

Present:

Staff		Parent	Child(ren) in Year
Jon Lawson (JL)	Deputy Principal	Kelly Castelete	8 & 10
Sue Johnson (SJ)	Administrator	Stacey Hill	10
		Angela Nobre	10
		Nicola Farley McFadyen	10
		Louise Neal	7 & 8
		Ana Pereira	9
		Esther Gray	11
		Kenny Muir	10
		Tina Collins	7 & 8

JL welcomed everyone to the first meeting of this academic year and introductions were made.

1 Matters Arising

- **On line payments:** After a few issues at the start of the term, the system is now up and running. At the moment parents are able to pay online for bus passes, music tuition and cashless catering. More items will be added shortly. A discussion was held about first-come first-served activities - it would be difficult to ascertain which order payments were made if some were online and some paid direct to Finance. This needs more discussion. **SJ to discuss with Finance.**
- **Rewards:** The Rewards system of 'ipoints' is working well, Mr Van Lier is working hard to arrange Student Leadership..
- **AAC:** Work is currently ongoing with the structure of the Council.
- **Publicising Parent Flyer:** Flyers were emailed today to parents inviting them to join the Forum. The Forum proved very successful over the last year, with valuable input from members proving very effective.
- **Year Groups:** The new year group system is working very well.
- **Road Safety:** JL is leading hard hitting 'Road Safety' assemblies this week to all year groups. It was commented that illegal parking by parents and taxis is still a problem on the road outside of the Academy and speeding cars pose problems on Tower Hill Road. Parents asked if the police could do spot checks. PCSOs do visit the Academy, parents and pupils are reminded about parking lawfully and 2 members of staff are on duty in the Tower Hill Road area at the end of the day. **JL will enquire about the possibility of PCSOs carrying out 'spot checks' at the end of the day after parents have already parked.** A question was raised about the white blocks positioned at the exit gate as they restricted traffic leaving the site. It was felt they were positioned to prevent U turning, however parents said this was still happening. **JL to ask SD for advice.**

2 Extra Curricular Activities

JL explained about the various extra-curricular activities held within the Academy – details of these activities are available on the website. The Study Hub is popular, there are computers around the edge of the room and tables in the centre for quiet independent study. Free pens, paper and other resources are available. The Hub is staffed by 2 Higher Level Teaching Assistants from Maths and English. The longer lunch break provides more opportunities for sports and music clubs to take place. A taster weekend for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is being held with week with 20 pupils participating. The D of E was opened to Year 9 and 10 on

a 'try before you buy' system. After the weekend pupils can decide if they would like to continue with the first award. Mr Van Lier is investigating the possibility of the Ministry of Defence agreeing for us to introduce an Army Cadet group within the Academy. It was suggested that a computer (coding) club or chess club might be of interest to pupils. If pupils learn to stay to clubs in the lower year groups, it may instil a culture to stay to Study Hub in the senior year groups. **JL understands that most clubs are well attended but will investigate the number of pupils participating.** Issues with mealtimes were raised about pupils not having enough time to eat and also participate in activities. **JL to raise the subject of lunch passes with staff who run activities - these would give priority to pupils in the queue to those wishing to attend.** The Academy has limited resources and to charge for activities is generally against its philosophy. The possibility of match funding for activities by RS Components was raised. **KC to investigate.**

3 Any other business

- **MILK app:** Parents remarked that the MILK app was very good and much better than 'Show my Homework'.
- **Twitter:** JL invited everyone to join our Twitter account: @KingswoodAcad.

Date and time of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 6 December 2016 at 5.30 pm. The main topic on the agenda will be 'Showcasing pupils' work'.