

ROCKMOUNT PCF MEETING – 28 NOV. 2025

Attendees (those present highlighted):

Staff	Helen Carvall (Head), Rebecca Malkin, Mohamad Mohamad, Jennie Gilbertson		
Nursery Silver	Lee Fieldwick, Ali Seal		
Reception Jade	Diana Carberry, Sainab Jamal	Reception Diamond	Moveta Douglas, Christos Pistolas
Year 1 Garnet	Aarti Gandesha, Sophie Matthews	Year 1 Emerald	Carolina Valsecchi, Alex Mellor
Year 2 Onyx	Rachele Rapisardi, Katie Exton	Year 2 Zircon	Kate Cogan, Ros Croker-Ahmed
Year 3 Topaz	Olivia Jackson (Parent Governor), Rob Phillips	Year 3 Opal	Clare Galloway (RFC), Caroline Parker-Sparks
Year 4 Crystal	Jessica Morris (Chair), Jo Alder	Year 4 Quartz	Lesley Baer-Took (Chair), Chris Rowe (Minutes)
Year 5 Sapphire	Sally Preston	Year 5 Moonstone	Eloise Rowley, Helen Dodd (RFC)
Year 6 Pearl	Dionne King	Year 6 Coral	

- **Oracy - presentation** from Rebecca Malkin about the school partnership with Oracy Cambridge to lead a local authority wide two-year programme
 - Schools have focused on reading and are excelling in this; now a focus on having children improve their ability to talk (e.g., how to ask questions, how to actively listen, how to link topics in a conversation, etc).
 - Oracy will be embedded in everything across the curriculum (maths etc.)
 - Further resources to explore:
 - <https://oracycambridge.org/oracy-research-lesson-study/> (Pete Dudley)
 - <https://oracycambridge.org/> (Neil Mercer)
 - <https://www.topsypage.com/>

Action: Helen/Rebecca to share presentation on school website.

- **Sports team initiatives** for this term - Mohamad Mohamad
 - Football Friday – delivering greater engagement with girls – changing mindsets
 - Tournament with Virgo Fidelis – Pokemon Cup (1/3 applicants from girls)
 - ASC football club (inc. reception now) – moved indoors – building confidence
 - Thursday club, low uptake from girls
 - Tuesday training with school football team in prep for tournament
 - FA Pokemon football initiative – looking to sign up and increase engagement

- Parent offer to increase engagement with girls football
- **Safeguarding / H&S** - Misogyny-free schools initiative and partnership with Croydon – Jessica Morris
 - Creating resource hub for primary schools
 - Rockmount to do some pilot interventions (classes, assemblies, etc) and document them
 - Conducting survey in Croydon Schools – 13 / 30 responses so far – other schools looking to engage, requests for support and resources
 - Exploring opportunities and incentives for primary schools
 - Contact Jessica if you would like to be involved.
- **School Fund letter** – Olivia Jackson, Parent Governor
 - Governors have agreed wording of letter. Invitation for direct family contributions (donations) to the school. Will be sent out in February and introduced in school newsletter.
 - Voluntary donations (£8–10 per month per family)
 - Other schools locally do this. It is for the “enrichment of our children’s education” “nice to have” – not for wages etc.
 - Payment details will be in the letter
 - Reception currently have a separate donation scheme as they use a lot of resources.

Action: Helen to speak to Reception teachers about either having a cash donation box or using the voluntary donations instead.
- **Finance FAQs** – Jennie Gilbertson, School Business Manager
 - **SumUp card machines**
 - More should now be available for big events (like fairs) and also for £1 donations (e.g., Red Nose Day); however, cash is preferred as SumUp take a few cents for every £1.
 - **Paypal point of service app** has been set-up which can use 5G

- **ParentPay** - Class trips – there is a way to choose an amount over or under the requested price discrepancy in price by selecting “choose an amount”. Some parents have mastered this; some haven’t. It’s unclear if there a difference between the phone / laptop platforms.

Action: Jennie to show screen-shots of the booking process in an upcoming newsletter.

- **RFC (Fundraising)**– Clare Galloway
 - New team – looking to encourage greater parent engagement
 - Christmas fundraising: fair – Pedder >£1000; Christmas cards; Raffle – selling to commence soon.
 - Volunteers – still need 1/3, please encourage other parents to join in
 - School and parents expressed gratitude for all the work the new team have put in.
- **Staff appreciation** – Jessica Morris (co-chair)
 - Ideas for showing appreciation to staff:
 - Class WhatsApp donation collections etc for teachers quite common Christmas and end of year.
 - WhatsApp groups to encourage considering non-teaching staff
 - Are there days in the year (Teacher appreciation days etc.) that a coordinated response could be organised / communicated?
 - Encourage parents/carers to share positive stories to encourage positive feedback for staff
 - Helen noted that teachers really appreciate positive stories shared with them by parents/carers which can be done through the class email – it really helps morale.
 - There has been a positive impact for staff who have used cards for peer-peer encouraging feedback, following input from David Burgess-Belay Coaching.
- **PCF admin**
 - Lesley and Jessica as chairs were confirmed in July, but introduced to new reps for 2025/26 year.
 - Let chairs know in summer term if interested in chairing next year (2026/27)
 - Chris and Rachele to take minutes
 - PCF WhatsApp to remain key comms channel – group or direct to chairs. Please use between 7pm-7am.

- There will also be an email address (school or gmail – TBC). Email can be shared for parents/carers to communicate direct with chairs if they prefer.
Action: Jennie to confirm if PCF can have a school email account.
- Please review the comms policy and PCF FAQs for yourself, and signpost parents/carers: PCF is for enriching the school, not day to day gripes.
 - Comms policy: <https://www.rockmountprimaryschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=709&type=pdf>
 - PCF info, including FAQs:
<https://www.rockmountprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Parent%2FCarer+Forum&pid=144>
- Notice board ready
Action: Need photos from: Ali; Kate; Olivia; Sally; Eloise; Helen; Dionne
- Coral rep - anyone approached?
 - Please ask anyone you know who might be interested
Action: Helen to ask class teacher
- Other ways to loop parents/carers into Whatsapp Group and engage them:
 - Reception had school send text to year group w/rep numbers to capture those not on WhatsApp groups
 - Reps can use QR codes outside of classrooms (especially for younger years)
 - Reps to try to invite all new (especially in-year transfers) parents/carers to WhatsApp groups**Action:** Helen to check the process for new families being given class rep and/or PCF info/PCF email.

Next meeting: 27 February