

CHESTERTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE PTA MINUTES

Meeting Date: 7th November 2017

Venue: Chesterton Community College - Library

Time: 7:30pm

In Attendance

Teachers/Staff/Guests	Mike Gordon, Katherine Hutchinson, Donna Hubbard-Young
Parents	Eve Toomey, Tracy Beales, Eftichea Koumartzaki, Diep Doan (minute taker), Caroline Brettell, Rimma Belotserkovskaya, Stuart Aitken, Denise Oyamada, Zuzana Frankova
Apologies	Judith Harrison

1. Introductions by the new Committee

Introduction to each new committee member.

Eve Toomey : Chair

Diep Doan & Tracy Beales: Secretaries

Eftichea Kourmatzaki: Treasurer

2. Staff Presentation – The House System & Key Dates

Mike Gordon gave an informative presentation to how the 'House System' works and some key dates for KS3 and KS 4. Further details can be found in the accompanied presentation slides.

Some key notes:

1. There are 4 houses - each house is managed by a House Head and a House Assistant
 - i) Cavendish (Yellow) : Rebecca Gardner and Cassia Alfaro
 - ii) Equiano (Blue) : Paul Gilliver/Rob Parkinson and Hannah Frampton
 - iii) Hill (Green) : Hayley McCulloch and Kate Williams
 - iv) Robinson (Red) : Mike Gordon and Rhiannon Evans
2. There are around 250 students per house and there are 9 tutor groups (forms) per house
3. The House System creates a family feel for the students and provides a healthy & fun competitions for all involved
4. Year 7 is looked after by Ellie Harnwell and Matt Lee
5. At the end of Year 7, beginning of Year 8, each student will be assigned a tutor and that same tutor will see the student through to Year 11
6. The Tutor is the first point of contact
7. The way that Year 11 students receive their mock exams results would be the same as they would receive their real exams results.
8. Each student has to go to form room for around 20 minutes each morning, with the rest of their form and their form tutor

9. Assemblies are the only time when all House students come together - this happens once a week on Tuesday

Additional notes:

Q1: How does the school explain about 'Brexit' to children?

Staff provided answer: No controversial and no political theme used to explain the 'Brexit' to the children.

Q2: How does the new 'Grade' system work and what how does the 'SET' work?

Donna Hubbard-Young explained that the new Grade system ranges from 1 to 9. Grade 9 is the highest grade and is reserved to reward to the top 2% students based on the nationwide results. Grade 4 is a standard pass and Grade 5 is a strong pass. Grade 6 is the equivalent of grade B, grade 7 is equivalent of grade A and grade 8 is equivalent of grade A*. Students are put in set for each subject. The set indicates the potential grade the student can work toward for that subject. 9/7 is the top set. Each student is given a timetable. On the timetable, you can find which set your child is in for each subject.

3. Fund Raising Update - summary of confirmed events:

Eve gave a quick re-cap on the upcoming fund raising events:

1. Quiz Night – 10th Nov: Ticket £8/adult and £4/student.
2. Wine Tasting – 1st Dec in the APEX. £20/person. Need 3 more volunteers on the day.
3. Ceilidh – 2nd Feb 2018. Rimma contacted the band. £300 charge has been confirmed but this would be the last year the band charges this rate.
4. Judith is organising 'Christmas Pudding' - further information to follow

Other events:

'Christmas Fair' – this is being organised and run by school and students. Donna Hubbard-Young is coordinating for the school in partnership with Judith Harrison

- ½ day between 9-12pm on 15th Dec
- Judith is in charge of organising for stalls but the students will run and manage the stalls
- Judith organises for Chocolate Tombola and the 'last minute gift' stall
- 'Photo Booth' will also be managed by the students
- Need donations from PTA
- Need some PTA volunteers to assist

4. Other fundraising efforts to be a significant focus

- Focus effort on easy way to raise money
- Not to spend on too many activities
- If possible to have the <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> set as default search URL for school ipads?

- Encourage friends and family members to use <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> which doesn't cost them anything

5. Climbing Wall Update

- Final £20,000 was raised for a climbing wall.
- Size of the wall and when the work can start will be confirmed as soon as details become available – watch this space
- Many parents who have contributed to the fund have now moved on from CCC but they may like to know that the fund is definitely being used to build the climbing wall. It would be nice to let them know. Eve will try to see if she can email the former and current parents.
- Suggestion to compensate (e.g. a voucher) for students who have already left but contributed to raising fund for the wall. The majority did not feel that it would be appropriate and feasible to do this. The decision was to inform the former parents/students of the result once the work on the wall has started.

6. Any other business – Fundraising requests

- Eve will write to Lucy asking for list of things that PTA can help to raise fund for (e.g. Lighting for new building, extra counselling sessions for students, playground equipment for Y7 and Y8 etc.)
- Other request may include Virtual Reality Headsets for the students - Kath to provide further information.

7. Next meeting

Tuesday 9th January 2018

Actions Summary

Recruit volunteers to help with Wine Tasting event on 1 st Dec	Eve Toomey
Ask PTA members for donations for Xmas Fair	Eve Toomey
Recruit PTA to assist the Xmas Fair (9-12pm) on 15 th Dec.	Eve Toomey
To work with the school IT department to see if it is possible to set the default https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/ to all ipads?	Eve Toomey
Update parents about the climbing wall	Eve Toomey/Carl Humphries
Organise Xmas Fair stalls & Hot Chocolate Tombola	Judith Harrison
Contact Lucy for things that PTA can help to raise fund for	Eve Toomey
More information about funding for Virtual Reality Headset	Kath Hutchinson