

Minutes from Ethos Group Meeting

10.11.16

Present: EN, MS, SS, PM, SJ

- Father Peter opened the meeting with a prayer.
- Angie Gibbings sent her apologies.
- Worship Leaders attend for the first 10 minutes to discuss their findings from their learning walk.

C of E Vision for Education

- SJ shared the summary of the new C of E Vision for Education document. She explained that the summary includes all areas of the C of E Vision of Education document.
- Aim of the document is to deliver excellence in education to all children and young people.
- As a school we are adding a strap line to our mission statement to incorporate the document 'We live life in all its fullness' John 10:10.
- There are four key areas: Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills, Hope and Aspirations. Community and Living Together and Dignity and Respect.
- As a school we discussed these four areas and considered where we are now and how we can move the school forward for each of them. It was agreed that members of the committee would contribute towards this process in the next meeting.
- SJ discussed her new role as a facilitator for the South West. This means that she is accessing all of the reading, research and other materials that the participants are being introduced to, which will impact on what we are doing to promote the 'vision' at Torre.

Role of the ethos group

- SS wanted to know how she could help as a parent
- SJ suggested we add to the self-evaluation against the four areas in the C of E Vision as a committee
- SS would like to be involved in the learning walk, support with reflection areas and is keen to help and support with setting up prayer boxes in class
- It was agreed that all members like the passage to be published in the school's newsletter. SJ was going to edit it to incorporate the C of E Vision for Education

Prayer meetings for parents

- SS suggested parents may want to put a prayer in a box rather than attend a prayer meeting.
- SS would like to come and see reflection time in class
- PM was interested in how can we involve staff, but also thinking about how we are as a staff and people in the community?

- PM felt that everyone has a spirited dimension of some kind and is on a quest of some sort

Eucharist

- EN suggested that we publically offer tea and cake to parents who attend eucharist.
- SJ and SS felt there were more parents who attended eucharist last time.
- SS suggested we invite siblings to attend with their parents- SJ felt this could be difficult to monitor and that it could only be pre-school siblings who attend with their parents.
- PM would like more children to have a personal blessing. He would like to offer confirmation classes to children and parents who would like to be confirmed in school. EN suggested this could be in the form of an after school club.
- PM felt the classes would be a combination of games, refreshments and some teaching.
- PM suggested we learn the more familiar version of the Lord's Prayer. After discussion we all agreed this could happen in the future.
- PM and SJ discussed in more detail splitting eucharist into KS1 at 9am and KS2 straight after. Refreshments could be rotated to encourage parents stay and attend.
- PM felt that this could start at February half term.

Involving the community

- SJ wondered if the Church would be interested in setting up Messy Church. PM said that he had already discussed this and was in the process of setting it up.
- SJ and PM discussed when it would happen. A Saturday afternoon or after school on a Friday at church or school.
- SJ suggested we could encourage children and parents to walk down after school.
- EN felt more children would attend on a Friday afternoon than a Saturday due to other commitments.

ACTION

- EN, SS and MS to arrange a date for their next learning walk.
- SS and MS to support with the teachers with their reflection areas
- PM to consider a prayer meeting for staff and parents.
- EN to discuss Advent visits to the church with AG.
- Ethos group values- SJ

Discussion points for next meeting

- Organise sessions to teach pupils about Holy Communion (EN/PM)
- How do we raise the profile of the school values?
- Discuss in more detail eucharist and how it will work splitting in into two groups.
- Outcome of the learning walk
- Messy Church

Date of next meeting: Thursday 12th January 2017 at 2.00pm