

School Council Meeting – Wednesday 3rd March 2021

Staff Present	Samera Uddin, Anna Archer
Children Present	Foundation - GD, JL Year 1 - TJ, EH Year 2 - BO, RK Year 3 - LB, DC Year 4 - AP, LR Year 5 - AH, KB Year 6 - MS, RK
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remote provision throughout this lockdown.• How can we support your transition back to school? What would you like to see your class teachers doing?• Feedback and marking• Happy Journals• Red Nose Day Friday 19th March

How was remote learning?

LB I think it has been better than last time because we have been allowed to wear headphones so we don't hear other people talking in the background. It was a bit hard for some of us as we had siblings and they were doing online school too. My sister doesn't wear headphones. (Y 3)

RK I think that this time for me has been a lot better because in Year 6 we do all the learning whilst we are on call with our teacher and we do it on teams. It's a lot nicer being able to see everybody and if you're stuck on something or need help we can ask our teacher. Last time we had to send an email so it's a lot easier this time. (Y 6)

JL I liked the stories that my teacher reads to me and reading at home. (Foundation)

DC I think it has been better because if you were sick/ had covid - 19 you could still join in the remote learning and see your friends. (Y 3)

SU Ms Stanton has sent out an email this week with further information. If you were unwell with Covid or asked to isolate you would still be provided with remote learning to do from home. Obviously if you were unwell we wouldn't expect for you to be working!

EH I liked that if you had a problem you could always ask the teacher as she was always there (Y 1)

TJ I have enjoyed joining in with calls from home and working with Mummy too. (Y 1)

BO It's been good getting to see our friends who have been at home. (Y 2)

Summary: All thought that online learning during this lockdown was better than last time. (12 pupils voted in agreement)

How can we support you on your return to school?

LB If we have room; keep a bit of a distance like 1 metre. (Y 3)

SU As we have 30 children in most classes keeping a distance of 2 metres won't always be possible but we will obviously be really mindful of each other's personal space. We will do all we can to make sure you feel safe in your classrooms. Most classes will continue to keep their tables in rows facing forwards, foundation and year 1 this may be slightly different for you.

GD I've been missing X a lot. I would like more games with my friends. (Foundation)

TJ I'm looking forward to seeing my friend again and playing with them. (Y 1)

AA Perhaps we could go to our older children next. Are you conscious of coming back and feeling like you need to rebuild some of those friendships or are you thinking; let's just get straight back to learning like we traditionally would have done?

AH In our class quite a few of the children have been having different calls over a phone or face time to chat to each other. We should still rebuild our friendships again but I also think we don't need to do it too much as we've spent a lot of time chatting already. (Y 5)

SU I think that's a great point Alice, the younger children might not always have access to the technology or mobile phones to do that unless parents have set this up for them.

RK I would agree. I've tried to keep in contact with my friends as much as possible over lockdown so as a whole I think we can go back to learning. I think it might be good to have some lessons as groups as it might be awkward as we haven't seen each other in person for quite a long time. (Y 6)

KB Because a lot of my friends and me have been chatting loads on emails and sometimes randomly bumping into each other at the park I think I would prefer it if we went straight back to learning as we've missed out on so much.

SU So it seems that the older year groups would like some time readjusting to school life and getting to rebuild your friendships once again but would prefer to get straight back into a routine and learning once again.

AP I feel like we kind of need to get to know each other again but I also think we should go straight back to what it was like before. (Y 4)

LR I think we could do with a bit of a recap over learning that we've already done because there might not be very good connection in your house because loads of people are there. We've been doing fractions so it might be good to go over some of that learning again. (Y 4)

Summary: Children would like to rebuild friendships, get to know their friends again and spend some time reconnecting but key stage 2 do not wish to spend too long on that as they have missed out on their structure, routine and learning.

Feedback and marking

SU Dr Hartwright has asked for your thoughts on feedback and marking. I know that it probably feels like such a long time ago when your teachers last marked your books. Some of the ways we did this were through green and yellow marking, peer marking or self-assessment. Does anybody have anything they would like to share?

GD I would like to see more kind things happening. My teacher talks to me about my work and gives stickers. (Foundation)

LB I want to do more self-marking and afterwards when the situation gets better (pupil referring to Covid situation) we should do some more peer marking and sharing work. (Y 3)

BO I like when the teacher tells us how to improve because if she didn't tell us we wouldn't know what to do. I think it's better getting it straight away. (Y 2)

AA I suppose it's tricky for the young ones as it's probably been a long time since their books have been marked and work has been marked differently for quite a while now.

RK I like having a variety. For example, I like when we have the charts including the success criteria. This is where the pupil and the peer and the teacher mark your work. It's good to see if your teacher agrees with the way you have marked your work. (Y 6)

DC I like green and yellow marking because actually you also learn patience of having to wait sometimes. You have some more time to go back to your work to improve it. (Y 3)

LR I think it's nice when we know what we've done wrong because then you know what to do to improve and when you do you feel really proud of yourself. (Y 4)

AA That's nice!

SU I think that's the really important part about marking. It's there to make you feel good about your work and be useful and helpful in finding ways to improve.

RK I mind if I get it right and I mind if I get it wrong. There's no particular type I don't really mind how it's done. (Y 3)

Summary: The pupils like to have a variety of marking methods. They want to know how they got on in a lesson, as soon as possible, and understand the ways in which they could improve their work.

Red Nose Day:

JL I have a Spiderman costume and it can actually have webs that go out of his hands. (Foundation)

DC I don't have a Marvel superhero costume, mine is Miraculous from Lady Bug that I've made myself. (Y 3)

LB If you don't have a superhero costume you could just wear a red jumper or leggings. (Y 3)

AA It could even be someone who is a hero to you - not just a superhero.

Summary: This school would like to dress up and most would wear their superhero costume, dress up as someone who is a hero to you or just wear something red. Voluntary contribution of £1.

The Happy Journal

SU This is a journal to support happiness and develop positive habits. A space to record thoughts and feelings. Activities include recording the top 3 positive things that have happened that day, recording your feelings through emojis and a chance to reflect on your day. I have enough for every council rep in KS2 to trial this when you return next week. I'd like for you to use them and share your thoughts about them at our next meeting please. If you feel they would be really beneficial for everyone in school I can discuss with Ms Stanton and we can look towards purchasing one for every child in school. Let me know how you get on with them!

LB I used to have one like that before and I really liked it. (Y 4)

Summary: The KS2 council members think it is a good idea and would be happy to try it out.

SU Year 3 and 4 have their author call so I won't keep you any longer. I will arrange another meeting date soon and that will be when we are all back in school together! Hopefully we'll be able to meet in person, at a distance or outside, for our next meeting. Take care everyone, looking forward to seeing you all next week!

Next steps:

- Overwhelmingly positive response to remote learning provision. A HUGE thank you to parents/carers, teaching/TA staff and all members of our school team who have made this possible.
- When returning to school ensure that opportunities are provided for children to reconnect and rebuild friendships. KS2 in agreement that whilst this is important they would like a return to more structured lessons as soon as possible. Children would also appreciate opportunities to recap some of the learning undertaken at home.
- Children discussed a variety of methods for marking and feedback. It has been a long time since they had seen marking in books, however most councillors discussed a preference for feedback as soon as possible, in order to understand the ways in which they could improve their work.
- The school will celebrate Red Nose Day on Friday 19th March by wearing something red, a super hero costume or dressing up as someone who is a hero to you! Please bring in a £1 voluntary contribution.
- Happy Journals to be trialled by KS2 council reps. They will feedback thoughts at our next meeting to decide if this is something that all children in school could benefit from.
- Share minutes with staff and parents.