

**Minutes of Parents in Partnership Meeting
Community Room, Sunnymede Junior School
Monday 17th June at 2pm**

	Name	Role	Class
Present:	Ronnie Branch	Headteacher	
	Carol King	PSHE Co-ordinator	
	Sharon Smith	Parent representative	5S & 4H
	Louise Loss	Parent representative	4J
	Sue Burton	Parent representative	4J
	Joy Fisher	Parent representative	4H
	Charissa Guy	Parent representative	5S
	Tracy Braby	Parent representative	6K
	Angela Chapman	Parent representative	3J
	Dawn Guy	Parent representative	5W
	Amanda Freestone	Parent representative	3V
	Julie Riches	Parent representative	5W & 6K

1. Welcome and apologies

Mrs Branch opened the meeting and apologies were received from Carriann Everard and Sam Theodom.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

These were agreed.

3. Update of PE Co-ordinator

RB confirmed that a new PE Co-ordinator has been appointed for September. She has experience as a PE Co-ordinator and is sure to have lots of ideas. She is also a cheer leader. RB explained that schools are receiving £8000 for 2 years from the Government to fund sustainable sport but we will wait for the new PE Co-ordinator to be in place to carry out a review before making any decisions as to how to spend this money. In the meantime Mrs Joyce has done a fantastic job of managing the heats for the upcoming District Sports and the positive comments from Sharon Smith were very much appreciated.

4. Sports Day

RB explained that the 'novelty' events in the afternoon were being replaced with team relays so that all children could participate and earn house points. RB also explained that, unlike last year, contingency arrangements have been put in place in the event of rain during the lunch period. Parents/carers with more than one child in school will eat their picnic lunch in the school hall. Parents/carers with one child will eat their picnic lunch in the upper school area.

5. Continuation of Swimming lessons for Yr 4 children 2013-2014

RB confirmed that these lessons will continue and letters have already been sent to the current Yr 3 parents/carers advising them of this and requesting payment. The response so far has been fairly positive and a reminder will be sent nearer the end of this term.

6. Behaviour Policy

RB circulated full copies of the policy. RB confirmed that the Behaviour Policy will be implemented from September and asked CK to outline the new policy. CK explained that if discipline and behaviour is not good then you cannot teach. The policy must have clarity and all staff members, not just teaching staff, must be involved and 'sing from the same hymn sheet'. The emphasis is very much on positive behaviour with consistency across the school. RB explained that one of the reasons for making the policy absolutely clear was that responses to the recent parent survey showed there was a perception that there was an issue with behaviour in class. Mrs Branch was surprised at this response as visitors to the school, inspectors etc. always comment on the very good **behaviour both** in and around the school. This is supported with classroom monitoring and lesson observations of teachers. RB speculated, therefore, that the issue may be that children sometimes feel that low level behaviour is not obviously addressed as the existing policy does not have a clear staged programme of sanctions. Fortunately, the new policy will be much clearer for both staff and children.

This was because of a lack of consistency which sometimes made the children feel that issues had not been dealt with. On a positive note, visitors into school say behaviour is good and lesson observations show that classroom behaviour is good.

RB was asked whether parents will be contacted just at Stage 4 or before. She confirmed there will be flexibility, based on professional judgement, on when parents are contacted re behaviour.

It was commented that the Infant MDAs have very positive behaviour management skills, always looking for and rewarding good behaviour. RB confirmed that Peer Mediators and Play Leaders are being trained ready to start again in September and more play equipment has been moved to the playground. She also said that, as part of the review of the new Behaviour Policy, MDAs have been asked to actively seek and praise good behaviour and they have been given special lunchtime stickers to give.

Members of the PiP were generally happy with the policy and RB thanked everyone for their comments.

7. Homework Policy

RB circulated full copies of the policy to review. RB explained that the homework policy had been very hard to write as the results from the survey were extremely polarised. Days for giving and return of homework have been set so that they are the same across all year groups, hopefully making things easier for parents with more than one child in the school. The main weekly English or creative task will now be set so that there is a weekend period during which it can be completed. There will be no holiday homework that teachers expect children to complete, though optional holiday project ideas will be set out in the termly year group newsletters to parents. Also, in Year 6 additional holiday homework may be set in the Spring and Summer Terms and there is an expectation that this is completed. For completion of the optional projects, children will receive a certificate or sticker and the work will be displayed in class. The project may not be formally marked but will be celebrated and discussed as a class.

There is a big change to maths homework which will be online. School has invested in an online package 'Mathletics' following different trials with the School Council and Yr 4. There will be a 15 minute online task, hopefully with an optional extra task for those who want more Maths practice. It was agreed amongst the group that the online option for Maths is better than the current use of Schofield and Sims books. Parents liked the idea of an online activity to motivate children. Children without internet access at home will be encouraged to come to homework club to complete the work. The online maths homework will start in the Autumn Term once it has all been set up.

English homework will be balanced for Yrs 3 & 4 with alternate literacy/grammar and creative type activities. All homework should be put in the children's homework diaries together with a note if none is set i.e., assessment week.

RB said that the homework survey showed an overwhelming response that there should be a positive reward for homework, rather than sanctions. If parents are experiencing difficulties in getting their child to do homework they should speak to the class teacher. The children who do not do homework are in the minority. Teachers will keep parents informed as much as they can.

Members of the PiP were generally happy with the policy and RB thanked everyone for their comments.

8. PiP Representatives for 2013-2014

RB confirmed this was the last PiP meeting this academic year and thanked everybody for their commitment, support and valuable input. As mentioned at the last meeting, RB will be randomly inviting parents to join next year to encourage as diverse a group as possible. Some parents may welcome being invited rather than volunteering.

9. Any other business

- Online E-safety workshop for parents. RB was asked if an evening workshop could be provided and she said it may be possible to run another workshop in the future. In the meantime a lot of very valuable information from the workshop has been posted onto the school website. RB advised that children in Yrs 5 & 6 will be viewing a video called Jigsaw with follow-up lessons. Parents have the right to withdraw their child if they wish and a letter is being sent out this week.
- RB was asked whether school fleeces were allowed to be worn in class. RB replied that they are outdoor wear only, meant as a Spring/Autumn jacket.

10. Agree date and agenda for next meeting

- Date of next meeting - to be decided

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To be decided