

PTA meeting Wednesday, 25th January 2017

Q&A with our PYP Principal and Coordinator Mr.Stef Fleet

a. Longer school day for lower PYP.

Management needs to look at how it affects teaching time/lessons/ a long term project. Maybe hire an ART teacher?

Parents/Teacher survey to record parent interest?

Look at what other International Schools are doing..

Extend lesson times (transition times)

b. Longer recess.

This could support extending the school day.

Lower PYP need extra time to be appropriately dressed for outdoors.

c. Buddy system for new students starting in the PYP mid year and how teachers can help students to integrate.

List of class representatives to be sent out and class rep to be notified when new families arrive so they can reach out.

Buddy system from different grades. Pyp1-pyp4 etc

CAS – project?

Student council can assist.

d. The ban of Pokemon cards at school because of stealing.

Talk to the students about honesty and trust.

Check in cards at the beginning of ASCP?

e. Sports hall - at some point we heard there were plans to build one. Is there an update on it?

The architects are still looking into the design.

f. Morning coffee for parents - e.g. on Friday mornings - we used to have it last year - would people like to have it?

There is no morning coffee club at school. There is now a Mum's club via FB
OEIS Mum's club

g. ManageBac - I personally find it annoying that it is not possible to notify other parents in an easy way. We have the contact list for classes - but sometimes it's not up to date. Also there is an overhead to ask the teacher to communicate

every message. I would volunteer to follow up with the group/person responsible for ManageBac and can help to fix it.

We are in the process of checking with ManageBac if we can make a setting for our school, at present we cannot.

h. Regarding the message below, "Best Practice" regarding urgent communications like this are that a message is sent by SMS because parents are unlikely to be certain of checking their personal emails at work. For many reasons, there is a much better chance of a parent being more likely to react to a notification sound on their personal phone about an SMS during work time than an email. At the very least, if we can agree a standard for these types of email then we can set-up an email Rule that triggers a loud sound notification on our phones. E.g. the email rule could state that "For emails from noreply@managebac.com where the Subject contains "Urgent" then play a sound and/or vibrate". But that would require that the school agrees to take on the responsibility of always having this consistency in place.

This relates to the wider issue of what policies the school has in place for urgent communications to parents, right the way from communication to a single parent to parents of all the children??

The school has contacted ManageBac about this request. ManagaBac have replied that "This is definitely something we have considered and are continuing to look into. However as this is a quite complicated coding request, it's not likely to occur within this year."

The school will look into purchase of software that can load all the phone numbers for alerts in case of emergency.

i. Mindfulness training for children - I'm attending a mindfulness training at work and got inspired that it could be very effective with kids - especially these days when we are distracted by so many inputs. I've found out there is an app: Yogo nu. The app includes small mindful breaks of 3 min. focusing on breathing, movement and attention exercises for kids to use in the class. Would anyone be interested in trying it out?

We could add this to our community Facebook page.

Principals could introduce this to teachers/Mentor teachers . Use in the classroom during transition times, after recess etc.

1. How many school days are there in the year? Some parents asked to be bale to plan their holidays.

The number of school days can vary from year to year.

January newsletter has the start date in August (16th August 2017)

Planning on updating the school calendar to make it more user friendly and to publish holidays earlier.

2. Invitation to a Q&A session with our MYP Coordinator Ms. Anna Söderström. This will be held at school on Wednesday, 8th February 2017 from 11.00-11.30am. The focus of this Q&A will be Assessment in the MYP. Do parents understand the assessment criteria?

Please contact Anna Söderström at as@oeis.dk for more information.

3. Cyber Bullying in the MYP/DP. There will be a workshop organised during the Spring term about Cyber Bullying and how parents can monitor and ensure safe use of the internet. Focus will be on the use of "Snap Chat", "Facebook", "Instagram" and the safe and age appropriate use of the web.

Please contact Anna Söderström at as@oeis.dk for more information.

4. World Book Day - Edible Books - Volunteers needed. Please contact

MsAndrée Keenoy at anke@oeis.dk for information

5. Donation Evening - DP event raising money for Marafiki Orphanage. Date: Friday, 3rd March 2017 from 6:30pm - 8:30pm Food donation from DP families?

Please contact Katrina Salinas at kasa@oeis.dk if you can bring food for this event (food can be brought in the morning with your child)

6. Cleaning issues regarding toilets and classrooms:

The Headmaster and Management team are meeting to resolve this issue.