

Trust Student Council meeting notes – 19th May 2021 at 4.30 p.m. via Teams

Summary of actions from the meeting

Proposal/Agreement	Who?	By When?
Action – Councillors to send Mrs Yelland any questions they think of for the next meeting.	Everyone	11/06/21
Action – Mrs Yelland to send Leadership badges to Dobwalls	Mrs Yelland	As soon as possible.
Action – Charlie, Lilliana and Jade to Chair the next meeting.	Charlie, Lilliana and Jade	07/07/21
Proposal – Should meeting Chairs receive a Level 1 Leadership badge? If a Councillor has played an active role in one or more of these meetings, should they receive a Level 1 Leadership badge?	Everyone	07/07/21

Summary of main points made in each question

Question	Answer
<p>What has helped you since returning to school from home learning?</p> <p>Which teachers have helped you most and what have they done to support you?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students happy to be back in school • Seeing friends e.g. in queues for food • Easier to concentrate (now in school) • Real lessons and practical lessons • Support for mental health and SEND
<p>How does your school reduce litter, waste at the moment and what could we do to recycle more and waste less?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most schools suggested more bins (and recycling bins) around the school site • Reducing packaging on food from the canteen • Having less packaging to start with • Upcycle materials and create a mural (at Saltash) • Looe have created more posters on the topic • Staff on duty at Saltash have litter pickers
<p>There is a big investment in money in all of our school websites this year. What should we include on the new website?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have everything in one place (either on website or an app) • Include timetables • News feed with events and notices • Recent pictures and work • Simplified menu/easier to navigate • A mental health section to get advice • Staff names, pictures and jobs
<p>Some website companies have offered an app to accompany the website. Should we have one and if so, what should it contain?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority agreed to have an app • Include – timetables, homework, important information, mental health games, pages for events/fixtures
<p>What was the best way teachers have dealt with an incident of bullying in your school? (PLEASE DO NOT MENTION NAMES). What did they do that worked?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate students out after an incident • One to one talks and follow ups • The school caring that everyone is OK • Thorough investigation • Class seating plans to help pupils work together

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The class are reading a book together with useful ideas e.g. How to think about breathing • Lessons in schools such as 'Be Well' • Schools received positive comments for how they deal with bullying
What methods do you believe would be effective to catch-up on work time that we have lost due to the pandemic?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs at break times and after school • Stricter rules to help with concentration
Our Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council voted unanimously to award Leadership Level 1 badges to members of the student council at Dobwalls who organised a Skip-a-thon and raised over £2000

Present:

Mr Buckley, CEO
Mrs Yelland, PA to the CEO
Mrs Ball, Headteacher at Landulph
Mrs Pipe, Headteacher at Dobwalls
Mrs Gallie, Teacher at Saltash
Mrs Hallworth, Head of Languages at Looe
Mrs Stoneham, Joint Head of Drama at Liskeard
Jade W (Saltash), Charlie (Saltash), Chris (Saltash), Ellis (Dobwalls), Henry (Saltash), Lowena (Trewidland), Lilliana (Landulph), Charley (Saltash), Poppy (Trewidland), Berin (Looe), Rose (Saltash), Anastasia (Saltash), Leon (Looe), Lola (Landulph), Catelin (Saltash), Olivia (Saltash), Barney (Saltash), Destiny (Saltash), Isla (Saltash), Amy (Looe), Alex (Looe), Alexia (Liskeard), Aimee (Liskeard), Luisa (Liskeard), Max (Liskeard), Greg (Liskeard).

Apologies:

Mr Lovell, Headteacher at Trewidland

Meeting started at 16.30.

Outline of meeting

Mr Buckley welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked the councillors for attending. He advised that the notes are circulated to the Heads, Governors and Trustees. They can also be accessed on the SMART Trust website. Mr Buckley reiterated the rules and advised that as these are public meetings, they are being recorded and are designed to find positive solutions. If there are any concerns, these should be taken directly to a teacher at the school.

Notes from the previous meeting

Mr Buckley reported that a copy of the notes has been circulated to and asked if there were any questions regarding the notes to raise them with their Co-ordinator.

Mr Buckley introduced Charlie who will Chair the main body of the meeting.

Q1 - What has helped you since returning to school from home learning?

Which teachers have helped you most and what have they done to support you?

Henry reported that his peers were happy to be back in school and returning to normal routines. The teachers mentioned were - Miss Bailey, Miss Dodd, Miss Sayer, Miss Roberts, and Mrs Yvinec.

Leon mentioned that he was surprised that the majority of teachers didn't want pupils to bring in their work from Home Learning and some wanted to move on to a new unit of work though other teachers did want to discuss it.

Charley's class believed it helped being back in the school environment, which also helped students to concentrate.

Olivia's tutor commented that having 'real' PE lessons and being face to face with each other has helped.

Isla's tutor group reported that they were more motivated now they have returned to school.

Jade's explained her class are happier now they're allowed to queue for lunch, seeing their friends again, having 'real' lessons and more support from teachers now back in school.

Lilliana's class were happy to see their friends again, they are understanding lessons more as they can work through them at a slower pace.

Catelin's tutor group reported what helped them was to return to school and get up on time (rather than online lessons).

Liskeard reported the following by email (students were with Mrs Stoneham but her microphone wasn't working):

- Being in school has been good because we have access to our heads of year and assistant heads of year as well as our support people for mental health and SEN staff. Having a TA has helped some people because they get actual support. Mr Monks (TA) mentioned specifically.
- Seeing friends has been good.
- We are glad to be moving around now and going to other places.
- Doing practical lessons.

Q2 - How does your school reduce litter, waste at the moment and what could we do to recycle more and waste less?

Leon mentioned that recently there has been an increase in posters (that the students have created) to remind people littering is not good for the environment.

Henry's class suggested increasing the amount of staff and litter pickers at break times and requested more bins and recycling bins across the site.

Jade's tutor group suggested having different bins for each form of recycling and a general waste bin.

Rose reported that the school have been looking at climate change and how to recycle more (especially in geography and science) and this was helpful, she suggested more bins, review the amount of packaging on food from the canteen and reduce the amount of worksheets used at school.

Lola advised that the school field is currently divided into three sections (one for each class) and there is only one bin. As they are not allowed to mix in the sections, a bin for each area was

suggested as well as more bins throughout the school. They also suggested sturdy bins so they don't blow over.

Anastasia mentioned that one student had an idea for creating a mural on the warehouse container (on the school field) using upcycled material.

Mrs Yelland read Liskeard's points from an email:

Liskeard are working towards having less packaging in the first place. They are campaigning as an eco-council to have recycling and are sad to hear that their contract to have photocopier ink waste recycled had to be cancelled because of new paperwork from Brexit.

Litter is still bad sometimes and it's worse on the field where there are no bins. Reducing packaging or making people eat in the halls before going out might be better.

Q3 - Some website companies have offered an app to accompany the website. Should we have one and if so, what should it contain?

Olivia's tutor group looked at questions 3 and 4 together. They would prefer to have everything in one place, whether it's on a website or an app. For example, Show My Homework/ParentPay.

Liliana's class like the idea of an app so that if the user's internet wasn't working, they could still access the information required. They also suggested information to get to know the teachers, examples of student's work and a quiz.

Alex's tutor group would like more recent pictures on the website, more links to learning platforms and a digital suggestion box.

Isla's tutor group would like to see 'everything' on it. For example, Show My Homework and teacher profiles, including if they have a Safeguarding role (and if so, the room they are in).

Rose's tutor group suggested being able to access their timetables via the website.

Lola's school would like a news feed and notices would then be posted on the app, for example, if there was anything they needed to bring to school the next day. The students would also like to see their fundraising efforts mentioned on the website.

Anastasia's tutor group would like a more simplified menu as a lot of students commented that there is so much information on the website, it is difficult to find what you are looking for.

Jade's tutor group would like to see a 'clear news' area for events such as fundraising, school plays, sports fixtures etc. Have a Mental Health service area and information on staff who have Safeguarding and SENDCO roles. Look at the possibility of having chat rooms for students to talk to each other in the event of another lockdown.

Chris suggested making the website more accessible to students and easier to navigate would encourage students to access more resources to further their education.

Mrs Yelland read Liskeard's points from an email:

- Recent pictures
- Easy access to calendar and notifications

Q4 - Some website companies have offered an app to accompany the website. Should we have one and if so, what should it contain?

Anastasia's tutor group would like to see the return of the app with reward system in school. She explained that students were awarded positive/negative points in line with Saltash's values. Students were able to 'cash in' points for rewards such as stationery/water bottles. Students would like to see more rewards added to the app.

Jade's tutor group took a vote and the majority vote was no to an app.

Lola explained that the majority of the class said yes, as it would be easier to access than the website.

Henry's tutor group voted yes to the app and would like it to include timetables, the homework app, and other important information.

Mrs Yelland read Liskeard's points from an email:

- Yes to the app from most tutor groups and it should have materials to support with homework as a link
- Some students would like to have pages for eco matters, sports, creative arts, social justice and an inspiration link
- Mental health games

Q5 - What was the best way teachers have dealt with an incident of bullying in your school? (PLEASE DO NOT MENTION NAMES). What did they do that worked?

Catelin explained that most teachers in the school separate the students so no more trouble is caused.

Lola reported that their teacher calms the class down and reminds them of breathing techniques. They are currently reading a Mental Health book by Claire Balding which has helped.

Leon advised that if an incident takes place in the classroom, and a student reports it, they can speak to the teacher about the seating plan. Leon explained that his tutor carefully places students so they would work well together on task but would not disrupt the lesson.

Berin explained the school ensures everyone is OK and looks after the welfare of the student who has been bullied.

Lilliana mentioned that the teacher listens to both sides of the story and gets the students to talk about it and calm down.

Anastacia commented that the school has a focus on Mental Health and BeWell. They signpost students to relevant links in assemblies. If there is an incident, there is a thorough investigation.

Henry advised that one on one talks take place to resolve problems, and staff follow up with students after the event. He personally thinks the school does well to manage bullying and BeWell is having a good effect on the school.

Q6 - Cornwall Council are planning to create cycle trails linking Cremyll with Looe, Liskeard and Bodmin and want student involvement in designing these. Can you give us names of students (through your teacher) who would be interested in getting involved with this project?

Mrs Hallworth has submitted names for Looe to Mrs Yelland.

No other responses received to the question.

The Chair's Question -

Q7 - What methods do you believe would be effective to catch-up on work time that we have lost due to the pandemic?

Anastasia suggested after school clubs and incorporate SMHW by teachers setting additional tasks if students request them (if they feel they need help or more practice). She also suggested the return of the after school homework club.

Henry reported from his experience, teachers have been good and have stricter rules to ensure classes are paying better attention (compared to online learning).

Catelin also suggested clubs during break times to help students catch up who are struggling in lessons.

Mr Buckley thanked Charlie for his Chairing during the meeting.

Proposal to vote on

Mr Buckley summarised the achievements of the Student Council at Dobwalls (and the whole school). Mrs Pipe invited Ellis to speak who explained that the Council arranged a 'skip-a-thon' where all students skipped for a period of time throughout the school day and over £2000.00 was raised.

Mr Buckley asked the Councillors to vote on whether to award the Student Council at Dobwalls Level 1 Leadership badges for their achievements, as well as other students involved in running the event.

The vote was a unanimous yes.

Proposal for next meeting

Mr Buckley asked the group to consider the two proposals for the next meeting:

1. Should meeting Chairs receive a Level 1 Leadership badge?
2. If a Councillor has played an active role in one or more of these meetings, should they receive a Level 1 Leadership badge?

Mr Buckley asked if any Councillors had questions for the next meeting?

Jade explained that a classmate had suggested that students are dismissed from Fire Drills in Year Groups rather than Tutor Groups to reduce the time it takes to return to class. Mr Buckley advised that this is a good question to ask the school Student Council as it is a policy for Saltash Fire Drills.

Leon suggested "What has changed at your school since the recent relaxing of rules on 17th May"?

Mr Buckley asked the Councillors to submit any further questions to Mrs Yelland. He also explained that the Student Leadership Co-ordinators have some ideas on how the Trust Student Council is run next year and it would be good to discuss these next time.

Meeting finished at 17.12.

Mr Buckley had a discussion with Charlie, Jade and Lilliana after the meeting had finished about chairing the next meeting, they will each 'Chair' two questions.
Next meeting will take place on 7th July at 4.30 p.m.