**Minutes**

**Chelmsford – Multi-schools meeting**

**Wednesday 22nd January 2020**

**In attendance – 24 children**

Columbus – Host

St Joseph’s

Terling primary

Baddow hall junior school

ECC wellbeing team

ECC SEND team

ECC employment team

Apologies – Chelmer Valley High, Elmwood, Moulsham, Broomfield, Roxwell, St Michaels, Beaulieu school

**Minutes**

We welcomed in our first meeting of 2020 here in Chelmsford at the wonderful Columbus school! To start our meeting, I gave some feedback on our recent work with Active Essex around sport opportunities for all and welcomed the well-being team who are joining us due to our focus on mental health in schools. It also gave us a chance to see if any schools had completed any of the follow up tasks from the last meeting – you can check these at the end of these minutes!

Moving on to our key topic for this term, voted on by the children across the 2018 – 2019 academic year, global warming and pollution. A real current issue facing us all and the children came up with these ideas on how we could support the current campaign and awareness;

* Schools to be encouraged to have more recycling bins
* More healthy snacks across schools
* Giving out flyers in our local areas to encourage sharing transport
* Hold a MSC ‘Green day’ where schools do their own things to discourage pollution
* Schools to plant more trees

We still have 6 more meetings to go and the most popular ideas will be taken forward as well as making suggestions to other schools involved in our network.

The second point on our agenda was led by Beth and Lianne from the ECC well-being board. They gathered some useful feedback on what supports children’s well-being and their feedback will help influence changes within the service that is being developed. These two points really got the children thinking hard, so it was then time for a short break.

Once the break was complete, we listened to the multi-school’s council song, ‘All stand strong’ which got a big thumbs up from everyone! We are now asking every school involved to play the song and learn the words if they can! It was then time for our new head boy/girl appointments and we had one girl standing for nomination. Tia from St Joseph’s had written a fantastic speech and claimed that ‘a vote for Tia made complete ‘sensory’ ‘after she was clear about her own sensory needs. It gives me pleasure to announce Tia as our new head girl for 2020 -2021 followed by Jack from Columbus who becomes our head boy!

Some great inspiration then lead us on to our next agenda question – what does inclusion mean to you and what could schools be doing more of? The children had a range of ideas including; Activities to suit everybody, for it to be clear why some children use hearing aids, making sure everyone’s voice is heard, encourage more friendship benches, adjustments made for people who are visually impaired or blind, more assemblies about our differences, make sure schools have good wheelchair access and make changes to the way people learn because not everyone is the same. Some really good feedback which will help influence projects such as our ‘Good practice seekers’ work.

Our final point of the agenda was to discuss sports premium money. Each primary school receives money that should be allocated towards school sport and we asked the children what they would like to see it spent on. Ideas ranged from;

* More equipment for disability friendly sports where adaptations can be made, for example balls with bells in
* Parachutes for active games
* Getting people in to try new sports
* More obstacle course equipment
* Tennis rackets and balls
* A special exercise area
* Sensory circuits

The comments will be circulated across our school network and passed onto Active Essex.

We finished the meeting there. We thanked Columbus for hosting us and congratulated both Tia and Jack for becoming the new head boy and girl of our council! We also had time to announce a ‘star of the meeting’ and this went to Sophia from Baddow Hall junior for some excellent comments on the inclusion point.

Next meeting – **Friday 19th June, 10am – 11:30am, St Joseph’s primary**

**Follow up points;**

* **Could you plant more trees in your school?**
* **Have you got re-cyclable bins in your school?**
* **Can you play and learn the multi-school’s council song? -** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xE7SyzrSU5g**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xE7SyzrSU5g)
* **Can you spend any of your sport’s premium money on any of the suggestions?**
* **Could you invite your parent council to the next meeting?**
* **Could you host a special non-uniform day to raise funds for the multi-school’s council?**
* **Poster competition – To design a poster all about the multi-school meetings. To be handed in at the next meeting. Winner to be professionally produced.**
* **Do you have a child that could talk about a ‘difference’ in an assembly or could you book us to come in?**