

ACADEMY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JULY 19

ACADEMY UPDATE

Nursery places are still available for September.

Final pupil assessments have taken place; SATs results will be published at the end of the year in a letter to parents.

The entire school enjoyed a trip to Southend beach and a member of the public observed how well teachers and children interacted.

Y4 enjoyed a trip to see Matilda and a member of the public commented on the pupil's good behaviour.

Y6 went to Colchester; the feedback was excellent.

Reception put on a well received production of Peter Pan

Y3-5 put on The Greatest Showman and everyone who saw it was full of praise.

Y6 enjoyed an End of Year prom

The end of year summer picnic was also a success – thank you to everyone who made that happen

Progress has been made with attendance and punctuality and it is now slightly better than the national average.

AGENDA

School catering

Complaints have been received about the quality of school meals following a change of provider after Easter. Office staff monitored lunchtimes and food during the first week was found to be unacceptable. A meeting was arranged straight away with the head of procurement and in the second week, a new chef was put in place and the quality improved. All food is cooked from scratch on the premises. Pupils and the school council confirmed that the food has been much better since. However, some parents are still complaining that their children are coming home very hungry. Packed lunches for a recent school trip have also been deemed inadequate. One parent suggested that pupils were even being sent home because the food was making them ill but Janet noted that this was not the case. She confirmed the school are monitoring the food every day and suggested the chef provide a taster session for parents in September.

Pupils with allergies

Janet confirmed that all new pupils have to provide medical details and this information is shared between parents on a need to know basis. A new school nurse who works across Tower Hamlets is updating care plans, although the Trust is looking into hiring their own provider. All pupils with allergies have to wear a lanyard at lunch. One parent asked about expired epi-pens. Janet confirmed that TAs check epi-pens each week but encouraged parents to also ensure their child's epi-pen was not out of date.

Sports Day

This was an excellent event and Beth praised Daniel for organising it. However it was asked whether next year it could be held at Mile End Stadium. Janet confirmed that they were looking to combine with other London primaries and to secure a booking by the end of next term. She pointed out that this term Y3 and Y4 had dodgeball competitions at Culloden and Old Ford. There is also a plan to implement the Daily Mile into the school day next term.

AOB

School uniforms

A new school uniform (grey) comes into effect from September following consultation with parents and the school council who agreed they wanted a consistent look across the school. Reba is investigating the most cost effective way of applying the school logo onto clothing. The implementation will be gradual but it's hoped all pupils will be wearing it by Easter. Janet confirmed that while the uniform is not compulsory it is heavily encouraged.

Fundraising

Noelle offered to establish a fund raising committee among parents to raise money for specific projects. This idea was warmly received.

Drop Off

A reminder that some parents are still dropping pupils by car outside the school. Beth is to contact TFL to inquire about school signage and reminders to drivers not to leave engines idling.

Water bottles

The school still uses single use plastic water bottles at lunch. An alternative is to be looked into.

Lobby

This is looking much better after Anna Marie painted it during the Easter holidays. It was suggested murals on the outside of the building would also help improve the overall appearance of the school. Janet is to look into whether permission is needed for this. Claire is to investigate artists who might be able to come to the school and work with the pupils on producing one.

ENDS