

Minutes

Multi-schools meeting - Brentwood

Wednesday 16th March

Virtual meeting

In attendance

St Johns

Endeavour

Apologies - Larchwood, Shenfield St Mary's, Brightside, Ingatestone, Mayflower, West Horndon, Quilters, ECC SEND team

Minutes

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 we had to do a last-minute move to an online meeting. This was a smaller meeting compared to other areas of Essex but we still had some brilliant ideas from the group.

Our meeting started with some ideas on how to prevent racism across the county and beyond. The group would like to see more opportunities to get to know other children from different backgrounds, have an anti-racism day that celebrates our differences, have a poster competition, make sure people know it doesn't matter what you look like, it matters if you are kind or rude, promote kindness in schools, call it out if you see it happening, involve teachers and make sure it's an important part of the anti-bullying policy.

Next up we discussed covid-19 and what children felt about it now. Comments included;

- Making sure we respect each other's personal choices about time off school or social distancing
- Encourage more vaccinations (popular)
- Encourage fun but keep people safe
- Explain changes
- It's been hard not seeing family members
- Limit people in busy places
- Ensure children can have freedom

These ideas will form part of our covid-19 document.

Before our e-break we had one more item to discuss. We spoke about how we could better support children's speaking and listening skills. The ideas included getting bigger social groups together, promote phonics in schools, do more partner work, have better friendship groups, have more youth clubs return (popular), have more games clubs for children online, more opportunities to different sports such as paddleboarding, more games in the playground, better teacher role models and promoting the use of sounds. All comments will be considered as part of our speaking and listening project across the county. We paused there so everyone could go and have a break.

The technology was on our side as we returned, and we were able to share our screen so that the group could firstly discuss ideas for our awards event. At our next awards event the children would like to see a looking after the environment award (popular), independence award, leadership award, art award, teamwork award, global citizenship award, good language award, sports award (popular), and a kindness award.

Our final agenda item of the day was to look at our website. Again, because we were on a virtual meeting, we were able to share our screen so that the group could all see the website and they could then make suggestions how to improve it;

- Text speech
- Games
- More colour - possibly pink, orange or gold
- Have a mascot on the page
- Include more videos
- Have a competition feature
- A school collaboration video that talks about the meetings
- More positive language
- Plenty more pictures

We will be working over the coming months to see how we can respond to these ideas. The star for this online meeting was Elizabeth for some great ideas throughout the meeting, she would also like to remind people that racism can take many different forms and is not always about someone's skin colour.

Next meeting - Thursday 23rd June , 10am - 11:30am, Shenfield St Mary's

Follow up points

- Can you create some posters for anti-racism?
- Can you do a short video about some of the key points from the meeting?