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## **International Pupil Council** **Meeting Minutes**

Venue: WISE building  
Chaired by Mr P. Browning

Date: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014

### **1. Packed lunch at 12.30pm**

**2. Present:** Abdul T, Natalie B & Shahin Z (Collingwood Primary), Jack & Madison (Marfleet Primary), Bradley D & Ben S (Oakfield School), Chinmala O & Qaiser A (Pearson Primary), Alex C & Joel C R (Priory Primary), Mason L & Shannon K (St. George's Primary), Joshua B & Rileigh G (St. Richard's Primary), Mr Browning, Mohsin A & Lottie S (Stepney Primary), Caitlin D & Harvey R (Stoneferry Primary), Anya & Hannah (Thanet Primary), Jennifer B & Stuart D (Thomas Ferens Academy), Abigail F, Elliot C & James R (Winifred Holtby Academy),

**3. Apologies:** apologies were received from Chiltern Primary & Thorpe Park Primary

**4. Minutes from the last meeting:** The minutes from November 2013 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

**5. Matters Arising:** Schools were not able to confirm that they had done work for Human Rights Day in December. It is important that we consider what schools are doing for the next themed day.

### **6. Individual School Activities – including news about School Visits to Freetown**

#### **Bellfield Primary**

They had sent letters to Sierra Leone and were awaiting replies back.

#### **Collingwood Primary**

They had a non-uniform day to raise money for the Philippines, where there had been a typhoon. £250 was raised and given to a charity to help provide houses, food and water.

#### **Marfleet Primary**

Children from the link school in Sierra Leone had written to them and they had written back. They are awaiting further correspondence.

#### **Oakfield School**

A Sierra Leonian teacher came over and spoke to the pupils. They have set up direct links and are awaiting replies from letters sent.

#### **Priory Primary**

They had been selling 'Fair Trade' produce and have been writing letters to Sierra Leone. They are currently waiting for a reply.

#### **St. Richards Primary**

They have been raising money to give to CATHOD. They have sold fruit and veg for this purpose.

#### **Stepney Primary**

They, like other schools in the city, had not received funding from the British Council in the autumn so couldn't send a teacher. They, like the other schools, had been told by the BC a few weeks ago that the funding was now there and they could send a teacher. This is planned for the start of the autumn term 2014.

They showed the school website link to a site called Kidblog, in which they post examples of work from around the school. During the last week, they have been un-indated with blogs from Fairview Elementary School in Bellevue, Nebraska, USA.

Bellfield are also on Kidblog and blogging to other countries around the world.

#### **Stoneferry Primary**

They have given old laptops and money to Sierra Leone. A lady from SL had visited them.

#### **Thanet Primary**

They had been hearing about sweatshops. Pupils explained that these are where people have to make clothes for the Western market in appalling conditions for very low wages. They watched a video about this and then presented arguments for and against this practice. The decision went against having sweatshops.

#### **Thomas Ferens' Academy**

They had a 'Red Hand' day which is a campaign to stop child soldiers, of which there are some in Sierra Leone. Pupils presented two folders showing art work and photos of activities that had taken place.

They had written a letter to the British Prime Minister about this issue.

#### **Winifred Holtby**

There have been exchange visits to Sierra Leone. They are planning some more fund raising again.

### **7. Planning for World Malaria Day (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April)**

Mr Browning showed a website and explained briefly about the problems of Malaria around the world and how many people it affected. As a group, pupils discussed what the problems were: i.e. that it occurs in the tropics (we had a quick geography lesson about where the tropics are and how these differ from the Polar and Temperate regions of the world). It happens where there is stagnant water and mosquitoes breed. They then bite and infect people.

The IPC then separated into four groups. Two considered this question first while two others considered the next question. Groups then changed over after a quick refreshment break and did the questions they hadn't covered.

All groups presented their findings at the end of the session. The following lists are summaries of all the groups recommendations. There were many duplications, which showed that everyone was thinking along similar lines:

- sponsored runs/bikes/silences/hack (horse riding), talent contests/music shows/football games;
- fairs;
- send food;
- send medicines (to keep the mosquitoes from biting kids and people and killing them);
- send over tablets and laptops;
- help to build hospitals;
- look after the environment project;
- panto in-a-day;
- car boot sale;
- bag packing at Asda or Morrisons;
- sell T-shirts;
- car wash;
- shoe box appeal;
- raffle;
- tombola;
- bingo;
- letters and emails;
- flowers campaign;
- take fruit to care homes;
- have a joint schools international council across Yorkshire;
- contact Sierra Leone and Africa and try to stop dirty water;
- send equipment for shelters;
- make an advert to tell people to be aware of mosquitoes and dirty water;
- bun sale;
- non-uniform day;
- sell home-made things;
- movie night;
- sports day;
- sell fruit;

## **8. Pupil Voice & Communicating with Freetown and Hastings IPC**

- skype links;
- send videos, dvds;
- kidblog links;
- typewriters;
- facebook;
- emails;
- send more people to Africa etc and they could tell people information;
- penpals;
- record talking and send over the recorders;
- 'Instagram';
- letters;

- texts;
- cards – could send postcards that we have made and laminated – nice and friendly;
- send ipads;
- send gifts;
- set up wifi in SL;
- twitter;
- phone them;
- make up your own communication website;
- produce a newsletter combining all the events we do at different schools in the IPC and send this in paper form.

## 9. Actions

- take these ideas to each of our schools' own school councils;
- send these minutes to Sierra Leone and Hastings IPC;
- suggest a skype link with the Hastings schools for the next IPC meeting.

## 10. A.O.B.

Bellfield & Stepney would welcome other schools to link into kidblog and their link schools around the world. Stepney's link is:

<http://kidblog.org/StepneyPrimarySchool/>

## 11. Dates & Times for Next Meeting

5th June 2014 12.30pm for lunch till 2.30pm