



*Aim to learn, learn to succeed ~ Anelu at ddysgu, dysgu i lwyddo*

# Ysgol Maes Owen Parent / Guardian Pop In!

**Minutes – 17/2/23**

## **Minutes:**

- Welcome and objectives of the Pop In!

MOC welcomed all present. Tea and coffee was offered ☺

- Parent/Guardian Feedback – what is going well and how can we do better?
  - Welsh – positive feedback around children learning Welsh in school, feeling that the children seem to be learning more and sharing this at home. Mrs O'Connor shared how Welsh was taught in school – a weekly lesson, a practice session during their Guided reading time and that the Welsh was linked to their termly topic. Children are given regular opportunities to read in Welsh through their topics. Discussion was held on providing a Parent's Welsh course in school – Geoff Barnett mentioned taking it to Governors, Mrs O'Connor will discuss with Mrs Foulkes how we could accommodate this.
  - Reading – Mrs O'Connor shared about the Bug Club Reading online resource that children can access at home. Positive feedback on this being a good resource where children have the option to listen to stories being read to them as well as develop their reading skills. Parents can have difficulties in getting their children to read at home, some boys will only read books associated with football. Some parents/carers also shared that it is difficult to get their child to read especially when they are good readers, we discussed that we need to promote reading as a good way to unwind and relax, it is a good form of mindfulness. Mrs O'Connor explained about the library and that she will look to see if there any football topic related books available for boys. Mrs O'Connor also explained that reading is something on our School Improvement plan and how the children are actively involved in promoting this through things such as the hashtags, reading corners in classes, bookflix display.
  - The use of certificates and stickers in school is good, children are excited, it helps boost their confidence and motivation.



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- Language choices used by children – discussed that there is zero tolerance for this in school and there are consequences for children who choose to use unacceptable language.
- Peer buddies – Are there peer buddies available for children to go and talk to if they need to? Discussed that year 6 children have ambassador roles and there are Playground ambassadors in place, there is also a friendship bench on the school yard.
- Small lunch groups – to develop communication skills, friendship and social skills. Discussed that we previously had a quiet lunch group room pre covid, we could possibly look into providing something similar.
- Bullying – We have Anti-bullying ambassadors and children are regularly reminded of what bullying is. We use restorative practices in school to deal with any issues.
- Uniform – Discussed that some parents/carers are struggling sometimes with getting their children to wear school uniform, especially when their peers are not in uniform. Parents/carers shared that Kinmel Bay church do a uniform shop once a month on a Monday, the next one is on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 11.30 – 1pm. School also has a selection of uniform for parents/carers who may be struggling. Geoff Barnett asked if a text could go out to parents.
- Some parents/carers voiced that they felt teachers in school go above and beyond to help their children.
- Lateness – Procedures for lateness was discussed. Breakfast is open at 8am if parents would like their child to attend this can usually help with preventing lateness and is a good way for children to eat their breakfast and have time to play and socialise with their friends. The school register closes at 9.20/9.30am. Attendance certificates/stickers could be used for children who are on time every day for a week etc
- Parents and carers mentioned that the mixed classes work well as this helps with friendships, especially with Year 6, as when they go up to High School they already know children there from their previous year in primary school.
- Parent engagement days - Parents and carers like the idea of a Bring your parent to school day or to have lunch with their child on the grass. Mrs O'Connor



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shared that we have a Family Easter craft session coming up next term, the topics covered in upper and lower school incorporate events that involve parents coming in to school such as school trash to treasure Christmas craft sale, Eisteddfod, Class café, Holiday show. We also had Come Dine with me sessions that were successful. Mrs O'Connor will look at whether this will be starting again.

- Discussed what After school clubs were available – coding club is on during the day, parent shared that her child thoroughly enjoys it, we also have a cookery club, creative writing and football on after school. Other extra clubs are run in the school during the lunchtime. Geoff Barnett shared that is sometimes difficult for parents to come back to pick up their children at 4pm.
  - Parents/carers shared that every Tuesday between 4 -6pm Jo in Kinmel Bay Church holds a youth club for children, they have tea there and art and craft and games sessions. Lots of children from Maes Owen attend, the children who attend love it. Mrs O'Connor to speak to Jo about promoting this to our families on our school Twitter.
  - Reading time with your child – the session was so successful with lots of discussion that some parents/carers had to leave for other commitments. The children of the parents/carers that were able to stay enjoyed a few minutes reading and looking at books from the library.
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- Date of next meeting: **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023**