

## MCS Friends Association Minutes

17th March 2015

**Present** Kirstie Pope; Robin Gable; Cara Hopgood; Sarah Pierrepoint; Mike Powell.

**Apologies** Tilly Ashton; Katharina Baker; April Chandra; Kate Dennant; Karen Hurley; Esther Lacey; Stuart McLester; Georgina Waterstone.

Kirstie welcomed everybody to the meeting and recapped on matters arising from the previous meeting.

**Heartstart** The next course will take place in the summer term. **CH will try to find a suitable course date** and liaise with Andrew to see if there has been any uptake by parents to be Heartstart instructors following the successful course held in February.

**Second-hand uniform** **KP to prompt Sarah Browne to send reminder emails to parents regarding uniform.**

**Easyfundraising** **KP will send out another email reminding parents about Easyfundraising.**

**Display Board** **Louise Vitale will research display boards for us.**

**Literary Festival** Kirstie contacted Karen Rowlings to offer £1700 towards the festival which was gratefully received. In order to raise the profile of the FA during the festival, the committee suggested that a sponsorship logo could be used. Kirstie contacted David Thomas of the Usk Astronomy Society to ask if he would be interested in presenting to or working with students during the festival. The school will now liaise with David to discuss details.

### Business

- **Invigilating exams - KP to email out requested dates.** Those interested in helping to contact Sarah Roach, exams officer, directly.
- **Parent workshops** The emotional Intelligence workshop on 14.3.15 was very successful with 24 parents in attendance. Feedback was very positive. Childcare provision from Puddle Ducks proved effective. **SP to talk to Julia Rennie regarding insurance/liability for childcare during future workshops.** Proposed date for next workshop looking at how the teenage brain works and how to support learning with Francis Green is 9.5.2015. **SP to check Puddle Ducks staff availability.** Self Esteem workshop planned for Autumn 2015. Robin suggested Consent workshops - discuss the need for this with Andy Williams.  
If the workshops are to be ongoing, Kirstie suggested that Lottery Funding might be appropriate.
- **Forward planning** The AGM will be held in May. There have been no volunteers for Chair yet. **KP to contact the NCPTA to research any coping strategies if no one comes forward. KP will send another email to parents, stating the role of the chair and merits of the FA. If a new chair is not elected at the AGM another meeting will be called to dissolve the FA.**

### AOB

- **Grand Summer Draw** – depending on outcome of AGM, Robin will do draft of ticket. Less needed than last year. Selling could start after the June half term and could also be sold at the Summer Showcase if the school are not having their own raffle (check with Claire Whittaker). It was suggested that an iPad would make a good first prize rather than cash.
- **Parent skills** Robin keen to have a database of parental skills which could benefit the FA and school. Again, depending on outcome of AGM, a sub-committee could be assigned to developing a questionnaire to start collecting data. This could be presented to parents at an FA event, possibly at the beginning of the academic year. **RG to bring a draft to the next meeting.**

**Next meeting:** AGM - 6.30pm Tuesday May 5th to be followed by a short Ordinary Meeting