

Parent Council meeting minutes - 2nd October 2025

(items to be actioned highlighted)

Updates from last meeting minutes:

As it is the first meeting of the year, we spent a short while looking back over the minutes from last year to look at the things we achieved. The discussion centred heavily around the Family Questionnaire from the Autumn Term and if similar results would show this year, given that we now have a new Headteacher. Parents evening is coming up and the questionnaires are being prepared this week, ready to be completed. Everyone felt that the PTA providing ongoing funding last year to support families with emergency food hampers was great and it is hoped that this will be able to continue this year. It was requested **for Ceri-Ann to look in to some alternative funding to help support this** - members remembered previously having supermarket vouchers from the Council. Ceri-Ann doesn't think these are currently available but will meet with our Community Focused Schools manager to explore options.

Current affairs:

Community shop - it was hoped that the refurbishment work would have been completed by now on the community shop and kitchen area. However, there have been some complications with the process. As the National Lottery grant money has gone in to school's Local Authority budget account, we need to make sure that we meet all of their criteria and follow their policies. Our CFS manager is supporting with this, working with the Local Authority to find a vetted contractor to carry out the work but we need 3 quotes before we are able to proceed. The CFS manager has a meeting with a health and safety officer at the Council next week to find out what else we need to do.

Weekenders bags - a member asked for feedback on how these were going as they haven't seen them advertised this year as yet. Ceri-Ann reported that engagement tailed off in the Summer Term last year and that the bags need a thorough check and re-stock, but the plan is to get them sorted ready to go out for the Spring Term. Members discussed how else we could encourage families to spend time playing games and activities with their children. We would like family after school clubs to return for this year. We discussed opportunities for this to happen. We have previously had some arts and crafts sessions to help prepare for the school Halloween disco. **Ceri-Ann will check with the PTA if the plan is to run a disco again this year.** It would be nice to have some festive/Christmas crafts for families too. It was felt that there are lots in the local area but they are costly as you have to pay per child. **Ceri-Ann will speak to the PTA about potentially funding a session so families can attend free of charge.** Members looked at cheap supplies on shopping sites such as Shein that with enough advance planning, could be ordered for very little cost.

New members - current members feel that we should have a 'recruitment drive' or a big push on advertising to help us get new members. New members equals new ideas to help drive the school and community forward. Ceri-Ann will continue to share the meeting sessions with our school community but members discussed potentially sharing this with local residents on the 'caerau residents' Facebook page to have more engagement with the wider community. Opinions were divided so we will re-visit this at a future meeting.

Camau Bach - Ceri-Ann has had a request for our group to take part in the Camau Bach project. This project has been expanding on previous local work such as the Community Plan and our school's work with Citizens Cymru campaigns. They are looking to bring the voices of children, young people and adults in to the Learning Partnership Board meetings to explore what change we can bring about together. Each school in the cluster has been asked to take part. Our pupils from School Government are taking part and it would be really nice if we are able to join in too. We discussed what the Learning Partnership Board is and Ceri-Ann shared the presentation from the latest meeting so members could see what it is all about. Camau Bach is about involving more community members and voices to support and make positive changes in the local area. There is a parent and carer workshop taking place at Cardiff West Community High School on Friday 24th October at 10am. Ceri-Ann will be attending and is happy to take members along. That session will discuss the findings from meeting all the individual groups and bring everyone together to brainstorm solutions. Janine from Citizens and Becky from ACE would like to meet with us beforehand, next week on 6th October at 2pm to gather our ideas and prepare for that meeting. Members are all invited and encouraged to bring along other community members.

New headteacher - all members have now met our new headteacher, Mrs Clee. Members discussed their surprise that there was such a low turnout to her coffee morning and afternoon to officially meet her. This was an opportunity to see what she's like and ask lots of questions. However, Mrs Clee has been a regular out greeting families on the playground every morning and afternoon so we are taking this as a positive that people didn't want to come in to 'have a moan'. School are still very much encouraging families to come in ASAP with any issues or worries that they have so that we can quickly resolve and support them as much as possible. Members reported that families have been curious and asked questions about Mrs Clee but no one has received any concerns, which is great 😊 It was suggested that Mrs Clee be invited to a future meeting. Ceri-Ann is more than happy to arrange this but has suggested waiting until the Spring Term to allow her to settle in properly first. Members were happy with this.

Ceri-Ann checked that members were still happy to have meeting minutes published on the school website. All agreed that this was fine.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 26th November, 2 - 3pm in the school Family Room.