

Ramsgate Free School Parent Rep Meeting, 5.30-6.35pm, Monday 29 February 2016

Present – Jordan Nicolson, Luke Havell, Sabrina Littlewood, Nick Budge, Cheryl Southern

Notes also sent to Abigail Holden, Agnes Simon, Aimee Trevelyan, Emma Jackson, Heather Burke, Helen Sears-Stewart, Portia Sharpin, Stacey Abbott

A disappointing turn out but productive meeting. However a reminder of our next meeting will be text on the day and a notice displayed outside classrooms.

Parents not receiving too many texts and like updates, parents still using Facebook to communicate.

Parent to create a **comment box** to give parents another way to reply, comment, feedback etc.

List of Parent Reps' names (Reception/Year 3) to be added to website and a list of Parent Reps with their children's names and classes to be displayed near classrooms.

Parents felt they would benefit from opportunities that involve families such as a Nature Walk or beach event – Parent Reps to arrange a meet up in the Park or beach over the summer.

Sharing travel to school

Parents considered it too expensive to hire the mini bus for collective transport to/from school.

They considered car sharing but parents needed a service that came with assurance and reliability.

Thinking of a walking bus when they relocate to the new school site.

Appointment of Executive Head

Michaela Lewis, Head of Upton has been appointed and will be Executive Head of the Academy Trust (Chilton, Ramsgate Free School & Upton).

RFS will benefit from working with this outstanding school and have access to more resources, ideas and expertise but will retain its own sense of our own community.

RFS already benefits from working with Chilton and other schools in the community as part of the **West Ramsgate Achievement Partnership** with Priory and Little Ellington. Moderation, training, facilities etc. are shared.

Free School building update

The land for the new site has had lots of previous uses (including dog track, petrol station) necessitating lots of land surveys be completed before the Planning application is made. However, now Planning will be for the entire site as opposed to Phase 1 only.

The site houses two old building requiring a bat survey. This can be done regardless of planning status.

The entire site will be secured and gated. Existing fences to the back of the site will be utilised. CCTV will be installed across the site.

Fundraising

Limited funds are in place for hard and soft landscaping for the new school but RFS are aiming to have heathy, green spaces where children can learn, relax, be active, play or an attractive space where parents can wait. To do this we need to work together and the more money raised, the nicer the environment.

RFS would love parents to leave a lasting impact on the school and local community - raising money for landscaping, ideas to improve the outdoor areas, identifying local companies that could provide funding, sponsor a tree? Further ideas included a time capsule for the new school opening.

Parent Reps to establish whether their employer has surplus wood that could be recycled for seating/planters.

Parent Rep to approach local companies/supermarkets/garden centres for funding towards RFS landscaping. School can provide letter to confirm not for profit.

Chilton Primary are trialling a **voluntary on-way system** to improve road safety. Ramsgate Free School will share what Chilton are sending their parents and local community and support safe travel to school where possible.

AOB

Parents liked seeing the **attendance figures** on the last newsletter. Absence has been high due to illness but parents felt that it encourages better attendance.

In response to concerns of lots of paint on children's clothing, RFS will ensure that aprons are near the painting stations and they are reminded of aprons when painting.

Actions

Make a comments box for parents	Update at next meeting	Luke	Comment Box
Notice outside classrooms prior to next meeting	For next meeting	Cheryl	
List of Parent Reps and their children near classroom entrance	March	Cheryl	Poster
Establish if employer has surplus wood that could be recycled for seating/planters	Update at next meeting	Sabrina & Luke	
Approach local companies/supermarkets/garden centres for funding towards RFS landscaping.	Update at next meeting	Jordan	
List of Parent Reps with associated Years on website & next Ramsgate Free School newsletter	2.3.16	Cheryl	Newsletter website
Reminder to teachers to ensure aprons are near painting stations and children reminded to wear them if they choose to paint		Nick	Staff update
When meeting landscaper – ask for best prices for standard trees + and ask if they access grants (eg work with Woodland Trust scheme)	w/c 7 March	Nick	meeting
Thanet Coast resources to RFS	2.3.16	Cheryl	
Open family event in summer holiday eg Nature Walk or beach event – meet up in the Park (Treasure Hunt or Nature Walk) or beach (seashore safari or beach art)	Term 6	Parent Reps	Text/flier in book bag?

Next RFS meeting 5.30pm, Monday 18 April

RFS agenda to include - Review of actions, Fundraising for Ramsgate Free School landscaping