

Minutes

Multi-schools meeting - Chelmsford

Thursday 10th March

Cathedral School

In attendance

Cathedral - Host

Baddow Hall

Trinity Road

St Joseph's

Apologies - Burnham-on-crouch, Wentworth, Newlands Spring, Hatfield Heath

Minutes

So excited to be back again at another face-to-face meeting with some schools joining us for the first time too! Everyone was there before time, some getting buses and some even walking - showing a great commitment to get involved. We started early and begun discussing racism which was our key issue for this term. The group had many ideas on how to tackle it including more lessons in schools, posters, clubs talking about it, involve the community in our projects, bring different cultures together, sit down with somebody who has a different skin colour and discuss your strengths, involve people from different parts of the world and make sure we treat everyone equally. The ideas speak for themselves!

Next up we spoke about the impact of covid-19 and what was helping children to recover. Thoughts were shared such as how getting back into a routine has been helpful, staff talking about changes is needed, getting back to clubs (popular), support for your mental health is needed, more outdoor opportunities, more sport activities, catch up classes for certain lessons (popular), charity support for the NHS, support for scientists to find a cure, ensure school is fun (popular), mixing people across the whole school again is positive, enjoying assemblies being back, good to have parents back in the school and positive to have singing back again! Thoughts will be added to our returning from Covid-19 document.

We were moving through the agenda at a fast pace which enabled us to discuss one more question before we stopped for a break. We focused on children's speaking and listening skills and what might support these better. We have ideas such as older children working with young children (Popular), more opportunities to speak out loud, more sports opportunities as this can improve socialising, resources and equipment to support children, have one day a week focused on talk/walk, encourage more feedback from children (like this!!), have day's where no pens are used, have a public speaking club, a friendship club, look at speaking competitions, have children read and write more stories. This will all help with our wider speaking/listening project. We paused there for a break.

Straight after our break we welcomed everyone back and started discussing our planned awards event for 2022. We wanted to know what awards children would like to see handed out to individuals and schools. Suggestions included attendance award, trying hard award, creative ideas award, helping others award, communication award, best writer award, supporting younger children award and a friendship award. We will be looking at ideas across Essex.

This moved us on to our final agenda item which was to look at what improvements we could make to our MSC website. The children would like to see a better explanation about what we do, a fundraising page, how we can help children, have more colour, include information on racism and children's mental health, a list of what's happening, more pictures, less words, talk about positive abilities, easier navigation, a big welcome picture as the background, use the logo more on the website, have a suggestion/ideas box, sign language and a glossary to explain some words. We will be working with our media team to look at this!

The star of this meeting was Reggie from Baddow Hall primary school for his ideas throughout but also the way he communicated with other children during the meeting.

Next meeting - Tuesday 16th June, 10am - 11:30am, Baddow Hall

Follow up points

- **Can you follow up on any of the anti-racism ideas?**
- **Can you take part in any speaking/listening competitions?**