

School Council Actions 2016-17

School expansion

- With Mr Goddard we looked at the proposed plan for the school expansion and shared what we liked and asked lots of questions.

Charity fundraising

We also chose the charities we supported this year, by discussing the suggestions from each class council. Our chosen charities were:

World: **Starfish Malawi** (Terms 1 and 2):

items collected were sent in a container and the retiring collections at all Christmas performances raised money to cover the cost of sending the container.

Local: **Buttercups Sanctuary for Goats** (Terms 3 and 4):

On Monday 27th March, we can come to school dressed as our **Greatest Of All Time** (G.O.A.T.) hero for a minimum donation of £1. We also wrote about our hero in class.

We raised £152.74

National: **The Salvation Army** (supporting the homeless) (Terms 3 and 4):

On Monday 26th June we ran a sponsored silence activity in our classes. Each class decided their own activity and the maximum length of time this activity would take (based on the age and class.)

We raised: [£1303.30](#)

Topics

We discussed what we like about the way topic is taught at Marden School and what could be taught better. All of the views were handed to Miss Chown, who has acted on and co-ordinated these views to develop the teaching of topic with all of the teachers.

What we like: practical science; making things and being creative; enrichment days, visitors and trips; Big Topic Write.

What could be better: more practical science; doing/ making/ practical activities; having choice – doing our own independent projects and learning; more outside learning and more history.

Playtimes

We decided to make sure that the Buddy Bus Stop is back out for use at playtimes by having two monitors to put it out. An assembly was used to remind everyone how to use it.

Everyone was also be reminded in assembly to not lift up the grates in the playground.

Traffic outside School

To address the concerns raised about there being too many cars outside the school at drop off and pick up times, all classes wrote letters to parents about this issue. Year 6 School Council reps also wrote something in the weekly newsletter.

Breakfast Club

Each class was asked to fill in a survey about Breakfast Club.

Keeping Cloakrooms tidy

Each class/ phase sharing a cloakroom shared their decisions about how to keep their cloakroom's tidy.

School rules

We had a whole school assembly to remind everyone of the school rules.

Football

It was decided that volunteer football coaches/ referees from Year 5 /6 would be organised to support KS1 when playing football at lunchtime. This was not successful.

The use of the football goals were discussed:

- All children were reminded which days their class can use the goals. This is on a rota.
- All staff, including dinner supervisors, were reminded to check that the right classes are using the goals when they are on duty. No other children are allowed to use the, even if the designated class is not using them.
- Year 6 rep was asked to sort out football monitors to check that the correct classes are using the goals and to inform the staff on duty if not.

Safety on the field

All children were reminded to tell an adult if they see any sharp branches or bushes on the field so that they can be dealt with immediately.

Playtimes

KS1 will still only use the KS1 playground for their morning break time (rather than KS2 playground too) due to the number of adults who would be required to supervise and so as not to confuse the younger children about where their playtime is.

All children were reminded to tell an adult immediately if they see anyone playing running games which might knock into other people playing.

New playground equipment is not to be bought as it does not get looked after;

Toilets

Toilet of the Week was re-introduced in Term 6. Ms Beckett did another assembly about how to look after the toilets, keep them clean and how we would like to find them.

Air fresheners are in all of the toilets and children were asked to let the office know if they were no longer working so that Mr Tarka can re-fill them.

We decided that we could not use any rewards or prizes as many of the toilets are used by different children from different year groups at different times of the day, so it would make it impossible to know who to reward.

Lunchtimes

The kitchen running out of the jacket potato option was discussed with Caterlink (the school dinner supplier). The kitchen will now make sure that they hold some potatoes back for each age phase. The same difficulties with it being impossible to predict how many people each day will choose the jacket potato option remains and cannot be resolved.

Packed lunch rubbish needs to be taken home as homes have recycling facilities. (The school has not got the facilities to deal with the volume of rubbish produced.) Also, so that parents can then see what has and has not been eaten.

Ways to make sure KS2 children can gain privacy, if wanted, from KS1 children when eating lunch on the field were discussed. (Politely ask them to give them some space. If back up is needed, politely ask a dinner supervisor.)

A new rota has been set up for classes to have a weekly turn at eating their packed lunch on the benches on the field. (If anyone does not line up properly, they lose their opportunity to do so.)

The need to put lunch boxes on class labelled trolleys was shared (unless there is no more space).

Dinner supervisors have been reminded to use their laminated colour cards to tie in with the behaviour chart.

Children were reminded to make sure that they are respectful to all dinner supervisors as they are members of staff.

In order to try to reduce the noise in the dining hall, we tried playing music while we ate. The music ended up making some people talk more loudly. We tried it – it was a good idea – but it doesn't seem to have sorted the problem.

To address the issue of the dining hall being left untidily, we reminded everyone to clear up after themselves; ask the dinner supervisors to only let each table go out to play once the table is left tidy and are going to organise monitors called the Cleaning Squad to help out. Mrs Orford is kindly going to make some special sashes for them to wear.

One class raised that they would like boxes in which to put coats in the dining hall but it was decided that there would not be enough room and that the pegs were still the better option.

A class raised that they would like two doors to be added to the dining room. We discussed that this was an expensive solution to helping the flow of traffic into the dining hall and that because of the proposed expansion plans, did not need to be done at the moment.

A class suggested having bigger gaps between the tables, but again, it was decided that there was not room to do this.

Writing

Although this is not really an issue the School Council can change, we discussed and agreed why the amount of writing is expected in Year 6.