

Solebay Primary Academy Council meeting minutes
Friday 7th February 2020

ACADEMY UPDATE

Young Voices concert at the O2 on Feb 6 Y3-6

The Young Voices concert at the O2 on Feb 6 for Y3-6 was a huge success and the behaviour of the children was exemplary.

The Ofsted Section 5 visit in October resulted in a 'good' rating for the school with the possibility of a Section 8 visit within the next two years that could raise it to 'outstanding'.

Spanish is now being taught across Y3-6.

Recent school visits have included trips to London Zoo, Kew Gardens, The Houses of Parliament and Cutty Sark. Upcoming events include poetry and Half Moon workshops and a road safety workshop for Y6.

AGENDA

School dinners

Concerns were raised that portion size and the quality of the food continues to be an ongoing issue. The main complaints concern the lack of choice for children who are not vegetarian and the spiciness of some of the food. Janet pointed out the provision is much improved and that there is a leadership team member overseeing lunchtime at all times but agrees it is no longer acceptable for there still to be teething problems. If the situation does not improve within weeks, a meeting is to be arranged between parents/carers and the Head chef.

Daily Mile

The Daily Mile has started happening once a week and pupil feedback has been positive. The aim is to build up pupil stamina slowly and once a majority of pupils are comfortable running the full mile, it will take place twice a week. One parent pointed out that children need to be taught to pace themselves. The Y2 mile takes place at the end of the school day which is not ideal but this is due to timetabling challenges. Janet is to keep an eye on this.

RSE

A meeting is planned for Feb 14 for parents /carers to hear about the statutory changes to the teaching of health and sex education. It will kick start a four week consultation/parental engagement period in which parents will be encouraged to express their thoughts on the changes. Janet urged all parents/carers to attend the meeting so that they can be properly informed and will back up the letter with text message reminders to parents/carers.

Homework

There is confusion among parents/carers in some year groups over the setting of online homework each week. Teachers are to be asked to always inform each time homework has been set online. One parent mentioned that teachers are not chasing pupils who forget to hand in their homework. Janet is to talk to teachers about this, and also addressed login problems experienced by some pupils in Y3. More broadly, Janet acknowledged that there remain questions over the benefits of homework in general and

that efforts have been made to introduce more project based homework over school holidays in order to make homework fun while also not over burdening parents. The rainforest project was a big success and Paul is to put them on display so that parents/carers can come and see them.

Classroom books

One parent wondered whether children have enough access to books in the classroom; Tahreena is to make sure all classrooms are fully stocked.

Saturday morning SATS lessons.

Ranjeni is to hand out worksheets to Y6 children who cannot attend Saturday sats sessions.

Star pupil cards

These seem to no longer be sent to pupils at home. Janet said that there had been a problem posting some of the cards but that there was no reason why children should not receive them in the class room and will address the issue with teachers.

END