

LANGLEY FITZURSE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHRISTIAN DISTINCTIVENESS MEETING

Minutes

9th January 2020

11.10

*Attending: Richard Hearn **RH**, Head, Katherine Bloomer **KB**, Link Chaplain, Harriet Wilkinson **HW**, Foundation Governor, Hugh Solly **HS**, Governor.*

1. **Prayer** **Katherine (KB)**
2. **Minutes – agreed/alterations** **Harriet (HW)**
See below for ongoing actions.
3. **Update on actions not covered by agenda** **KB/HW/Richard Hearn (RH)**
Are the lunchtime prayers in use? **RH to follow up on prayers composed by children**
 - Values board – plans for T3 **DONE**.
 - Worship Cloth – Fi to add tie ons. Tie ons added but need lengthening. In hand with KB.
 - Heartsmart – took place; action? **Twilight visit done before Christmas. RH to discuss with Mrs Dixon her views. Involves commitment as need to ‘buy in’ and build up learning, continuing with subscription for several years. HW did say that 200 schools didn’t seem many to be using this (but new resource?) Wait and see, new head needs to want it.**
 - Guidance leaflet – RH updated **DONE** not yet sent out **KB/RH to add vision before sending out.**
 - Collective Worship – opening and closing words in use; prayer box **HW to arrange prayer box; feedback from pupils DONE; include a regular prayer for Vivian and St Peters Church? Weekly prayer for each suggested.**
 - Inviting Union Chapel **RH to visit chapel on a coffee morning to introduce school and make connection with Pastor Thanos or Tony Shepherd (Elder) if he’s not there.**
4. **RE – main focus** **RH/HW**
 - Monitoring & Staff feedback

Pupils: RH and HW interviewed a selection of children from year 2 to year 6 in Nov 2019 to get a baseline view of RE using open ended questions from York Diocese. Generally RE was liked, other faiths (Judaism year 2/3 and Islam year 6) recently taught were understood well. Christianity was better understood by year 6 than year 2. Both classes needed prompting for out of class experiences. ie church. Children could identify values recently covered & identify as a church school. RH has written evidence of feedback. **ACTION: RH and HW to repeat RE interviews with children in summer term to see impact of any changes.**

Staff: There is a training day 24th Feb at Sutton Benger school on Understanding Christianity from Bristol Diocese. Teaching staff to attend. **HS would like to attend.** KB to confirm but thought this would be fine. **ACTION: RH to speak to staff before the 24th for their RE feedback, then again in summer term to evaluate impact.**

- Other places of faith

To plan for a KS1 and KS2 visit for RE. Options suggested were a Gudwara in Swindon or a synagogue in Bristol. HS suggested a Gurkha temple at Buckley Barracks. **ACTION HS will see if possible to visit Buckley Barracks Temple.**

HS suggested a drumhead service with padre. He will enquire. HW to suggest to PCC &/or consider at school.

5. SIAMS

HW/KB

- Agreed vision

See revisioning paper LF document by KB

Following consultation at last FGB meeting, this is the agreed vision:

We are an inclusive, friendly church school with a family feel. Our purpose is to Amaze, Excite and Inspire confident, happy and resilient children within our community where everyone can reach their full potential.

Considered several Bible verses. Agreed Bible verse: Hebrews 10:24-25 'And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds.'

Motto (continues to be): Amaze, Excite, Inspire.

KB sent Values in action document out to Liz Howe to get photos of values in action for ongoing displays.

HS suggested visual image of tree but this is common, jigsaw thought better.

Action: KB to find visual image of jigsaw with many parts connecting.

- **SEF (Self evaluation form).** – date for separate meeting, 7 strands.

When we get date for SIAMS, school submits SEF which has 7 strands. Initial work started at SIAMS training day in Nov.

Meeting 1: Monday 2nd March with RH to build on initial work.

Meeting 2: Friday 20th March with Mr Osler (co-RE lead).

- What it means to be a Church School: governors, info pack, website.

See attached working document: LF is a church school -explanation. Chair of Gov's asked what a good church should look like. KB wrote this in response. This would be modified depending on target audience. Suggested could be used for governors, on staff induction, parents (in new parents pack) and on website. Hyperlinks on website. It was liked but will need tailoring. **With KB.**

- Website review – policies (CW, spirituality, SMSC, RE)

Policies above need updating or creating. **Action KB and HW to start with updating CW policy.**

HW to check with KB what is on website and then see Liz Howe to get docs such as CD agenda's and minutes are online since she started chairing.

- Invite Bristol Diocese Education rep to visit

Action: RH to invite Bristol Diocese Rep to visit school by April in preparation for SIAMS next year. Can also ask about Bristol Diocese Church/School Partnership award – poss. Start work on this after Easter.

6. Courageous Advocacy

KB/RH

Discussion on what courageous is.

- Vivian supported through Plan International UK – Ghana Day to raise money & awareness Booked 30th January. Children to pay £4 and take part in day to raise funds for Vivian.
- Web page Action: **RH to consider how much of the Courageous Advocacy document to go on line**
- Deciding charities with school council. RH has meeting on Monday booked to discuss this with them, using a table that KB had devised. Important to identify supporting school projects & supporting charities.
Ollie Phelps is Wiltshire Council local charities coordinator. **Action: HS to talk with him about local charities.**

7. Church Links/Creating Connections

KB

- Christingle Service booked for **3rd February** CHURCH to plan – volunteers to help make Christingles with pupils in the morning (HS confirmed he can help); Easter Service booked for **30th March - SCHOOL** to plan
- Lord's Prayer Experience in St Peter's Church: booked for 21st May all day; Prayer Space for Y6: KB to set up for week of 11th May.
- Lent 2020 – 6 week Eco challenge. The Draycot Group of churches is working towards being an Eco Church – KB to send a version of the challenge suitable for schools and families.

8. Worship council

KB

- Members have come up with ideas for Values in photos; next meeting we aim to look at hall as a worship space; ideas for the display board in the parent shelter; KB planning Get Together with other Worship Councils – T6 June (to advise)

9. AOB

ALL

- 11 things by 11: Life path at Malmesbury Abbey added. The school will receive an invitation for Y5 through Trevor Ranger. **RH to add visuals and introduce 11 by 11 to pupils and families.**
- School improvement plan RH **looking at.**
- Wellbeing update – **HW** waiting to meet Hardenhuish (secondary school) Well being Governor and see if anything translatable to a small school

HS asked if there is a mental health first aider. There is not currently and RH experience at Lacock school says role is difficult to put into practice. HW said there is a Garden of Dreams emotional support course for selected KS2 children run by Mrs Porter once a year. Discussion on possible peer support from school council.

ACTIONS

3. Follow up –

- **RH** to follow up on prayers composed by children
- **KB/RH** to add vision to guidance leaflet before sending out.
- **HW** to arrange prayer box;
- Weekly prayer for St Peter's church and Vivian suggested. (**KB** – Worship Council)
- **RH** to visit chapel on a coffee morning to introduce school and make connection with Pastor Thanos or an elder if he's not there.

4. RE -

- **RH** and **HW** to repeat RE interviews with children in summer term to see impact of any changes.
- **HS** to attend Understanding Christianity course.
- **RH** to speak to staff before the 24th for their RE feedback, then again in summer term to evaluate impact.

5. SIAMS –

- **KB** to find visual image of jigsaw with many parts connecting.
- SEF Meeting 1: Monday 2nd March with **RH** to build on initial work.
- SEF Meeting 2: Friday 20th March with Mr Osler (co-RE lead).
- **KB** and **HW** to start with updating CW policy.
- **HW** to check with **KB** what is on website and then see Liz Howe to get docs such as CD agenda's and minutes are online since she started chairing.
- **RH** to invite Bristol Diocese Rep to visit school by April in preparation for SIAMS next year. Can also ask about Bristol Diocese Church/School Partnership award.

6. Courageous Advocacy

- **HS** to talk with Wiltshire council about local charities.

Next meeting: To decide on 2nd March, for a June date.