



Supporting British Values

&

Democracy in action

Minutes:

School Council members present:

❖ HB	Butterfly class
AB	Ladybird class
EP	Giraffe class
MS	Tiger class
NA	Leopard class
YS	Parrot class
AR	Dolphin class
HF	Bear class
DM	Owl class
YK	Class 3
HB	Lion class
CT	Eagle class

Apologies were sent from Bumblebee class

- ❖ Today we finished looking at the letter of the S M I L E project to make people at our school feel happy. The letter "L" stands for "learn something new" and Mr. Wiggin told everyone that the members of staff at Old Park had learned some Salsa steps when Mrs. Cairns taught them at a staff meeting. School Council watched a short video and we all learned the two basic steps by following an example. Salsa music was then added and we danced to the music. Pupils in wheelchairs were pushed forward and back at their teachers danced to the Salsa.
- ❖ The letter "E" stands for "engage" and find ways of helping other people. Some friends of Old Park School are in a group called The Buffs. They raise money for our school and have recently donated £3,000 to buy a new standing frame. We looked at photographs of standing frames. The Buffs want to raise even more money for the school and have asked us to think about what would make the biggest impact for our pupils. Here are some suggestions
  - Mr. Rogers, our site manager, has suggested the Sensory Garden as a new project for the Buffs. This would provide the students with a special place to go to smell plants and feel different textures.
  - Switch toys to aid communication.
  - New books for the school library. This was suggested by Eagle class.
  - Motivating toys to encourage Picture Exchange (PECs). This was suggested by Dolphin class.
  - Outside play equipment to make dinnertimes more fun. This was suggested by Butterfly class.
  - Outside gym equipment for healthy lifestyles. This was suggested by Class 3.

More communication aids such as Big Macs and Go Talks. This was suggested by Tiger class.

Mr. Wiggin suggested that the whole school could be part of an election to choose the next fund-raising project for the Buffs. We looked at a post of Modern British Values and one of them is democracy. Our country is having a General Election on 12<sup>th</sup> December and we could vote on that day too. The Common Room could be made into a Polling Station and each class could visit during the day to cast their votes.

Minutes by S. Burrell, A. Knight & J. Wiggin