

**Minutes of the School Council Meeting
Melcombe Primary School**

3rd April 2019

Attendees:

Head Boy	Mohamed
Head Girl	Autumn
Heads of Mediators	Emilia Ruby Joshua Byrne Joshua Bylina
Year 1D	Arham
Year 1S	Ammaar
Year 2D	Olivia P
Year 2S	Evie
Year 3F	Valentino
Year 3M	Olivia K
Year 4B	Ismael
Year 4T	Zainab
Year 5F	Hudson
Year 6A	Haydn
Year 6P	Liban

Mr Leeming, Ms Campbell, Ms McEnroe (Minutes)

Apologies: Day-Paul, 5S (PE)

Item	Note	Action
1.	<p>Welcome – Ms Campbell</p> <p>Ms Campbell welcomed attendees and introduced Joshua Byrne as Chair of the meeting.</p> <p>Ms Campbell welcomed Ruby to the School Council, who fills the position left by Nancy.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the Last Meeting – Ms Campbell</p> <p>Re. Item 4: Ms Campbell informed the members that Mr Leeming had spoken to Mr Paisley about the children’s concerns about PE. All children should be treated fairly by coaches in PE.</p> <p>Ms Campbell also stated that the PE coaches now have Incident Sheets to report behaviour incidents in the same way that school staff do and coaches are able to send children to Reflection. The Positive Behaviour Policy will be used by PE coaches as well as school staff.</p> <p>Re. Item 5: Ms Campbell reported that the toilets are cleaned regularly, but that children are responsible for using the toilets correctly and children must tell their friends to do so.</p>	

	<p>Re. Item 10, Ms Campbell confirmed for Autumn that a Litter Duty could be added to the rota.</p> <p>Autumn stated that the Office Courier did not always know they were on duty. Ms Campbell stated that this was to be reinforced and that it was children's responsibility to look at the rota of duties.</p>	<p>All Children on Duty Rota</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Q1. Do you enjoy coming to school? – Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Valentino stated that he really enjoys coming to school to learn new things.</p> <p>Haydn stated '50/50'. He stated that he felt school was really good mostly, but sometimes things were not so good, like the playground.</p> <p>Ahmed stated that he enjoys coming to school to learn.</p> <p>Autumn stated that she likes coming to school because she misses drama when she does not come!</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Q2. Do teachers teach well? - Joshua</p> <p>Mohamed stated that he felt the teachers teach well and they help the children.</p> <p>Ismael stated that he felt his PE teacher treats people differently because of their ability. He also felt that his PR teacher had treated children more fairly when Ms Campbell had been present than when she left the room.</p> <p>Hadyn stated that he agreed with Mohamed.</p> <p>Zainab stated that she likes her teachers because, when children don't understand, they explain things.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Q3. Are the teachers fair? – Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Mohamed stated that the teachers in class are fair, but the PE teachers are not.</p> <p>Olivia P. stated that she felt the same as Mohamed and her PE coach only uses boys for demonstrations.</p> <p>Haydn stated that he agreed with Mohamed also.</p> <p>Hudson stated that, if children do things wrong, the teachers are fair, but with the PE coaches, there are favourites. Unless you are one of the best in class, you will not get selected for things.</p> <p>Emilia stated that in Year 6, children were thinking about secondary school and the only thing that she does not enjoy is PE. Ismael stated that his PE teacher only lets certain children do the demonstrations.</p>	

<p>6.</p>	<p>Q4. Do you enjoy lessons? – Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Hudson stated that he did enjoy lessons as Mr Finch changes lessons to make them interesting and now children are using tablets more, for research.</p> <p>Olivia K. stated that lessons are really fun and she learns new things.</p> <p>Emilia stated that she did enjoy lessons because if children are confused, teachers help them to understand.</p> <p>Haydn stated that lessons are 75% fun and lessons cannot always be fun, but he still likes them.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Q5. Do you like the school lunches? – Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Ruby stated that she did not like the occasions when vegetables are put in the cakes.</p> <p>Hudson stated that children were having the same meals, so they have not really got better.</p> <p>Hudson agreed with Ruby, stating that when vegetables are put in the cakes, they neither looked, nor tasted nice.</p> <p>Joshua Bylina stated that he had seen a child having only plain rice for dinner.</p> <p>Olivia P. stated that the custard is cold and lumpy.</p> <p>Valentino stated that some food can be burnt and the chicken is not very good.</p> <p>Emilia stated that the lunches are not great but are edible and that sometimes children are served the bad part of the cake.</p> <p>Hudson stated that, when he was lining up for school dinner today, he saw one of the dinner ladies giving a child something they did not ask for, then he saw her put it back, by hand, into the pot.</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that the government has very strict rules about how much salt and sugar there should be in food served in schools. Some time ago, this meant that the food did not taste very good, but now there have been some changes so that the food tastes a bit better. The rules about school meals do not come from schools or from the cooks.</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that the chicken that was originally allocated to children was not enough, just a small drumstick, so the school pays extra so that children receive a larger piece of chicken breast or a larger portion of chopped chicken in a meal.</p>	

	<p>Ismael stated that when he used to eat school meals the macaroni would be cold when he received it, and also some children would throw food away.</p> <p>Olivia P. stated that she does not like the chicken because it is really dry.</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that some people prefer it that way and it is hard to please 300 children as everyone likes different things.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Q6. Do you like going on trips? – Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Autumn stated that she did enjoy trips as the commute is always fun.</p> <p>Haydn stated that he enjoys trips because the children got to do fun things.</p> <p>Ammaar stated that he did enjoy trips because children got to eat a picnic.</p> <p>Mohamed stated that it was fun to not be in class, but still be educated, out of school.</p> <p>Valentino stated that going to Box Hill was really good fun.</p> <p>Zainab stated that her class was only having one trip for the whole year.</p> <p>Emilia stated that in Year 6, children have to focus on their SATS, but she would like trips to be distributed more equally.</p> <p>Ismael stated that he had two trips per half-term in his previous year, but now that he was in Year 4 he has not had a trip so far.</p> <p>Olivia P. stated that she enjoyed trips because children get to learn more information about the topic they are studying.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Q.7 Do you enjoy the activities you do in PE? – Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Mohamed stated that he did enjoy PE, but sometimes a sport was done for shorter or longer time, e.g. three weeks were spent doing dodgeball, whereas football was done for whole term.</p> <p>Hudson stated that he likes PE but that children can spend more than an hour doing warm-up games.</p> <p>Hadyn stated that he likes PE but agrees with both Hudson and Haydn in that the balance between activities is not right.</p> <p>Emilia stated that some people do not enjoy football and asked if it might be possible to do another game instead.</p> <p>Mohamed stated that some people in his class were allowed to go out and play basketball.</p> <p>Hudson stated that warm-ups can last a long time and also assembly</p>	

	interrupts PE.	
10	<p>Q.8 Do you like the school uniform? – Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Valentino stated that he did like the school uniform and that blue was his favourite colour.</p> <p>Hudson stated that the school coats were not warm enough for winter.</p> <p>Emilia stated that she would like to be able to wear longer clothes for PE in winter and she had seen others wearing joggers.</p> <p>Haydn stated that he likes the uniform and the colours, however, in summer, the sun is attracted to the black.</p> <p>Mohamed stated that school uniform is OK, but not the PE kit because some coaches say ‘no’ to jogging bottoms.</p> <p>Olivia P. stated that she does not like the school coats. People pull the hoods causing a hole and also they can get holes in the sleeves.</p>	
11	<p>Q.9 Do you enjoy the sports from PE? Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Hudson stated that it would be good to play other sports, such as rugby.</p> <p>Haydn stated that it would be good to have an equal amount of each sport and suggested that each class could choose a sport to play.</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that the PE curriculum is already set and he did not think that football was allocated every year.</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that activities are included to try to appeal to everyone, such as dance, and that children should be doing a range of sports.</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that he would check the details of the year-on-year pattern of sports.</p> <p>Ismael suggested that the whole school choose what activities they wanted to do in PE and then the children could do those activities.</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that this would be very difficult to organise.</p> <p>Haydn stated that his class has been doing this for a long time.</p>	Mr Leeming
12	<p>Q.10 Update from Mr Leeming</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that he is happy that currently things are going well. The times tables on the staircases have made the stairwells much brighter and by looking at them, the children will remember them better. The two, five and ten times tables have been displayed at the bottom of the school for the younger children and others are on higher floors for the older children.</p>	

	<p>Mr Leeming stated that he has been working on bringing the three nursery schools and one primary school together as the Federation from September. All governors have agreed to proceed with this and there were no concerns raised by parents. Mr Leeming stated that he has been meeting with the Head Teacher of other nurseries to make arrangements for all to work together.</p>	
<p>13</p>	<p>Questions / Any Other Business for Mr Leeming</p> <p>13.1 Are the water fountains going to be fixed? – Joshua Byrne</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that when there had been a problem with the school water, one of the proposed solutions had involved digging up the whole playground, the other involved digging up the section of the playground with the leak and plugging the leak, but this had meant that the fountains would no longer receive water. There is now a plan to connect water from Ms Scerri’s classroom to the water fountains and Ms Frost has arranged for work to take place on this this week.</p> <p>13.2 Do the times tables on the stairs go up to 12?– Joshua Bylina</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that he would check on whether the times tables on the stairs go up to 12.</p> <p>Haydn stated that some children are using the times tables to make a noise.</p> <p>13.3 Will Mr Leeming be staying in Melcombe School or will he be visiting both the other nurseries in the Federation? - Emilia</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that he would be visiting the other nurseries in the Federation.</p> <p>13.4 When my class leaves Year 6, do all the children go to the one secondary school? - Ismael</p> <p>Mr Leeming explained that a lady called Sam Lord will visit children’s classes in Year 5 and meet with their parents. Parents get invited to visit all the local secondary schools. After the visits, applications are made using a PC, with help from Sam Lord, including first to sixth choices of school. After the deadline for submitting, the places are allocated. Parents will then receive a letter to confirm which school children will be going to.</p> <p>13.5 When the school becomes part of the Federation, will the uniform change? - Mohamed</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that the uniforms of each school in the Federation would remain the same and children will remain in their own school.</p> <p>13.6 Why is there no lasagne for lunch anymore? - Valentino</p>	<p>Mr Leeming</p>

	<p>Mr Leeming stated that there is no reason for this other than that it has not come up on the lunch programme. Mr Leeming asked Valentino to tell Ms Thomas that next time she meets with Mr Leeming and the people who plan the lunches, she is to ask for lasagne to be put on the menu.</p> <p>13.7 Some people, including me, are really good at times tables in my class. We are doing the eleven times table. – Olivia P.</p> <p>13.8 There was a mouse in my class last week. Olivia P.</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that the school does have a problem with mice. The site manager is finding ways to make sure that mice are no longer found in the school.</p> <p>13.9 Change of Name – Mr Leeming Mr Leeming stated that after Easter, Ms Myrtill was to be referred to by her new, married name, Ms Moffat.</p>	
<p>14</p>	<p>Update from Ms Campbell</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that she was pleased that the state of the toilets is improving. The prefects have been doing their duty there, stopping people playing in the toilets or leaving them in an untidy state. Children should remind others not to leave the toilets in an untidy state and to wash and dry their hands and flush the toilet.</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that PSHE has been good and children have been learning good things, including British Values. They have written poems about them and learnt about Rule of Law. In assembly, some children will be telling the other children what they learn.</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that children have been coming to Reflection to tell her that they have not seen her for some time! This is great! It is good for children to say hello to adults in Reflection or to tell them their good news.</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that a large number of children in Pupil Voice groups including Enterprises, Junior Road Safety Officers and Rights Respecters, and there have been lots of events happening throughout the year, e.g. tomorrow is Superhero Day and children may dress as a superhero or wear a part of a superhero costume, but they are all superheroes, with a costume or without one!</p>	
<p>15</p>	<p>Questions / Any Other Business for Ms Campbell</p> <p>15.1 A boy did not wash his hands after using the toilet. – Arham</p> <p>Ms Campbell asked children to always remind others to wash their hands. Handwashing is the best way to avoid getting ill.</p> <p>15.2 Last year there was a School Council Assembly. – Olivia P.</p>	

	<p><i>Ms Campbell asked those School Council Members in favour of having a School Council Assembly to vote by raising their hands. The majority of Members were in favour of having a School Council Assembly.</i></p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that, as most School Council Members were in favour of having a School Council Assembly, there may be one scheduled.</p> <p>Ms Campbell will look at the diary to see if a School Council Assembly can be scheduled.</p> <p>15.3 How do you get picked for the Mayor’s Cup? – Ismael</p> <p>Joshua Byrne explained that, to be picked for the Mayor’s Cup, children have to go to a club and do their best. If you are picked, you will receive a letter.</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that good behaviour is taken into consideration and you also have to be a good sportsperson.</p> <p>15.4 What Friday is Superhero Day? – Haydn</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that Superhero Day is tomorrow. Children from Year 6 must wear school uniform however, as they are going to Junior Citizens.</p> <p>Ms Campbell reminded Council Members that school will be closing at 2pm tomorrow.</p> <p>Ms McEnroe stated that she would send a reminder to parents about the school closing at 2pm tomorrow.</p> <p>15.5 Will other years see the play that Year 5 will be performing tomorrow? – Hudson</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that other groups may be watching the play.</p> <p>15.6 When do we come back after Easter? – Mohamed</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that children return to school on 23rd April.</p>	Ms Campbell
16	<p>Next School Council Meeting – Ms Campbell</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that she would like all children to speak at the next School Council Meeting.</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that the Chair of the next School Council Meeting would be Liban.</p>	