HEADTEACHER’S REPORT (Josephine - Headteacher - Maze Hill)

Josephine started off by expressing her appreciation for support from parents and the work of the JRSA. She then went on to answer some questions from parents regarding the OFSTED report and UST.

I.) Questions: The Ofsted report stated that
A. SEND pupils do not make adequate progress
B. Middle ability pupils have the weakest progress.
C. Not enough balance regarding options available after 6th Form, too university focused.
D. Plus there was a request for an official statement from HT / Governors regarding UST update/progress.

Answers:
A. SEND provision - School is starting a new review looking at the use of resources and staffing - how to provide best support. As part of a new school Action Plan, Jemma Clarke (SEND Line-manager) knows what needs to be addressed but needs time to implement / manage improvements.
B. Middle ability pupils - there has been a change in staffing / SLT structure regarding accountability. SLT will now oversee year groups, collect data and hold departments to account regarding middle ability pupils. Most year groups have a data drop every half term. This can identify pupils who are under achieving (and also high performing pupils who are not meeting targets)
C. From September, the Government has new information regarding independent advice / guidance regarding Post 16. It’s not just provided by the school. Support/information is given in tutor time and via PRIDE days. All Year 11s are given bespoke advice from qualified careers officers. They have also been to a Careers Fair at the Excel centre to explore Post 16 options. Yr 12/13 have a programme re: life/options after 6th Form. The school makes sure all pupils are exposed to the varied options. School has links with KPMG, Reuters (there are different programmes & opportunities for mentorship, apprenticeships etc)
D. There has been a delay in receiving feedback. Lots of extra paperwork required due to overly complex school structure (School plus Foundation etc). Cath Smith has spoken to Graham Price. The UST have been in school the last few weeks - as part of the due diligence. The strikes are not delaying the process, it’s mainly due to complicated school structure. Josephine will talk to Graham Price regarding information /updates for parents.

II) STRIKES

- Parents advised that it’s not the strikes slowing the process down. (However the strikes are destabilising and are a drain on the school). David Skinner (Chair of Governors) is drafting a letter to parents.
- Facebook group : Supporting the John Roan.
- An Open Letter has been written and signed by many parents supporting Cath and her leadership and not supporting the strikes. It also mentions the damaging effects of strikes.
- It was noted that many parents feel strongly that the John Roan Resists group are behaving very inappropriately eg leafleting pupils outside the school.
- GMB now planning strike action; if the NEU refuse to cross the picket line the Head has no choice but to close the school or offer only very limited lessons/activities.
- A number of parents have volunteered to help support revision groups for Year 11s.

III) LITERACY GUESTS - Staff members Emma Page & Leanne George talked about Literacy.

- There is no Literacy Co-ordinator currently in place at the school. According to the Ofsted report, literacy needs to be a priority. Emma & Leanne want to build a culture of reading within the school, not just as part of the curriculum but involving after school groups etc too. They hope that the JRSA can support a Literacy
Scheme which would provide book boxes for each tutor group, with pupils taking responsibility for the boxes. The focus is on learning to read, promoting a reading ethos, building teacher/parent support, cross-curriculum work.

- Bella Landon has volunteered her husband Jim who could design a logo for the boxes (Thank you to Bella)
- Partnerships with local primary schools could be set up where JR pupils could read to younger children to promote literacy. (Good for lower reading abilities) It was noted that West Greenwich library promotes a special 'Reading To Dogs' scheme - which works well for nervous/ poor readers.
- Can a Donation point /Dropbox be set up at both receptions for book donations? Can parents be fully informed about what books students are reading? This helps reinforce home learning. Also, same with 'Word of the Week'.
- It would be helpful to have more information for parents re: curriculum topics, reading etc eg on Show my Homework. Maybe a message area for parents?
- It was suggested that Emma and Leanne link up with Greenwich Book Week
- Trish Bullen agreed to look into how we can become a Charity to enable us to raise more funds.

IV ) FUNDS & FUNDRAISING

- It was noted that JRSA money available £3621.66 (mainly from the lottery scheme), Eve /Julie to ask HODs for bids.
- A proposal was put forward requesting funding for cost of breakfast for a number of children receiving Maths tuition. the committee decided that it was a large sum to spend on 15 children - however Livy volunteered to write a letter to some local businesses who might be able to fund/sponsor the breakfast, Eve said she could contact Marks & Spencer.
- Angeline the Catering Manager has asked for £50-60 for sports equipment for Maze Hill lunch play. This was agreed to at the meeting. Livy to pass on details to Eve/Julie of a sports company that provides balls/equipment for the Catering Manager.
- It was agreed to regularly promote the lottery and easyfundraising - in school weekly newsletter and on the website. Eve to contact Cath to find out if the JRSA can have a regular slot to promote fundraising and events etc in the newsletter. We could contribute a piece each week.
- Date of Christmas concert - Tuesday 18th December
  Raffle prizes needed and volunteers to help with bar. 5.45 set up for 6.30pm start
  Amber will do a stock take. Juliana may be able to supply some wine at good price?
- A Grand raffle is planned for February- does anyone have connections to get BIG prizes? (Ask in newsletter)
  Will hope to sell tickets online. Julie will contact the school so that a letter on headed paper can be provided re: Grand Raffle to help secure prizes.
- A Quiz night is planned - date to be agreed.
- A JRSA Pizza night is planned to be held at The Prince of Greenwich pub in January/Feb. Dates to be checked/confirmed. Ruth to research possible dates.
- Summer BBQ - date tbc
- It was agreed that we would investigate details of charitable status. (JRSA does not have formal charitable status - we are a school association - a type of PTA)

JOHN ROAN CLUB - JR Club is based on the playing fields. The land is owned by the Foundation and landlady pays rent. It is £15 per year to become a member, this includes a low cost bar, tennis courts, quiz nights, theatre club, football and cricket. Membership also means you can cheaply hire the hall which holds 120-150 people. (It was agreed to put details on the website and in newsletter)

NEXT MEETING DATE - Next JRSA meeting - Tuesday 29th January 2019 6.45pm at Westcombe Park site.