



The De Montfort School

UNLOCKING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL

Parent Voice Meeting **Tuesday 12 July 2016 at 6pm**

Present:

Mr G Nichols, Headteacher
Mrs F Lovecy, Deputy Head Teaching & Learning
Mrs C Kent, Vice Chair of Governors
Mrs J Sampson, Business Manager
Mrs N Chambers, Librarian

1. **Student Leadership**

Mr Nichols explained that all parents should have a letter about what we want to create in student leadership. Mr Nichols said he had met with the Headteachers from St Bedes School, Redditch and St Johns School, Bromsgrove and both Headteachers said they want to introduce the Learning Ambassador scheme into their schools. Having visited Middle School they were really impressed with the quality of teaching and the behaviour of students.

Mr Nichols said we need to ensure consistency with how we use our Learning Ambassadors. One shining example of a really good learning ambassador lesson was where the students set work and do the marking.

The Learning Ambassador role has got confused with the House Captains. We want 2 distinct areas. Learning Ambassadors' impact in the classrooms driving learning.

We want to have a limit of 3 Learning Ambassadors per class. Mr Andy Denton, Assistant Head will have responsibility for driving this at the High School. Mr Rob Ward will drive at Middle School. Learning Ambassadors are an excellent part of good learning.

When we first set out the Learning Ambassador roles it was exciting but a bit chaotic. We need to have a faster turnaround in appointing students in the new academic year. We will appoint new students to the roles every year. We will have a staff meeting in the Autumn term where staff will make their nominations. Students can have a maximum of 4 Learning Ambassador roles. If you are a House Captain you will be limited to 2 Learning Ambassador roles.

House Captains and Head/Deputy Head Boy/Girl will have a wider community role including behaviour, buddying and mentoring.

Parents wanted to know what happens to students who do not get picked for these roles. Mr Nichols said we need to ensure distributed leadership to ensure students don't get over looked. Mr Nichols said he has spoken to some of these students in their 1-1 meeting. Currently we have about

60% of students who have been Learning Ambassadors. It should be possible that the vast majority, if not all students get recognition via this scheme.

Parents commented that sometimes awards go to the sporty, golden pupils and there needs to be recognition for studious students.

Could we have a Community Champion Leader? Students could give something back to the school or the community. Could this group of students have a specific product?

Parental Support: Suggestion that we ask parents if they are able to give some time to school to support things such as reading. We could do this with our new year 6 parents.

We could ask parents at Open Evenings for their support in a range of areas. To engage parents we could produce a flyer and ask how parents could volunteer. Tutors could then follow up with all students to ensure we have maximum support from parents.

ACTION: J Winfield to advise Mr Nichols of some Y5 parents who she believes would be willing to give time to school

2. Parent Homework Survey

Mrs Lovecy showed parents the results of the parent homework survey. We have small numbers of parents responding to this survey. This was sent out by email to all parents with a text to follow up and advise parents.

It was noted that homework often comes out as an issue on the parent surveys. A request was made that the cookery ingredients are made available on the homework programme. Parents said it's possible we might never get strongly agree on homework questions as parents do not enjoy doing homework as well as the students.

ACTION: F Lovecy to check if we can put cookery ingredients onto homework system

3. Review of the Year

A SWOT analysis was carried out by the PVT. The SWOT analysis brought up a lot of the items that the Strategic Leaders had also highlighted in their SWOT analysis.

Mr Nichols explained in September he is giving staff a document which gives the 12 Key Aspirations the school has to do to become exceptional. Mr Nichols will also share this document with the PVT.

4. A.O.B.

It was noted that Enrichment Week has been quite chaotic. Parents have had to ring school to find out what activities students are doing. Mr Nichols said students have had good fun but agreed that we need to be more organised in future. Parents felt if we asked other parents of their opinion most would say we should keep students in lessons.

It was suggested that residential trips could be done at different times in the year. However Mrs Lovecy said if students go on residential trips in the year they need to catch up on the work they have missed but we have found that a lot of students do not do this.

Enrichment gives the students something exciting to look forward to throughout the year. Staff see students in a different environment.

We think students miss out on some of the enrichments in life so Enrichment Week supports this, although it was felt that Jumptastic was not a good activity educationally. We need to look at the quality of what we offer.

Enrichment Week in future years may need to be shorter. Could it be on the last week of term? Rewards are also taking place during the last week of term. Rewards could perhaps be part of Enrichment Week in future years.

We should not run things that do not have any educational benefit. Think about the timing of it and do not have it for so long. Some parents have kept their students at home if they have not got the activity they want to do. The cost both to parents and the school was also discussed.

Mr Nichols said the last week of term will have normal lessons except for Rewards Day and Sports afternoon.

5. Date of Next Meeting

- ❖ Tuesday 18th October 6pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

Mr Nichols thanked all the parents for their tremendous support for our school throughout the year. Please invite other parents to join the group as we want as many parents as possible on our PVT so we maximise our improvements.

Meeting closed at 7.32pm