

Date – 7th February 2022

Time 8-9.30pm

Attendees:

Anne De Livera (ADL)
Carys Woolley (CXW) (minutes)
Claire Winward (CW)
Frances Gale (FG)
Greg Bath (GB)
Natalie King (NK)

Agenda:

Plans/ideas for school playground improvements.
PTFA events for the rest of the year.

Outdoor Area Ideas:

The original idea was for the PTFA to fund an outdoor classroom. These can be very expensive and would only benefit one class at a time. GB has various more cost effective ideas and he went through them with a picture showing the suggested locations for each:

1. A bouldering wall along the Clevedon Road end of the playground
2. Outdoor reading space outside the Year 2 classroom area with benches
3. A smaller outdoor classroom (like a gazebo but wooden structure) by the pond area – initial costing for this is £3.5-4k.
4. A big sandpit (with roof) next to the pre-school play area
5. Bleachers on one of the grassy mounds – these would be made from decking on stilts and would be an area where children can sit, eat lunch, watch sports, take a class out and do a performance (possibly with shade)
6. Sensory garden – outside the library, this would be an extension to year 5 and 6 classrooms
7. Plant more trees, including fruit trees to improve the orchard
8. Fence off an area behind the mound (approx.. 50m²) and re-wild to create a meadow. Children would have access but no football playing etc. would be allowed there. This would be great for when the children go bug hunting. We could mow a maze into the meadow area creating a pathway between the flowers
9. A forest club corner with a fire pit and a copse around the pit – this could be used as a mini forest school
10. Provide den making equipment – sticks, tarpaulin. This could all be kept in an old prison van which is being donated to the school along with other equipment for the outdoor areas
11. Put in welly racks for the children to store wellies at school for rainy days playing outside – get ready for autumn

The school will try to get funding via grants from companies such as Biffa and Veolia for the eco initiatives. St. Joe's are aiming for a green flag award by the end of the year.

PTFA help will be needed for the non 'eco' ideas funding – we could start with things like the bouldering wall, bleachers, reading area – where we can make an impact quickly. We can also try get volunteers to help with labour. We could have a “St. Joe’s DIY SOS” where families come to the school one weekend – bring picnics, help out with building etc.

We should try to get discounted supplies from local suppliers.

General feeling is that these ideas are really positive and will benefit more children than having one outdoor classroom. It will be good for children to have more places to sit and a quieter area with books, maybe board games to play outside the year 2 classroom will benefit children who need some quiet space during playtime.

PTFA events:

Cake of the week has been a bit of a flop this year only making £25/week. We would normally make £60-70k on an average week. We have had fewer people buying weeks in bulk at the start of term. We have had some unpopular flavours so think it’s best to stick with the bestsellers from now on e.g. biscoff, carrot cake, victoria sponge, terry’s choc cake. We should also have a big push to sell tickets in bulk at the start of term.

Hampers – we are going to do the hampers for May half term – draw to take place on Friday 27th May. They will have the same colour theme as usual. Hamper items to be of the colour or wrapped in the colour as follows:

Pre-school - Rainbow
Reception – Pink
Year 1 – Yellow
Year 2 – Green
Year 3 – Blue
Year 4 – Purple
Year 5 – Orange
Year 6 – Red

We will have a paypal pool per class so winners will get the hamper from the class they are in.

Date for summer fayre TBC asap. Theme proposed is “Best of British” to fit in with the Queen’s Jubilee.

Car Boot Sale to take place on either 7th or 8th May. We will charge per car and have a long trestle table with donated goods that the children will run. We will also have a bacon sandwich stall and a tea/coffee stall.

The colour run will be organised by NK. Half the profit will go to the PTFA. The other half will go to a charity decided by the school council. We will charge for entry to the colour run this year.

Tea towels – we are going to try to get tea towels printed with self portraits of all the children in the school. NK to source a supplier – previously we have used MAPAC.

We need to book the Christmas disco asap – aim for by end of next half term. We may need to find a new DJ as our old one is not happy about our cancellation last Christmas.

The next PTFA meeting will be arranged for around. 6 weeks' time.