



Cardinal Newman High School Parental Voice Group Meeting 30th October 2023

Attendees(full list available from secretary)

6 Parent/Carers; HT Mr Smith, Mr Brown, L Anderson, M Casey, (Staff).

Apologies from 2 parents

Welcome

Mr Smith started meeting with prayers and welcomed everyone.

Chairperson role

Mr Smith sought advice from the local authority regarding the role of Chairperson and has been advised that this can be done on a rotational basis by Parent Members. Mr Smith will devise a rota for this for rest of school year. Members present agreed to this in principle.

Updates from last minutes from HT

School continues to be vigilant re use of vapes by pupils and has had discussions with various partners including police since last meeting. Senior staff have also been proactive before the school day, at interval and lunch to try to minimise opportunities for pupils to vape in toilets. Mr Smith received a complaint from a pupil via NLC regarding the general condition of the toilets. Mr Smith responded, outlining the measures undertaken by the school to try and minimise issues and also that toilets are routinely repaired, but accepted that the fabric and style of the toilets does need modernised and potentially checked to ensure meets minimum safety requirements.

Parent Voice took an action to write to local elected members and education covener- based on Mr Smiths feedback from pupils and staff re the above

SQA Update re appeals-The results are due in on 31st October and pupils will be advised once staff know. Mr Smith will feedback at next PV meeting.

Uniforms-Pupil Council will be further consulted re potential changes for school skirts. Financial considerations (i.e potential costs) will need to be fully considered if this is to become feasible.

Awards Ceremony- Went very well and the format, (S1-S6 all at the same time), was well received by the pupils in general.

Newman Week- Went well. 75 % attendance on the last day, which is up on the same time last year. Faith was central to the week and received well by the pupils. £2200 was donated to good causes(hospice and SCIAF)

The talent show was well attended , some pupils disappointed they didn't get the merits needed to attend. It was felt that, although this may have been a disappointment on this occasion it should act as amotivation for further planned reward events.

All Saints day

School Chaplain will serve Mass 3 times on Wednesday to allow as many pupils as possible to attend. Miss Barr will provide Faith guidance throughout the week along with the RE staff.

Newman Committee

Newman Committee has now been formed and the main focus is to ensure families who need support in the school are able to happily celebrate Christmas 2023. The school has received £5000 from Cash for Kids which will be used for this purpose.

Mr Smith indicated he may consider requesting donation of foodbank items from the Parent Forum nearer Christmas.

School Faith Vision and Values

Mr Smith has set a target of August 2024 to have a finalised clear practical vision for School Faith and Values to be introduced as per the school's Improvement Plan.

Caritas pupils, School Chaplain, RE Dept, Faith ambassadors, pupils, parents/carers and partners will work together to realise this goal.

Potential Input to Parent Forum

Mr Smith has taken an action to consider a presentation to the Parent/Carer Forum, (i.e. anyone who would like to attend), and send out a survey to parents/carers on topics of their choosing, on which, they would like HT or staff to deliver. He suggested examples such as Moral Values, Sexual Health, ICT as potential examples but would rather hear from parents/carers about what they would like, thus the survey.

Road Safety

Jon McLeish provided an update that at the latest Bellshill Board meeting on 7th September, an update was provided to the Group by a member of NLC SMT. At present, detailed planning relative to the Bellziehill Junction is still ongoing and progressing. Plans are still subject to approval and budgetary considerations, but work is still planned to begin Spring/Summer 2024.

Parent Voice Quiz Night

Provisional date of Friday 9th February 2024 has been set. It will take place at Holy Family hall and tickets will be available to parents/carers, staff and potentially senior pupils(tbc).

There will be a bar as well as fundraising activities, (raffle etc), and proceeds will be used as part of the efforts to fund a school minibus.

Checks will be made to see how many tickets can be sold and Mr Smith will communicate the date to parents in advance of ticket sales.

AOCB

Developing Young Workforce

Miss Anderson and Miss Casey requested the assistance of the Parent Voice to try and garner more placements for the above programme, which is running very successfully already but which they want to be able to offer to as many pupils as possible. They are trying to secure further potential placements to match up with demand. Some of the Parents/carers in the room were able to offer some immediate potential places.

These placements are designed to take place during Future Friday time, (Friday afternoons), and they have asked the Parent Voice to reach out to the wider parent forum to see if more places can be obtained. In general, they are looking to widen the partnerships between local businesses and the school to boost to longer term employment opportunities and are hoping some of this work will lead to forging partnerships between the school, enterprise and businesses. They gave details of successful

schemes that they had already started working on, which are likely to have long term benefits for pupils and was well received by the Parent Voice members present.

Parent Voice took an action to Tweet details, encouraging Parent Forum to get in touch if they could help by providing placements via their own contacts.

Date of Next meeting

Monday 18th December 2023