

Friends of the Mead (FoM) Meeting

Wednesday 27/2/19

Minutes

Attendance: Ruth Campbell, Andrew Webster, Kate Glover, Tammy McIntosh, Nicky Roche, Emma Kent, Alice Patience, Madeleine Stolz, Claire Curran, Sarah Morley, Marion Borrageiro, Ayme Flay, Anna Paine, Katie Lovell, Alicia Faith, Shelley Wadsworth, Nicola Spencer.

Apologies: Katie Balcombe, Sian Haines, Emma Howarth and Claire Henry

1. Welcome and Introductions – by EK

2. Update on items bought with FoM Funds – KG

- We are still waiting for the Vault and Springboard to arrive, hoping it will be early March
- £125 received from Downingbury Farm re: Christmas tree sales at Winter Fayre
- Mud kitchen installed and in operation
- Breakfast club requested an additional set of Polydron magnetics, which have been purchased and now in use.
- 3D printer now up and running – *see letter from Mrs Wilson at end of Minutes.

3. Quiz Night feedback - TM

- TM thanked all who were able to attend for their help and support. Agreed it was a fun and relaxed event with questions pitched at the right level. There is support to run another Quiz Night next year. Update – Fromage and French invoice has been paid and there is a profit of £175.

4. Children's Glow Disco Feedback - KG

- Raised £387.40 which covered the cost of the disco and glow prizes, leaving a small profit of £31.85. Allowing for those children who didn't attend the event, the money collected didn't cover all the children present at the

disco. For the next event, there was a suggestion to have collection buckets in reception to remind parents to contribute.

- Simon P the DJ who ran the event contacted the school with positive feedback on the student's behaviour.
- Feedback from the teachers and children was also positive and FoM will look to run the event next year.

5. Library books – EK

- FoM have £1000 in the budget to spend on new books. EK and AP spent some time in the library on Monday to review what books are available and what needs to be ordered.
- They raised questions regarding the setup of the library and use of sticker system and how this can be reviewed. They also questioned how well the children know the library and how to use it effectively.
- Nicky Roche, Alice Patience, Emma Kent volunteered to spend more some time in the library sorting books.
- Suggestion that current parent reading volunteers may also like to assist in tidying up library and ensuring books are put back in their correct place.
- Shelley suggested that the summer reading list books were purchased to be included in the library.
- EK suggested that FoM purchase newly released books from the last 2 years to refresh the library and purchase older titles once lists have been checked.
- Suggestion that each Year group has separate shelving for their books which includes their year reading lists.

6. Future Funding projects – EK

- We are still waiting for Wishford group to confirm tablets, costs and requirements. RC to follow up.
- Further discussion regarding the Art Room redevelopment was discussed and how FoM can contribute some resources to this area. Will revisit in the summer term once AW has budget and space allocation approved.
- TM mentioned the Student Council wish list displayed on the noticeboard on the staircase, which included hula hoops, skipping ropes and other play equipment. Suggested that FoM member attend next student council

meeting to hear what the children would like. Update – TM to attend Monday 4th March and will report back.

7. Easter Event – AP

- AP will run an Easter event on Tuesday 26th March in the morning breaks (10.30am – 11am and 11 – 11.30am), similar to the one run last year by Lucy Renton (treasure hunt, puzzles and Easter themed anagram activities, with small chocolate Easter Eggs provided once tasks are completed. Non- dairy options available too).
- Volunteers offered to help on the day and list was compiled with names.
- AW volunteered to be the Easter Bunny if an appropriate costume could be provided.

8. Meadfest- EK

- Meadfest will be held on Sunday 19 May. Marquee, portaloos, food vans, band and pied piper entertainment have been booked.
- Claire Chattenton has spoken with Freckles & Fire about providing arts and crafts within a bell tent, with each make costing approx. £3.50. Claire will discuss bell tent requirements with F&F contact and revert.
- Further on-site meetings with Meadfest providers will take place on the 6th March at 11am and 8th March at 8.30am.
- Shelley Wadsworth is organising music and has confirmed a parent band and child band will play, along with the school choir and some individual performances by students.
- EK is organising a new website for ticket purchase and this will be confirmed by the end of the week. Tickets will be available to purchase online, cash at reception, via new card machine and cheque. Parentmail will go out from EK once this all arranged and confirmed.
- The maximum capacity for this event is 499 (according to terms in TENS licence) so no deadline needed.
- EK asked for committee members to drum up support.
- EK looking into raffle prizes and KG to check legal requirements for ticket sales as the event is open to the public. Update - re legal requirements on raffle, all specific requirements have been emailed to EK from KG.
- EK confirmed NFU Mutual has agreed to provide some sponsorship for the event, also waiting for Buss Murton to confirm.

- Suggestions to approach Sandrine Pilates, Anthropologie, Soprano's, Coco Blush for either sponsorship or raffle prizes.
- EK to speak to Katie Balcombe's husband about a potential quote for a banner for Meadfest.
- TM suggested we send out invitations to new Mead families joining in September.
- Alicia asked about the provision of free entertainment during the event, in light of the ticket price. EK confirmed there are some free events/options during the afternoon.
- The Meadfest sub-committee which includes Emma Kent, Alice Patience, Claire Chattenton, Shellley Wadsworth, Claire Curran, Nicky Roche, Emma Moss and Ruth Campbell will meet again on March 7th at 8.30am.
- FoM has a new email address which is FOM@thameadschool.co.uk

9. Card reader purchase – EK/KG

- KG has investigated card reader options and SumItUp offered the best deal at £19 + VAT with a charge of 1.69% per transaction. It accepts all cards including AMEX and apple pay. The first £250 of transactions will be offered free of charge.
- Agreed 2 card readers will be beneficial, particularly for bar and food purchases for future events.

10. AOB – all

- RC was contacted by Carrie Woolger who suggested holding a second-hand fancy dress costume sale, ready for next week's World Book Day with all funds raised supporting FoM. Donations of pre-loved children's fancy dress costumes dropped to the school office this Friday at morning drop-off or at afternoon pick up. These will then be sold outside school on Monday afternoon from 3.00pm by parent volunteers, £1 per costume.
- Suggestion from a parent to change plastic water bottles to metal bottles. FoM committee felt this wasn't a FoM issue and will refer back to the school. It was suggested rather than throwing out all old plastic water bottles, metal water bottles could be offered to new students or as replacements to lost plastic bottles.

- Anita asked for FoM to donate some Mead Logo bags to take food supplies to away sports fixtures. All agreed to donate some bags for this purpose.
- Shelley Wadsworth asked about logo bags for the Year 6 Young Enterprise Group. TM will discuss this with the FoM executive committee

Next meeting Wednesday 1 May, 8.30am in school dining room.

Letter from Mrs Gemma Wilson, STEAM Co-ordinator – 3D Printer

Dear FoM,

The 3D printer is now up and running! 2M were the lucky class to see its first print and now the proud owners of a very successful 3D 'M' but a not so perfect 2! Computer Science can now have a CAD element and we can really embrace the engineering aspect of STEAM. I'll be sharing cross curricular opportunities with staff over the next term, as it could be used in maths, young enterprise, supporting EYFS, story-telling ...the opportunities are endless! A wonderful asset for the school.

Big thank you,

Gemma Wilson.