vote for one of three additional resources for the school, the top choice to be purchased with a contribution of approximately £1000 from the PSA. This resource will be in recognition of achievement points.

6. Alumni board

The board has now been bought, and has an online component as well as the physical board itself. Progress of former students to higher education and elsewhere will be tracked there. The PSA contributed £500 to the cost.

7. School Twitter/Facebook accounts

Discussion over whether the school accounts could be better utilized for promotion of school and its achievements, events etc. There was a proposal that the Sixth Form could run the accounts, but all needs further consideration.

8. Hygiene of the school campus

Concern was raised over the increased presence of rats in the school grounds, which may have resulted from the recent raised water table. The school has a contract with a pest control company, and Mr Ahmed will check the company is coming as often as it should/as needed.

9. Bicycle sheds

It was asked whether more of the cycle sheds could be made lockable, or repaired if broken. Mr Ahmed to investigate.

10. Shelley Arms

This pub adjoining the exit onto Cricket Road is derelict, with the pub and the builders' fence around it slowly being dismantled. It was asked whether the school can bring any pressure to bear to make the site more secure and less of an eyesore.

11. School PCs

A query was raised on the continuing slowness of PCs in the school library. The new network continues to be rolled out, with some PCs therefore performing much faster, but others, including those in the library, still to come. It was also advised that if the students need to provide colour printouts of work, they can go to the repro department.

12. Parking outside school

Some parents or carers dropping students off at school are stopping on double yellow lines or where they block other traffic. Suggestion made to provide the staff on duty outside at these times with hi-vis jackets to convey more authority.

13. Next meeting

Tuesday January 15th, 7.00.