

## Parental Engagement Person Meeting

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 - 2:45pm

### Attendees

Sarah Greenway (SG)- Parental Links SIP Lead, EMA (Ethnic Minority Achievement) Lead, Reading Lead

Ellie Linton (EL)- Communications & Marketing Manager

Asma Khan (AK)- PEP for FS2AW

Dianna Schwartz (DS)- PEP for FS2JD

Toni Pemberton (TP)- PEP for 1HC

Maria Armstrong (MA)- PEP for 1LT

Christos Papageorgiou (CP)- PEP for 1KG

### Minutes

1. SG explained that the school is trialling the Parental Engagement Person scheme for EYFS and KS1 this half term. It forms part of the Parental Links strand of the School Improvement Plan (SIP). The aim is to create a parent community to encourage more parents and carers to come along to school events (eg. Sports Day, PTA Summer Fair etc). SG explained that we will have one PEP meeting per half term.
2. Icebreaker activity- all attendees introduced themselves, saying how long they have lived in Chorlton, how many children they have and what they like to do in their spare time.
3. SG and EL went through the upcoming events for this half term that parents are invited to:
  - a. Longford Park Picnic- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 12-3pm
  - b. Transition Afternoon- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1:30-3pm
  - c. Sports Days- 15<sup>th</sup> July (Reception), 18<sup>th</sup> July (Nursery, KS1 & KS2)
4. EL & SG asked the PEPs to promote these events with their classes through 1:1 or social media etc. Everyone agreed to do this.
5. EL shared a message from Mark Hobbs (PTA Chair), who sent his apologies. Mark said on behalf of the PTA that they think the PEP scheme is a great idea, and that it will be great to get some 'grassroots' help with promoting events. As ever, if anyone has any good ideas for things or feedback, please email [e.linton@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:e.linton@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk), and EL will pass on any messages to Mark.

6. PEPs fed back that there was confusion among parents as to where the pick-up points for Transition Afternoon are. Children will be taken to their usual places in the playground at the end of the day for collect.
7. DS fed back that in July there are three reception events in one week (Stay & Play, Transition, Sports Day), and many parents find it very difficult to get time off work this often in one week.
8. TB noted that the Summer Fair was not as busy this year as it had been in previous years. PEPs suggested this might be because it was on the same weekend as the Manchester Day Parade, or because it was relatively late in the year. It was also on the same day that many children attended Cub/Scout camp.
9. One parent suggested that if a school calendar of parent events was sent out earlier in the year this may help bring attendance numbers up, as parents will be able to plan in advance.
10. EL suggested that maybe some parents don't come along to events such as the Summer Fair because they do not know many other parents in school. One parent said that she will now start approaching parents from her children's class that she doesn't know.
11. PEPs also noted that parents who take their children to Owl Club and/or Early Birds will not get a chance to meet and socialise with other parents in the playground at the start and end of the school day.
12. In response to this MA said that the Facebook page that has been set up for parents in 1LT has been a very good tool for connecting parents. It is a good way for parents to meet each other, to organise social events and to post reminders about school.
13. DS explained that she set up a group for Reception parents and asked Helen W in the office to send out the link to parents so that they could join it.
14. EL to compile a list of the existing class Facebook groups so that the links can be sent out to allow any parents to join who have not yet done so. EL to contact the administrators of each of the groups so that the group names can be changed to make them easier to find in a search.
15. PEPs noted that many parents are unaware of the Facebook groups that have been set up by parents. EL to contact all parents about this once groups have been located so that each class has an online parent community.