

Trust Student Council Meeting notes- 3rd February at 10:00 via Teams

Executive summary

Actions:

- **Contact the students to see if they would still be keen to chair the next meeting.**
- **Please all read the minutes and inform Mrs Askar if any changes are needed.**
- **Gather feedback from your peers on the subjects Art & Maths before 1st April.**
- **Report any achievements made by your student council at our next meeting.**

Present:

Mr Buckley, CEO

Mrs Pipe, Headteacher and Student Voice Coordinator at Dobwalls

Mr Downs, Head of Year and Student Voice Coordinator at Liskeard

Ms Hawker, Deputy Head, Curriculum Lead & Student Voice Coordinator at Landulph

Mr Webster, Student Voice Coordinator at Looe

Ms Ryall, Head of Geography & Student Voice Coordinator at Saltash

Mrs Askar, PA to CEO

Student Attendees:

Alfie, Issi, Brandon, Violet, Logan, Maria, Gabriel, Achilleas, Cecily, Ele, Isobelle, Tia, Penny, Milo, Faye, Hayley, Charlie, Stanley, Emily, Mila, Luke, Jaxon-James, Eseld, Class 2, Cookie, Ivy, Ella, Joseph, Billy, Oliver, Anna, Maggie, Charlie, Olivia M, Talia, Olivia L, Isla, Flora, Williwow, Matilda, Freddie, Maci, Harry, Dyman, Malachi, Peter, Evie, Paul, Kai, Alex, Olivia S, Ava, Billie, Owen

Meeting started at 10:04

Welcome

Mr Buckley welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for the delay in starting the meeting due to 2 schools having technical problems.

Mr Buckley asked for each school to decide on a spokesperson for this meeting who can feedback any discussion points to all the schools.

Liskeard: A student was chosen as spokesperson and advised that the whole school council was present.

Saltash: All present students were introduced.

Trewidland: A student was chosen as spokesperson and introduced the other student council members.

Dobwalls: A student was the chosen spokesperson who introduced the other student council members.

Looe: All present students were introduced.

Landulph: A student was the chosen spokesperson who introduced the other student council members.

Previous meeting

Mr Buckley acknowledged that at the previous meeting Two students had volunteered to Chair the next Student Council meeting. Due to the technical issues, we had at the start of the meeting, we have been unable to facilitate this. We will contact you both before our next meeting to see if you are both still keen, and today's meeting can model how to chair, as this is a slightly different setup to what we are used to.

Mr Buckley advised that the last meeting we focussed on one subject which was PE. Our excellent chair, who widened the debate to other subjects leading to some constructive feedback. Feedback from these discussions can be passed on to our teachers so that they are aware of what is working and what isn't. As a result, we were keen to have a discussion on a single subject as part of our agenda today.

Mr Buckley then invited the schools to nominate a subject to discuss and History was agreed on.

Subject Focus- History

Mr Buckley explained that each school was going to have a few minutes to discuss history. When discussing within a group its helpful to have some key questions to go back to and think about. Students were reminded that they don't have to stick to those key questions, and that they can widen the discussion if they choose to.

The key questions were given:

- What is working well in your history lessons?
- What should other schools be copying?
- When do you feel really inspired by history?
- Can you think of a lesson which made you think of history long after the lesson? – This question is the gold standard. If a teacher has managed to achieve this then they have fired up your curiosity in an amazing way.
- Do you find history lessons challenging enough?
- Can you think of a lesson which has linked to your life outside of school?

Mr Buckley asked if there were any questions before discussions began. There were no questions. Students were given 10 minutes to discuss.

The students were then asked to feedback regarding their discussions:

School	Feedback/suggestion
Trewidland	We were learning about Stonehenge and our teacher gave us all clay to build our own stone henge circle. We found this fun because it was active and made it memorable. This was a couple of weeks ago. We also did timelines which we could write on and stick things on which we found fun and educational. We learnt when people started farming, using bronze and how it was made (90% copper and 10% tin). It allowed us to learn the chronological order of history.
Looe	We find it helps that our history teachers are very passionate about the subject and know a lot of facts, which makes them and us excited about the subject. We also find it helpful when

	<p>teachers link history to key events that are know to the students so they can be pinpointed on a historical timeline.</p> <p>Once a topic is shown, multiple teaching methods and multimedia should be used to ensure different learning styles are catered for.</p>
Liskeard	<p>Having more practical lessons. Specifically bringing drama and vocal activities into the subject, acting history out in lessons. Storytelling with a partner and debates on thought provoking topics have peaked students' interest. Mr Buckley asked how storytelling is used in history lessons. A student gave the example of the medicine topic where they discussed the different causes, key features, and consequences. Recalling what has been learned and talking about it with your partner really helps students to remember. It also allows students to get different ideas from others. History is quite an opinionated subject and its good to hear people's views. This allows students to think about history on a deeper level, bringing not only storytelling, but the idea that there's lots of different sources and opinions that form history.</p>
Saltash	<p>A student picked History for GCSE and has Ms Madison as a teacher. The student explained that his teacher had joy for the subject which was infectious and allowed students to grow a love for the subject too. The student explained that it helped him to bridge a gap between the medicine in today's society and the medicine in history. The student's mum is a nurse and learning about medicine in history helped the student to understand his mother's importance in society.</p>
Trewidland	<p>Retouching on topics we have already learnt really helps it to stick in our minds.</p>
Landulph	<p>Its easier to remember the history lesson when it's linked to other subjects like English and Geography.</p>
Dobwalls	<p>School trips- we have had multiple trips to local historical places. Our history lessons have also been linked to DT as we have made houses that burnt down in the London fire.</p>
Liskeard	<p>A student talked some more about cross curricular links between history and English which link very well together. Studying inspector calls for GCSE, you have the titanic which sunk before it and then after you have the world war and all the irony compared into it. With film studies we are studying a film at the moment which links really well into the holocaust.</p>
Landulph	<p>A memorable lesson for us, was when we were able to mummify a tomato when learning about the Egyptians.</p>
Looe	<p>We like to learn about recent history such as 9/11.</p> <p>Mr Buckley explained that it's a challenge to get current news into the curriculum as it takes a while to approve and get through the system.</p>
Liskeard	<p>History teachers have even made links using the recent news regarding American politics and all the tariffs that have been announced.</p>
Dobwalls	<p>We had the Queens Jubilee celebrations linked in with Art and also had scones to celebrate.</p>

Agreed points:

- Physically touching using, moving, and sticking all aids the memory.
- The teachers being passionate and joyful about the subject is infectious.
- Bringing drama and vocal activities into history.
- Linking history to other subjects deepens student understanding.
- School trips make lessons memorable.

Mr Buckley commented on the range of fantastic ideas and suggestions from all the schools. Mr Buckley asked each school to agree on one suggestion as the most compelling idea. If we could advise history teachers of the number one suggestion to improve learning, what would you choose?

School	Feedback/suggestion
Landulph	Making lessons practical
Saltash	More interactive
Dobwalls	More interactive
Looe	Using different learning techniques
Trewidland	School trips
Liskeard	Making lessons practical

Mr Buckley thanked everyone for their feedback which will be passed on to the history teachers across the trust.

School Council Achievements

Mr Buckley would like to know where we have got it right in terms of leadership. He has asked the schools what they have done this year which they feel have enhanced their leadership that we should know about.

School	Achievements
Liskeard	Every year we choose three charities to donate to. Last year we did sponsored walks around our field to raise money. We managed to get benches in the year 8 courts. We also renamed the bridge to the Liskeard Wellbeing Centre. We now plan to refloor the corridors to have more visible lines.
Dobwalls	We chose our charity and we have raised £120 for the British Heart Foundation by doing toasty Tuesdays. We have raised issues with Mrs Pipe and now have new locks on the Year 5 toilet doors and 25 new chairs for the lunch hall. We have building works going on opposite our school and we've been asked to help name the road, we have had a competition which will close on Friday.
Saltash	We started the year with a whole school student voice survey which included ideas on what we could do this year. Many people requested an anonymous suggestion box which has now been installed. It was also suggested that we do more fire and lockdown drills to reduce anxiety and ensure we are prepared for emergencies with high standards. We will have a mufti day on the 14 th February to support a local charity "Jeremiahs Journey" who support families with bereavement.
Landulph	We have changed our team point system from tallies to tokens to avoid people adding tallies themselves.
Looe	Off the back of our student council requests we are now having new toilets installed which we are trialling for the rest of the trust.
Trewidland	We have added the option of calm time at breaks where students can go into the library to read or draw. We have also got tubs to organise all equipment for break time. We also have some new balls.

Mr Buckley commented on the amazing achievements of all the student councils this year.

Mr Buckley commented on the fantastic feedback around history which will be passed on.

Next meeting

Mr Buckley asked the schools which subjects we should focus on for our next meeting. The results of the vote were as follows:

Dobwalls- Maths

Looe- Music

Landulph- Art

Trewidland- Art

Liskeard- Maths

Saltash- Art & Languages

Mr Buckley has decided we should be able to cover two subjects in our next meeting and those will be Art and Maths, we would also like an update of any achievements between now and our next meeting. Mr Buckley thanked all schools for their attendance and input. We had a really rich discussion around history, and some things could have been missed so he reminded students to check the minutes once they are circulated and let us know if any changes need to be made.

Meeting Closed at 11:01