



## PARENTS' FORUM

**Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015, at 2.00pm**

**Present:** Stephanie Cartmel (SC), Anwen Maher (AMah), Adiba Malo (Amal), Louise Cooke (LC), Carmel McGrath (CMc), Kate Roberts (KR), Rachel Craig (RC).

**Apologies:** Linda Bowen – unwell.

**Minute taker:** Kathleen Hampson (KH) – senior school support officer

### 1. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015 agreed by AM and seconded by SC.

### 2. Matters arising

SC explained that all parents are invited to be members of the Parents' Forum which meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each term. Members discuss school events, improvements and suggestions to develop the school and facilities for our children.

The Parents' Forum is different from the Foryd Fundraisers Association.

SC reported that unfortunately the funding for Family Learning will cease at the end of March. Children who participate in Family Learning groups do better at school as this is "one to one" time with their parents. As a school we will try to hold our own "Family Learning" groups.

Ideas for parent courses were suggested: Gardening, sugar-craft

### 3. Walking Bus ideas

School Liaison Officer, Mrs C Gentleman recently issued letter to parents regarding this. There was only one return. However, Mrs Gentleman will continue to pursue the Walking Bus.

### 4. Junior Gate Access

SC explained that there are a group of parents who use the path to walk from Towyn. However, the gate must be kept locked during the school day for safety & security reasons. It is recognised that having to walk on the Morfa Lane without a pavement is not ideal. Over the years, we have tried various ideas to address this problem. For example, we issued keys but people left the gate open. Staff took children to meet parents at the gate but the people sometimes did not turn up (changed arrangements without informing staff).

At the moment, staff at Ysgol Maes Own open the gate for those who need it. However, we must show good will and perhaps trial the arrangement again with our staff taking pupils to the gate to meet parents. SC and KH will look into this further.

## **5. Film Night and fundraising ideas**

A film night "Paddington" will be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Parent Forum members are most welcome to help at the event.

## **6. School Councillors to talk to parents**

Two school councillors attended the meeting to speak to parents about what they enjoy in school:

- Studying Castles this term. After Easter it will be a different topic.
- Recent Open Day for Governors and Parents' Forum. SC reported that this was a useful day and there was lovely feedback from those who attended.
- The "Sharing Shed". This is used to help fellow pupils and share problems. It is run by School Councillors and Playground Buddies. Bibs and equipment are now required for the Sharing Shed. It would be nice to have a sign painted on the shed. It suggested that school councillors could write a letter about this to a local artist. SC reported that some teenagers had broken into the shed but they were caught and PCSO Illman arranged for them to visit school, apologise, clean the shed and do voluntary work for the school caretaker.
- Ysgol y Foryd's "Big Election" event on 7<sup>th</sup> May.
- Red Nose Day.

One of the school councillors present had received the Headteacher's Award of the Week recently. He had a prize and a certificate. His name was published on the school newsletter & website.

Parent Forum members were asked to remind all parents about the weekly school newsletter which appears on the website each Friday. A few paper copies are available at each classroom door.

## **7. School Election ideas**

SC explained that Ysgol y Foryd will be holding our own general election on 7<sup>th</sup> May. Pupils will be invited to apply to be Prime Minister and other pupils will vote for them. Results will be announced at a special Service at Kinmel Bay Church on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May followed by a day of celebration & special lunch back at school.

## **8. Summer events**

- Summer Fayre – provisional date Sat 27<sup>th</sup> June 11 – 2pm. Teaching Assistant, Anwen Maher, is treasurer of the Foryd Fundraisers Association (FFA). The FFA needs help from parents as it really does benefit the children.
- Bingo evening to be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May. There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May in return for "bingo prizes".
- Bag & purse bonanza Coffee shop – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

9. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm.

***Meeting closed at 3pm.***