Multi Schools Council Meeting 25/05/23



**Braintree Group**

**Becker’s Green Primary**

**Present**

Howbridge Junior

John Ray Junior

Notley Green Junior

John Bunion Primary

Beckers Green Primary

Felstead Primary

Braintree council

**Apologies** – Silver end, Bocking Street, St Peters, ECC engagement facilitator, Terling primary, Stebbing Primary, Edith Borthwick

**Minutes**

Everyone was able to make the meeting on time, which was great, with Becker’s green acting as great hosts as we walked through the door. To ease our way into the meeting we got the group to watch our deaf awareness video which has recently been put together. The group were also reminded to share this resource back in their own schools.

We then took time to do our introductions followed by a really useful conversation on behaviour in schools. Here is what we found out:

* Star of the week works well
* It’s good for all schools to have a positive space
* Having fiddle toys available helps
* Having something to collect can help
* Every school should have a sensory room
* Good relationships with teachers are important
* Having time to talk with an adult
* Having time to talk to a friend
* Improve teachers’ awareness of behaviour and techniques
* Have more opportunities at break/lunch times
* Speak more about mental health in schools
* Do things like forest school
* Have play leaders
* Arts and craft activities can help
* Use an emotion book for people to express themselves
* Reward assemblies can help
* More non-uniform days
* Movement breaks
* Have ear defenders available
* More free time with friends would help
* More friendship benches
* More practice with breathing exercises

As you can see this was an in-depth conversation. Lots for us to learn and build on.

One of the favourite parts of the meetings is the biscuits that the schools provide – it’s like this has turned into a best biscuit competition!!! If you are planning to host a meeting from September, take note. The group then moved around so that they were sitting with new people!

Next stop, global warming! We asked the group for ideas on how adults and communities could better look after the planet and the children did not disappoint with their ideas. We spoke about more car shares, pushing electric cars a lot more, exercise, more litter picking, use more solar panels, stop using gas, have non-electric days, have clubs linked to litter picking, more re-usable plastic, introduce solar panel cars (great work Roman!), save more trees, and look after the homeless more. It’s always interesting to see what direction our conversation takes us!

The final agenda item was all about what the group would like us to talk about more at future meetings. There was a great list:

* Mental health
* Fire safety
* Internet safety
* School lunches/dinners
* Different disabilities
* Bullying
* Kindness
* Sign language
* Clean water
* Learning strategies
* Littering
* Outdoor learning
* Helping the planet
* Plastic pollution

A few themes on there that will be considered alongside other ideas that have come from across Essex.

A productive meeting with lots of great input and sharing across all schools. The star for this meeting was Jamie from Notley Green primary, not only for her ideas but also the way she encouraged others to get involved in the meeting.

**If you would like to host any meetings throughout the 2023/2024 academic year, then let us know ASAP:**

Tuesday 3rd October

Monday 4th December

Thursday 8th February

Wednesday 20th March

Tuesday 14th May

Friday 5th July