

Trust Student Council meeting notes – 23rd November at 4.30 p.m. via Teams

Summary of actions from the meeting

Actions	By who?
Councillors to discuss with their parents/carers whether they would be able to transport them to the school conferences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors to discuss with their Student Leadership Co-ordinators and parent/carers by 26th January meeting.
Councillors to bring suggestions of conference themes to the next meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors to discuss Student Leadership Co-ordinators and bring suggestions to the meeting on 26th January.
Liskeard Councillors to receive the £100.00 project work form.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs Yelland to send ASAP.
Liskeard to return the completed project work form to Mrs Yelland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be sent by 9th December.

Summary of main points made in each question

Question	Answer
What has inspired you most recently?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports people, friends, the Queen, teachers, geography and PE lessons, animal documentaries, Pink Floyd and Matilda.
Who or what would you say is the biggest source of inspiration for people of your age at the moment, and why do you think this is?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social media (Instagram, YouTube), TV, sport and lessons in school.
When in school have you been inspired to learn more after a lesson? Or inspired to question more deeply? What subject were you learning and how did it inspire you?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE, geography, history and drama were mentioned most often.
Follow on questions about how you knew you were inspired	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most agreed it the lesson made them think about it or read up afterwards Most agreed that it was the lessons where they felt most challenged that inspired them most Most did not feel it needed to be relevant to their life to be inspiring.
<p>Is £100 enough to inspire action?</p> <p>Yes, the group believed it was and came up with suggestions that could be grouped into these categories: Upgrading toilets; Providing equipment; Decorating outside spaces; Ecological projects</p> <p>Upgrading of toilets was voted as the highest priority. Of these projects the most convincing case was made by the Liskeard team who have now been invited to complete the bid paperwork for the £100. Trewidland students were voted in as a close second.</p>	
Do you know of any bigger projects or improvements that most people feel passionately about improving in your school if we were able to find a bigger budget such as £1000?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of a grey water system Improve the green spaces Wellbeing animals Redecorate library and purchase more books Improve outdoor displays
What questions would you like to see asked this year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Q6 below.

Present:

Mr Buckley, CEO
Mrs Yelland, PA to the CEO
Mrs Ball, Headteacher at Landulph
Mrs Pipe, Headteacher at Dobwalls
Mr Barnes, Teacher at Saltash
Mr Saberton, Teacher at Looe
Mr Wendon, Headteacher at Liskeard

Student Councillors present:

Erin, George, Tillee-Jayne and Ray from Looe.
Allana, Bethany, Harry and Imogen from Liskeard.
Adem, Anastasia, Bluebell, Jake and Jayden from Saltash.
Ariel, Maggie and Noah from Dobwalls.
Eloise and Lolo from Trewidland.
Isabella and Sarina from Landulph.

Apologies:

Mr Lovell, Headteacher at Trewidland.

Meeting started at 16.31.

Outline of meeting

Mr Buckley welcomed everybody to the meeting.

Notes from previous meetings

The notes from the previous meeting on 20th October are available online via the Trust website, together with the notes of previous meetings.

Mr Buckley advised that the meeting notes are circulated to the Headteachers, Local Governing Committees and the Trustees.

Rules of these meetings

Mr Buckley stated the rules as follows:

- If you wish to speak, click on the 'raise hand' icon and wait for the Chair of the meeting to invite you to speak.
- Always keep your microphone on mute and camera turned off unless the Chair of the meeting invites you to speak. Please ensure your background is suitable if you switch on your camera and doesn't include anyone else who doesn't want to be on camera.
- When you have been invited to speak, unmute your microphone and if you wish to (we would advise you to if you can) turn your camera on. When you have finished speaking turn your camera and microphone off again.
- If you don't have a microphone that works, or you are uncomfortable with speaking, you can type your answers into the 'Chat'. If you don't have chat either you can send an email to Rachel.Yelland@smart-trust.net or your co-ordinator.

What is a public meeting?

Mr Buckley explained that these meetings are focused on positive comments, suggestions, and solutions. If a councillor wishes to share a problem or something that is concerning them, this must be taken straight to their teacher.

Meeting Chair

Mr Buckley will be chairing this meeting. Mr Buckley invited the students to stay on the call if they would like to Chair the next meeting.

Introductions

Everybody on the call introduced themselves.

Mr Buckley explained that this group is a representative democracy where members represent their schools' opinions.

Mr Buckley gave an example of how to answer the questions:

- Firstly, give your own opinion
- Secondly, the opinion(s) of the people that you asked

If you haven't managed to have the opportunity to ask other students, don't worry and just give your own opinion.

Mr Buckley the following questions:

1. What has inspired you most recently?

Allana answered that within her Tutor Group, boys had been inspired by PE and Sports. Allana herself had been inspired by geography lessons and animal documentaries on the TV. Geography had made Allana more aware of climate change and how we can help animals. Two girls agreed with her opinion.

Maggie answered that people in her class had been really inspired by the footballers on TV and she agreed with this.

Jayden answered that he had been inspired by geography and the teacher provides 'real life' examples, such as Dawlish Warren and this inspires you to learn deeper. Jayden was not able to ask other students.

Imogen answered that her friends were unsure, but their friends inspired them. Others said sport, including herself.

Sarina answered that some her friends from school said that Matilda inspired them to learn more. In Sarina's opinion, her teachers inspire her to learn more.

George answered that they had asked around the Council and the general consensus was the Queen. People in sport were also a big inspiration. For George it is those who created and played with Pink Floyd.

2. Who or what would you say is the biggest source of inspiration for people of your age at the moment, and why do you think this is?

Bethany advised that anyone in the media is a huge influence due to the platform they are given. They can influence way of thinking as well as inspire. Bethany confirmed all media, but for their generation more social medias (Instagram, YouTube) and TV to a lesser extent.

Imogen advised sport as a big one and school in general.

3. When in school have you been inspired to learn more after a lesson? Or inspired to question more deeply? What subject were you learning and how did it inspire you?

Mr Buckley asked if this question had been covered in questions 1 and 2.

Harry answered that the main consensus was PE and gave an example of a student who had been inspired to play in a rugby club after playing in a lesson. Harry advised that for him, it was geography as it inspired him to read further into the subject over lunchtime.

Erin answered that most people were inspired by geography, history and drama, as their teachers really inspire them.

Mr Buckley confirmed that the answers given were an excellent demonstration of representative democracy; clearly separating and stating own and peers' views. Mr Buckley also noted that they have also been really positive and the fact that reasons have been given as well as opinions is also excellent.

Bethany added that their business class inspires the students to go away and read additional information, come back to the next lesson, and share with the class what they learned.

How many people used the indicator that they thought about a lesson afterwards as confirmation the lesson had inspired them?

Majority voted yes.

How relevant the lesson was to their everyday life? Is this another indicator that it inspired you?

6 students agreed with this. It was a source but less so.

Mr Buckley explained that one thing we talk to teachers about are 'aha!' moments – where students are looking challenged or perplexed in that way. Would it be a fair statement that this would have inspired you the most to read more into the subject?

Overwhelming majority yes to this question.

4. Is £100 enough to inspire action?

Harry advised that his Tutor Group the main vote was for more sports equipment e.g. footballs. Also, more kitchens in the Food Technology area.

Allana advised that for her class it would be to upgrade the toilet facilities for example, fix some of the broken seats and use this as a starter for inspiring action amongst students. Allana briefly discussed some of the other problems that her classmates had brought up and Mr Buckley thanked Allana for bringing it to their attention and advised Allana to take this to the Student Council.

Erin answered that they would use it on the bathrooms to publicise that one is for KS3 and one is for KS4 students.

Eloise advised that she would install automatic lights in the toilets to help save money.

Maggie answered putting the money towards classroom equipment e.g. rulers and scissors.

Sarina advised that they wanted to spend it on improving school supplies e.g. rules and glue sticks.

Adem advised that this was discussed with the Student Council and the majority agreed to put it towards reusable bottles for the water fountains.

Erin answered that they also discussed using it to buy more indoor seating for students who want to sit inside where they feel safe.

Anastasia advised that the School Council did discuss this topic but Anastasia also wanted to add as a personal view to use it to hold an 'Environment Awareness Week' and invite the School Councils from across the Trust to visit each day and take part in workshops.

Jake wanted to add on to Ana's answer. They also wanted to use it to purchase paint materials to create a mural to make the school look more appealing to the students and encourage respect of the environment.

Isabella advised that students wanted more clubs and paint the bins to encourage more use.

Mr Buckley explained that the students had one vote each and split the above suggestions into the following groups:

1. Upgrading toilets
2. Equipment
3. Decorating outside spaces
4. Ecological based project

The majority vote went to 1. Upgrading toilets.

Mr Buckley reported that the three schools who had an idea on this theme were:

1. Liskeard
2. Looe
3. Trewidland

The students then voted as follows:

1. Liskeard – 8 votes.
2. Looe – 7 votes.
3. Trewidland – 7 votes.

£100 awarded to Liskeard's Student Council to upgrade their toilets.

5. Do you know of any bigger projects or improvements that most people feel passionately about improving in your school if we were able to find a bigger budget such as £1000?

Lolo advised to install a grey water system collect rainwater to be used in the school and save money for the school.

Anastasia reported to reinvigorate the green spaces around the school so they can be used again by students.

Erin advised that there is a therapy dog in school but would like more animals to help with wellbeing.

Ariel suggested adding more books to the library and redecorate it.

Harry agreed with Ariel's suggestions and include more branches of science books.

Isabella advised that Landulph wanted to improve their displays in outdoor areas.

6. What questions would you like to see asked this year?

Allana explained her Tutor Group came up with the following: "Do you think your school is in a suitable condition?", "Do you think school is a safe place to be in and learn in?" and "Are you able to focus in lessons?".

Harry suggested "Is your school safe for LGBTQ children?".

Imogen advised that one suggested was "What part-time jobs would you be interested in?" as most secondary school students want to earn their own money.

Maggie posed "Are you distracted by other children in your school?".

Bethany suggested "Does your school inspire success?".

Harry also posed "What's your favourite subject?", "What's your least favourite subject and how do you think you can improve on it?"

Mr Buckley thanked everyone for how well they represented themselves and their fellow students.

Mr Buckley advised Liskeard that we would be sending the form out for completion to receive the £100.00.

Mr Buckley asked the students to discuss the Student Conferences with their parents/carers to see if they would be happy to give lifts.

Mr Buckley also asked the students to start thinking about the topics they would like the conferences to focus on as one of the questions at the next meeting will be on this.

Date of next Teams meeting – Thursday, 26th January 2023 at 4.30 p.m.

Meeting closed at 17.13.