



Carmel Parent Forum

22nd March 2018

Members

Mike Shorten | Lynn Hunter | Jennifer Moorhouse | Monita Atkinson | Helen Keough | Liz Anderson | Rachael Davies | Stanley Glendenning | Mrs Glendenning | Katie Burns-Collings | Sarah Tindale | Catherine Clausen | Nichol Wells | Catherine Stow-Smith | Mary Mustard | Lee Merit | Catherine Nicholson | Cath Merit | Helen Ding | Katie Parkinson | Vicky Elby | Mrs Nichols | Michelle Connor | Michelle Goundry | Karen Carol | Edwina Bryant | Cliff Burgess | Elizabeth Flanagan | William Walker | Rachel Tempest |

Apologies for absence

- William Walker
- Caroline Walker

Item

Welcome

Review of last meeting's outcomes

- A discussion on why we host parent information sessions, which is to engage with parents/carers.

Virtues Education

- Character Ethics - how do we build character at Carmel? We looked at student profiles, those that are involved and those who are not involved but who get a lot of support and the 'silent majority'.
 - This project will be further embedded in to the whole schools for example assemblies, the curriculum, PSHEE.
 - Booklets were shown to parents which RE based on three pillars of being a whole person - self regulation, confidence and reliance and compassion and justice.
 - Parents were impressed and valued the project stating that some children do need more support and liked the idea of entitlements (opportunities within school to encourage these virtues).
 - The project is also within the P4L (Prepared for Learning) room which is a punitive measure but focuses of the restorative aspect of behaviour management.
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Item

Homework

- General consensus was that there was enough homework being set
- Snow day work on SharePoint was an issue and our IT department are looking at how it can be made more accessible.
- A big focus on work being set and marked by staff to show the importance of work.
- Parents mentioned how the planner was a good form of communication when a student has completed 40 minutes of work.

GCSE Results Day

- The event may have been a little congested and did not allow for a full celebration of the results.
- Discussed how due to staffing the sign in day has to be on the same day but that it could be moved in to a different room.
- Another reason is due to timetables which are made on the day so if a child comes in September they may have a more limited choice due to the timetable having already been made.

Role Models within school

- Issues with some staff losing books, finding them and then not apologizing and emphasizing the teachers gaining loyalty by being good role models.
- Dress wear and make was discussed and although the dress code does state professional dress, make up is a difficult thing to address.
- It was stressed that although we say no makeup we are lenient to those who have skin problems and as long as it's subtle we generally allow make up.

Profit Proofing

- SLT attended an event on poverty proofing schools. It looks at how the school can help all students especially those who are entitled to free school meals.
- Aspects looked at are the cashless system which will help to accrue money rather than taking any money not spent back in to the system.
- Food technology was also mentioned to see if some ingredients could be bought in house and a donation could be made.
- Uniform donations

AOB

Item

- Mr. Shorten raised the issue of GCSE choices with parents. Discussion on the difficulty and pressures that both students and staff have trying to cover GCSE's. Ideas proposed included reducing the choices which would impact uptake of creative arts and a longer day time which would need to be put out for consultation. It was generally felt that parents wanted to protect the creative arts but also were concerned about pressures being faced by students during GCSE years.

Adjournment
