

MSC meeting  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
WEST ESSEX MEETING MINUTES  
10:00 - 11:30

In attendance

The Endeavour  
Wells Park  
Brightside Primary  
ECC  
Gill - Project ability  
Herefordshire Chair of MSC - Alex

Minutes

Our West strand had finally been formed and we held this meeting at the Endeavour school who had previously worked within the south strand. All schools arrived on time and we discussed our first agenda item which was the idea of a MSC song. The children had a range of ideas such as including rhyme, making sure there was an element of rap, contacting celebrities such as little mix and making it appeal to people of all ages. They wanted to include lines such as 'Don't hide yourself, don't put on what others want to see' or 'Feel the weight on our shoulders' or even 'We all feel nervous, we can all feel shy, don't be afraid'. We will be meeting with our Ambassador Justine in the New Year to look at what we can come up with.

Secondly, I gave the children some information about our art trip with further instructions being sent out to the schools involved following this meeting. We then discussed our walk in July of next year. I asked the group to think of ways to raise awareness for the walk but also money. The children came up with ideas such as selling items in their own schools such as cakes, biscuits, lollies, cards and other crafts, getting children to do sponsored car washes, make sure we get our video's onto youtube and involving all the schools in an individual way. We are taking as many of these ideas forward as possible and this will take a lot of our time going into 2019.

The children then had a break with biscuits and drinks it also gave them a chance to talk to each other. Immediately following break, I asked the

children to come up with ideas about a big new Essex wide event that we could run in the future to raise awareness of SEND. The children had a range of ideas that included;

- A fun run/walk that could include fancy dress, different obstacles and was accessible for all
- A MSC festival
- A bake off
- They liked the idea of a fair that we had ran before
- A Build a bear event

The ideas will be combined with those from the last 3 weeks and we will look to include as many elements of each idea as possible moving forward with the MSC.

I then showed the group a video of the special school games from 2016. I asked them to think of way's the event could be improved and the children said things like calling it the special Olympics rather than the special school games, have a sensory area which children could come along and enjoy, have fun swimming events rather than races, invite children from different schools to come and watch to gain an understanding on the different types of events out there. Some really positive ideas that will be discussed next week at an Active Essex meeting.

Our final agenda item was to look at our current website which has become out-dated and has not developed as well as the multi-schools council has now developed. The children's ideas on an improved website included;

- More videos
- Have a slide show with pictures
- Get some sponsorship for our website
- Increase the font size
- Change the background
- Have a collage of pictures behind the actual web page

We hope to use some of the income generated this year to make improvements and launch a new website for the next academic year. Before we left I showed a short video about a child with autism walking through a shopping centre. The video sparked some great discussions around autism and dyslexia, with a line that stood out 'Don't judge us before you know us'.

Star of the meeting was Nicole from the Endeavour school not only for coming up with the quote above but for some excellent comments throughout the meeting.

Next meeting: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February, Wells Park