



PORT·REGIS

Pre-Prep Year Group Representatives Meeting

Wednesday 21st June, 0845

Present	Titus Mills (TM)	Headmaster
	Rebecca Eves (RRE)	Head of Pre-Prep
	Kevin Binns (KWB)	Bursar
	Helen Christie (HC)	Clerk

Year Group Reps: Andrew Russell (AR), Emma Stephens (ES), Charlotte Baughan (CB), Katharine Morant (KM),

Apologies: Katherine Wilson (KW), Amanda Blencowe (AB),

Action Log from Year Group Reps meeting held on 28th February 2023

This was sent out to Parent Reps prior to today's meeting.

RRE opened the meeting at 0845hrs and thanked everyone for attending.

TM thanked parents for volunteering to take on the role of Class Parent Rep and hoped it had not been too much of a burden. He asked that if parents wanted to now hand over the role to another parent, please could they give us some help with this by approaching other parents on the school's behalf. CB said feelers had gone out but no uptake from others as yet.

With reference to new families joining us in September, TM stated that over the next few weeks Year Group Reps will contact new parents to introduce themselves and to invite them to join any WhatsApp groups.

Action Log

RRE asked if anyone wanted to raise anything from the action log. No comments.

Pre-Prep Year Group Reps invited to share any concerns raised by their year group:

Reception

KM reported that AB had nothing to share

- Request for Jemima Mills (JM) to run her Art Hobby again next term.

RRE stated hobby provision for next term will be looked at over the next couple of weeks and she will pass on the request for JM's Art Hobby to take place again.

- Nutrition in packed lunches and ASC

Reports back from children that packed lunch consists of dry rolls, chocolate and crisps. Not enough nutritional content to packed lunches and ASC high tea (too many Petits Pains au Chocolat). Could this be looked into?

HC stated that in ASC the children are offered one slice of toast (on occasion 2) or 1 croissant or 1 crumpet/muffin (when these are available) with butter, jam, honey or marmite. Sometimes there is also cheddar cheese and crackers on offer. Children are then offered fruit and yoghurt, this is 'High Tea' not a meal. On Fridays (Film Friday) children are offered fruit followed by approx. ½ a pack of crisps or popcorn. Occasionally morning snack is Petits Pains au Chocolat (cut in ½), if any left over these are offered in ASC. RRE asked KWB to look into nutritional value of packed lunches.

Year One

CB thanked all Pre-Prep staff for doing such a fantastic job.

The following were points raised by individuals, not necessarily the feelings of the whole class parent group.

- Clean plate stickers

Should we encourage children to eat beyond hungry? Would it be better to have a sticker along the lines of '*I ate something new*' instead? Stickers were introduced to make sure the children eat enough and try and cut down on food waste. Often children just decide they want pudding, however when encouraged to eat a little more they will then finish their main course. We want to ensure the children are eating a balanced lunch and have energy to get through the remainder of the day. It is a hard balance. RRE will look into alternative to encourage healthy eating.

- Hobbies

Noted that the choice of hobbies has improved. Is it possible to have football back and possibly some new ones such as choir, drama etc. Can Pre-Prep have some free hobbies as offered in the Prep School. Perhaps hobbies at lunchtimes in order to offer more.

RRE & KWB to discuss costs of hobbies. It does depend on who is running the hobby (external staff) and if the hobby needs specific resources. Lunchtime hobbies can be difficult to staff as Prep school staff have other commitments and Pre-Prep staff need to cover playground duties. RRE said football hobby would start again in September. RRE raised that all Yr 1 & 2 do choir during the week (Piccolo Singers). We have new Heads of Departments starting in September so will look at drama and singing in due course – probably not available in September.

- Children are happy

All Yr 1 parents feel that the children are really happy and settled at school. Thanks given to AAF, HC and all staff. RRE & TM thanked reps for passing this on.

- Forest Friday has been good this year, a real success.

RRE was delighted to hear such positive feedback and stated there are sessions already booked into the calendar for next term.

- Links across the school

EA – said links across the school are invaluable especially when siblings are able to link up. Can we find more opportunities for the Pre-Prep and Prep School to interact going forward i.e. School House assemblies/quizzes/structured activities etc. TM & RRE agreed these occasions are brilliant and we will look at finding more opportunities, perhaps shared playtimes etc.

- Communication

Especially with regard to the gate on the link road. Can parents/carers be told in advance if the gate is going to be shut i.e. on Monday's Triathlon day, the gate was closed however parents had not been pre-warned. Can cause a bottleneck in the main carpark with cars trying to turn around/manoeuvre. KWB to look into this.

Year Two

- Gate open from 0800hrs

AR said having the gate open from 0800 has been fantastic. Parents and children are able to enjoy the playground where (recently at least!) it has been warm and sunny and everyone has particularly enjoyed the beautiful Wisteria! Children have enjoyed the new games table. This is a GREAT start to the day.

- Sport

The triathlon was fantastic, everyone enjoyed it. It has been great to have Jack more involved with Pre-Prep sport. Everyone is looking forward to the Gym & Swim display and Sports Afternoon.

- Transition from Yr 2 – F Form

There is much excitement amongst the children and running things like tomorrow's boarding taster is brilliant. The children have been talking amongst themselves as to which nights they are boarding etc.

- Old carpark on the slope

Will this be developed? He realises there would be a considerable cost implication to this but it seems to be wasted space. RRE said tricky as it's on a slope. KWB to consider options. TM stated there will be investment in play equipment next year. AR asked where this would go, RRE said this is yet to be decided, need to take into consideration best location/costs/children's safety etc

- SOCS

Is it possible to put in more filters? Although currently around 47, if you put in cricket, for instance, you get ALL cricket matches across the school. Can this be filtered further to year groups or your own children. KWB said My School Portal is being rolled out which will effectively replace SOCS and you are able to hone in more to your own children's sports teams/commitments etc.

- Great year

AR said RRE has done a great job this year, positive feedback from all parents. Thank you to Helen. Very happy parents.

RRE thanked the parent reps for their positive feedback which is much appreciated and will be fed back to all Pre-Prep staff. They are a great team! RRE thanked AR for his time as a Pre-Prep parent rep as this is his last term as a Pre-Prep parent.

TM thanked the parent reps for being great ambassadors.

Meeting closed 0910hrs.

The date for the Autumn Term 2023 meeting will be Monday 6th November.

Titus Mills
21st June 2023