

# **Booster monthly meeting 12 September 2016**

## **Minutes**

### **PRESENT**

Totti Aris, Ivan Camillieri, Lorna Macpherson. Denise Costa, Natalia Gusarov, Tanja Hetherington, Amanda Kaye, Marisha Steenkamer, Christina Meyer, Ulrike Boye-Holzer, Stephania Dalli, Fiona Ambery, Meredith Durrant, Jenny Beane, Clare Sheasby, Jatvardur Vilhjars, Helene Touchain, Zoe Martin, Maltina and Andrew Hogg, Gia Janks, Manali Jagtap Nyheim, Sean Holt.

Apologies were received from Tilla Andersson and Melissa Kent.

### **ADDRESS BY HEAD OF SCHOOL**

Ms Totti Aris

The new VIS Head of School made a short address highlighting the challenges ahead during the coming school year and focussing on her wish to improve communication between the school and parents. The school has a new teacher LaTosha who is very experienced in Managebac and her influence can already be seen on the system. LaTosha is planning to offer clinics to parents to help them get the best out of the system. Totti has already started a Twitter feed for updating parents on events and for sharing educational news. An additional project is to create a shared electronic calendar, and perhaps have a school Facebook page.

### **COMMENTS BY BOOSTER CHAIR.**

Sean made some comments, principally for the benefit of new parents, on the Boosters in general.

He outlined the purpose of the Boosters - To improve the feeling of community within the school . A secondary objective is to make money to spend on improving facilities for students and staff.

Boosters have built up a series of Booster events. BBQ, Halloween, Christmas, Easter Fun Day, International night. Events limited only by the enthusiasm and volunteers. Previously Boosters have run car sales, raffles, Auction of promises etc. Any other suggestions welcome.

These events are an important part of school life, Bring parents and teachers together and are popular with the children and are well attended. They are big events with 700-800 participants who need to be fed, served drinks, with seating, rubbish collection, safety and security. Big task. All run by volunteers.

All money raised is spent on facilities for the children and students that makes their lives at school better.

Recent projects shading in ES and HS. Recreational seating in HS.

Replacement climbing frame for ES.

Artificial turf and seating in MS.

All projects completed in close collaboration with the school.

We have money for more ideas.

**VOLUNTEERS. FUNDAMENTAL TO BOOSTERS NO VOLUNTEERS NO EVENTS.**

Need experts for **specific projects**.

Table tennis tables for MS playground. Research, cost, and propose supplier. We have a budget to pay.

Repaint the ES playground markings.

Climbing wall. (We have an expert parent sponsor for this)

**Need volunteers for activities on the night of events.**

Halloween big event end October with lots of games, We need lots of volunteers 50+

Tasks include serving at the Bar, selling tickets, food serving, run games. We all have children at the school and we try to programme volunteers so that they have time with their own children. Calls made by managebac please respond.

**Longer term tasks.** Specific and limited.

We have people for some tasks such as

Pizza making team.

Merchandising,

Stationery,

Bar and drink stock and ordering.

Posters

The preparation of Halal food at events.

**NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR:**

Manager for the Booster room and equipment. (Amanda has kindly volunteered to take this on.)

Manage stock of disposable plates, cups and glasses for events and order through Zamco.

Co ordinate Booster publicity: Web site, social media, signage, and announcements. Twitter? Facebook.

If you would like to help come and talk to us. We will limit your involvement to what you are prepared to offer and then stick to that.

**STATIONERY AND MERCHANDISING**

Boosters also run a stationery shop in MS and HA open every school day and run by Zoe.

We are also planning to launch a new collection of casual clothing with the school logo at the BBQ.

## **TREASURER**

Fiona ( treasurer) confirmed that we have funds for projects with a opening balance at the start of the year of Euro 22,163.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR.**

Mariska suggested that consideration be given to introducing all teachers to the parents perhaps at the BBQ or at the syllabus days.

Gia suggested that Boosters should have a Facebook page. After some discussion it was decided to see how this could be integrated with the school Facebook page.

Mariska highlighted the role of the class parents and asked that the school facilitate contacts between Class Parents and parents by circulation parents e mail addresses.

Totti responded that this was in hand and would depend on parent responses to the emergency form currently being circulated by the school.

Natalia suggested that parents be invited to talk to students about their occupations to allow children to get a better idea of what they might choose to do in the future.

Sean responded that the VIS Careers Counsellor Rose-Anne Trapani, had asked Boosters for assistance on a similar topic to help inform High School students of career opportunities. This is in hand.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Sean commented that it is difficult to find a time and place for Booster meetings convenient to all. However the next meeting will be held at 2-pm in the High School on Monday 10 October