

The multi-school's council

Thursday 31st January 2019

NORTH MEETING MINUTES

In attendance

Holland Park

Market Field School

Doucecroft

Engaines primary

Shorefields

Lawford

Broomgrove

Rolph

St Andrews

Two village

St James

St Michaels

Heathlands

St Johns Green

Alton Park

Active Essex

ECC

Universal web designs

OFSTED

Minutes

This North meeting represented the best every attended meeting for any one strand and highlighted our need to expand into further sub-sections during the next academic year. So well represented was the meeting, that it took us 10 minutes just to go round and introduce ourselves. As hosts, Holland park were also undergoing an OFSTED inspection which meant they were also able to join us for some of the meeting and hear lots of pupil voice!

Our first agenda point was to ask the children what currently matters most to them in their lives. This is so in our next meeting we can ensure our topic choices for the next 2 years are based on what actually matters to children. We had a range of ideas that included time to do sport, keeping places clean, seeing people happy, improving attitudes in school, having more animals in schools, getting qualifications, building friendships, raising money, gaining work experience, spending time with family, ensuring everyone is treated equally and reducing bullying. A range of ideas that will influence our next 2 years of work.

Next I gave the children a list of sports that we need young leaders for at our special school games in June. Each school voted and the list will be sent on to Active Essex who will also provide some training. Before we stopped for break we gathered some thoughts on the ECC project 'Small, great things'. This is based on what children do in school to help others in need and their feedback included;

- Animals that come in to schools to provide comfort for others
- Having a grown-up they can trust and talk to
- Having friend ambassadors and helpers
- Having 'Learning powers' - words around the school that encourage people to be positive
- Using visual learning tools and resources

We then stopped for a short break for socialising, drinks and biscuits!!

Immediately after our break I gave the group information on our art project, anti-bullying day, and mental health poster competition.

Leading on from our competition it was now time to focus on mental health and resilience. I asked what schools could be doing more of to ensure that people have more mental health awareness but also support. We had a range of ideas that included;

- Promoting kindness amongst peers

- Encouraging sleep, water and healthy eating
- Ensuring all schools have 'worry boxes'
- More physical activity in all schools
- Yoga sessions
- Give children time to relax
- Encouraging discussion groups
- Having a safe room in every school based on mindfulness
- Always having someone you can talk to
- Calming music
- Having friends or mental health ambassadors
- Making sure adults explain things clearly

Many of these ideas will help influence our resilience programme that we hope to launch in September.

Our final discussion point was our brand new YouTube channel. We asked for ideas of how to promote the channel and include content that would relate to the MSC. Ideas included a channel trailer, children speaking in videos, film the council meetings, include our MSC song (working on it!), animations against bullying, videos of other schools, tell people why learning can be hard, celebrate our differences, use comedy, videos on sporting success, advice on resilience, weekly ideas on mental health and sign language videos.

We always finish our meetings by choosing a star of the meeting and with over 100 children to choose from it was very difficult but our star went to Zachery from Broomgrove for a consistent number of ideas.

(Anti-bullying event, March 14th, Chelmsford city racecourse)

Next meeting - Thursday 9th May, St James