



## **London Christian School Parent Body Meeting**

Monday 20 January 8:15am – 9:00am  
New Hall, 40 Tabard Street, London, SE1 4JU

Apologies: T O-S, ER rep.

### **Points from last meeting**

#### **Alumni involvement**

NCW will be looking into an extravaganza for LCS's 20th year celebration in 2027. Alumni will be invited.

#### **Hot lunches**

We are in a learning phase and are working hard on adapting the menu based upon feedback. Since menu amendments, children are enjoying the food more and many are coming up for seconds; fresh fruit is now available each day. There has also been positive feedback from the parents.

The question of whether lunches will become compulsory was raised. Highly likely yes, though final decision to be made.

**Actions:** A further Hot lunch survey to be sent out before the Easter break. NCW to liaise with CE regarding how hot lunches will be invoiced in the future.

#### **Temporary parking for visitors**

This is not currently available. There are a couple of avenues being explored and we will ask the council whether a section of residence parking in zone D could be converted to pay by phone bays, since it is currently under utilised.

**Action:** NCW will liaise with FM to take forward

### **Points brought forward for discussion**

#### **Christmas Market 2024 - review**

NCW thanked all those involved in putting this on. It was a great success. Areas discussed included:

##### **Volunteers - Committee, Parent Body, general involvement**

- The committee worked well together. Many people have already volunteered to help out on the day of the 2025 Christmas market.
- EW is happy to lead again and would like to simplify the general communication to volunteers so that the majority of this is team based rather than led by the committee. The ideal scenario being team leaders for each stall organising their own rota and recruiting volunteers for this themselves.
- There needs to be a bigger decorating team at the start of the day, and a bigger clearing team, with defined roles when the market has ended. The school cleaners come in on Friday evening. The question was raised about whether the cleaners could do an additional session after the Market if proceeds from it were used to pay for this.
- **Actions:** Committee to consider having a signup link for volunteers with time slots. NCW to liaise with FM to see if cleaners could come after the Market as a one off. If we continue with Parent Body cleaning afterwards several hoovers should be brought in by volunteers to enable this.

### **School space usage and introducing key events during the Market**

- Space was well utilised. As stalls need to spread between rooms it would be good to have a bell/ signal to announce the choir performance and other key events during the Market, and to allow gathering time before the performance starts.
- **Action:** JC to ask choir to be in position and then wait for the audience to be ready for them before the singing performance starts.

### **Hampers**

- The committee will be changing the themes to be broader. e.g. Master chef, Movie night, News Years Eve, Spa hamper etc. and may ask some local businesses if they would like to donate a voucher for use in their shop. We will scrap the suggested contents list.

### **Refreshments**

- It was good to have food and drink together. It is considered worth having more price points for cakes so that some are within pocket money range.
- Drinks, particularly mulled wine could be priced higher next time.
- We remain grateful for the relationship with Starbucks and their provision of free coffee to sell on the day.
- **Actions:** Committee to ensure there is a good handover to the next person in charge. Consider price points for baked items.

### **The Eco store**

- It would be great if this stall has more pupil momentum in the lead up to the market, and more ownership by pupils in years 4 and below particularly on the day (Years 5 and 6 being involved in Enterprise). There may be other ways Eco council could be involved e.g. recycling ideas for the end of the market.
- **Action:** LE speak with SJC about Eco council's role next time.

### **Enterprise stall**

- More oversight is required on the day, and VW considers it would be worth the Treasurer having a discussion with the pupils beforehand about money handling to set expectations.
- The magic show was fun and would be worth repeating.

### **Other Pupil involvement**

- It may be possible to have children helping run the stalls under their parents supervision.

### **Making payments**

- Cash is still the easiest way to manage the Market.
- **Action:** VW will liaise with AR about any practicalities.

### **Other stalls**

- The idea of having LCS merchandise for sale was mooted e.g. Tote bags and water bottles using the Black and White designs by AW.
- **Action:** Parent body to investigate.

### **Door checker**

- For security, consider children having wristbands.

## **Other Parent Body involvement this year.**

### **Sports day**

- Last May was the first time the Parent body ran this. Next time they will call for more helpers - possibly 2 parents per hour slot, plus help with set up and clear up.
- **Actions:** early Summer term Parent Body WhatsApp message and newsletter to request volunteers with link to email VT. Possibly conversation by someone on the Parent Body with Cawston to see if they will provide some drinks.

### **An international Event**

- **Action:** Parent Body to consider whether to organise one of these.

## **AOB**

### **Girls winter shoes**

- An option is to wear lace ups which may be warmer than other choices

### **Marketing**

- Do spread the word about LCS.

### **School VAT legal challenge**

- LCS are not involved in this. It is not a class action, but there are schools representing various school types in the independent school sector

### **PE**

- This will remain under the KICK contract for now. NCW is in conversations with them regarding the sports curriculum offered with a view to making it more extensive. KICK is an agency so it should be anticipated that there could be several different PE teachers over the course of an academic year.

### **Adverts for jobs**

- The catering job was specifically advertised in the newsletter as a role which might suit someone in the school community. Usually school roles are advertised externally.

### **Gap year internships**

- NCW will look into Alumni work experience and short term internships.

### **Lunar new year**

- A request was made to use this new description as many cultures celebrate this event.

## **Parents going on school trips**

- Sometimes staff ask for parents to join them on a school trip. Those who volunteer would like to hear back even if their offer is not being taken up. A consistency of approach would also be helpful.
- **Action:** NCW to feedback to staff.