

Present:

Staff	
Jon Lawson	Assistant Principal
Joanna March	PA to Principal

Parent	Child(ren) in Year ...
Stacey Hill	8
Ana Pereria	7
Rosetta Tickner	12
Penny Matthews	8 & 9
Angela Nobre	8 & 13
Kelly Felming	8

1 Welcome

Jon Lawson welcomed everyone to the meeting, and a warm welcome was extended to Angela Nobre who was attending for the first time.

2 Matters Arising

- **PE Fixtures**

Some concern was raised at the last meeting regarding the preparation of the students for PE fixtures. Jon Lawson reported that he had spoken to Matt Gamble, the Head of PE, who explained the difficulty in preparing the students thoroughly for all fixtures – there are so many fixtures and competitions, ie general KSA fixtures, Greenwood Dale events, District competitions etc. In the PE curriculum plan it is not possible to prepare the students for all of these events, however the PE faculty look at all the fixtures carefully and do the best they can with the time available.

- **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

Jon reported that the Northampton D of E team were offering the possibility of extra support for vulnerable families to try and engage the children. The ideal situation would be to offer the opportunity of co-ordinating the D of E programme to a current member of staff and reduce their time-table, perhaps with one day off in the week to balance the time they would be spending leading activities at weekends. However, this has a considerable cost implication, approximately £10,000, which is currently being considered for the next academic year.

- **Work Experience**

Lilith Bateman (Head of Sixth) and Paul Bradshaw are preparing a piece for the next newsletter to inform parents that, although work experience is no longer provided, if a student has an interest in a particular career, or has an opportunity to carry out a period of work experience, the Academy would look to support them.

JL to action this.

- **Recruitment of new parents/carers to the Forum**

Ana Pereira reported that the Christmas Fair was successful in attracting interest for the Forum and at least one new member has been introduced. She also informed the members that £40 had been raised for charity from the refreshments stall that members had kindly manned during the evening.

3 Academy/Parent Communication

Groupcall

Joanna March reported that the Groupcall email system was now in operation, with the Parents' fortnightly newsletters now being sent out as attachments. Groupcall also has the facility for cashless payments, and Joanna is looking into the possibility of introducing this towards the end of this academic year, or the start of next. Joanna then asked the members for feedback on the Newsletter, and suggestions for improvements. The following suggestions came forward:

- Perhaps more celebration of events/activities at the Academy.
- More photographs of the students.
- More on student achievement.
- Students to write articles
- Students who were involved in activities to write a follow-up piece.
- Houses – running totals of competition points.

**Action: JL to relaunch Student Council and ask students to write articles.
JM to request Newsletter items from staff on the above.
JM to look into the cashless system.**

Academy Website

Joanna talked through the proposed changes to the website, based on suggestions from the previous meeting. These will take a bit of time to action, but e4education is working on the changes.

Show My Homework

Jon went through this programme and explained how it works. It was requested that information on this be put on the Newsletter.

4 Next Meeting

Some discussion took place regarding the agenda for the next meeting and it was agreed that 'Child Safety and Social Media' should be the topic for discussion, with Options/Transitions a possible topic for the Term 5 meeting. The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 17 March 2015 at 5.30 pm in CM4.**