

Felixstowe Youth Forum

Felixstowe Town Hall, Wednesday 24th January 2024
from 4pm-5pm.

Minutes

1. Introductions:

Colneis Junior School

Grange Community Primary School

Trimley St Mary Primary School

Langer Primary Academy

Level 2

Felixstowe School

Debbie Frost – Felixstowe Town Council, Deputy Town Clerk

Sue Faversham – Felixstowe Town Council, Civic Events Officer

Darren Aitchison – Felixstowe Town Councillor

Bernard Price – Felixstowe Town Councillor

Margaret Morris – Felixstowe Town Councillor

2. Apologies:

Kingsfleet Primary School

Felix Primary School

3. School Presentations

Grange Primary spoke about their Forest school, they won provider with the Forest Trees Association, they are the second school in Suffolk to be awarded this, so quite rightly feel very proud.

Colneis Junior School - Year 6 had a WWII day and dressed up as evacuees, they walked to the imaginary train station and learnt what it would be like to be an evacuee. The children went under their desks when an air raid sounded. The

school has a newspaper written by children. It includes stories, recipes, jokes, facts, interviews and pictures. Years 5 & 6 wrote the first one and now the lower years are taking part.

Year 6 are sports ambassadors, they set up games over lunchtime for the younger children. Last week Colneis walked to Fairfield Infant school and set-up and led games which helped them with their development.

Colneis have an eco-friendly, outside, wildlife area at their school. The pond area has recently been improved and they are looking forward to seeing if they have tadpoles this year. Mrs Churchyard their outdoor learning teacher teaches some of the science lessons outside, surrounded by nature. Recently they have had cameras with motion sensors fitted and looked at the images they had captured, and found out that birds, hedgehogs, squirrels, foxes and even a cat use their nature area and drink from the pond. Their Eco Warriors are working hard on a new project to make their school a nature park and are taking part in the Big Schools' Bird Watch.

Trimley St Mary have started thinking about the forest area of the school where they used to grow vegetables, looked after by the Garden club, they have now developed a tool shed. Each year has a forest school session, last week's session was all about space going from planet to planet, answering questions. Year 6 met at the fire pit and discussed astronaut training, it was a scavenger hunt using hidden facts cards, it has been very useful and they have referred to it in Science lessons since. They have made their own bubble sticks, and their own hot chocolates. Outdoor learning is very important, they have a school governor who has a special interest in outdoor learning. There are benches and an outdoor library. They often work outside when they can.

Level 2 are putting together a video to demonstrate everything they are doing at Level 2 to put on their website and for use to show to schools about what they do. Anyone who is interested in being involved in the video or wishing to watch should contact them. They are looking forward to hearing young people's voices and it is a nice way to highlight the services they provide. They are hoping to get the video out in next few weeks.

Level 2 now have an allotment in partnership with the Grove Medical Centre and are looking to encourage young people and families. They are hoping to create a Facebook page, anyone interested please contact Lucinda. They are looking forward to having a fruitful environment for young people to have conversations there.

Felixstowe School:

They have 4 Enrichment days each year, so far they have had 2 different ones. On these days they do extra activities, 'Living in the wider world', 'Health and wellbeing'. They are different for each year. Year 11 did 'Healthy body and healthy mind' which was interesting talking about toxic relationships. Year 10 had mock interviews which can go towards ribbons which is good for getting into college. Year 12 went to church and learnt about Christianity and met the Nuns in Felixstowe. Year 13 had 'Debating moral dilemmas', which helped them understand what makes you a good member of the community.

4. Youth Forum Budget

Everyone spoke about their ideas for spending the Youth Forum Budget. Playgrounds featured on everyone's list. The Deputy Town Clerk spoke about how the Town Council receives funds called CIL which stands for Community Infrastructure Levy and are currently looking to spend some of its money towards new play equipment and also benches and CCTV. She thanked everyone for the lovely ideas that all the schools had come up with and explained that there is currently a play review on parks which can be found at <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/HPMFK9S> The consultation ends on 1 March 2024.

Please see attached for list of all the ideas.

The group decided that it would be good to have vouchers for Garden Centres to spend on their outdoor spaces.

5. Any other business

It would be good to notify each meeting who will be chairing the next meeting.

6. Date of next meeting - Wednesday 20th March, 4-5pm.

Please note the May meeting has been changed to 1st May 2024