

Attending: Staff and parents
Monday 23 March, 2015
3-4pm

PTA - Meeting minutes

Field trip on Saturday to Khon Kaen Zoo

- Create a signup sheet for those who want to take the school bus (Free)
- Can meet up at the zoo at 9:30am
- Or can meet up at the school at 7:30am
- The school will reserve the large golf carts for the group
- Foreigners can show the Thai driving license to get discounted entry rate
- Parents and children to pay entrance fees to park
- Discuss at the staff meeting any staff that will go

Temperatures outside

- Discussed the need for kids to play outside to meet their recommended quota of physical exercise.
- Everyone agreed that the school can come up with policies and procedures to govern outdoor play when it is hot and raining
- Parents suggested that children must wear hats, sunscreen and have access to shade
- The school can provide sunscreen and parents can opt out of this if they don't want this applied to their children

Milk bottles and disposable containers

- Parents want to ensure that the school uses fresh milk and that this changes daily
- School advised that this is the case, wants to be sustainable
- No problem with using containers instead of individual boxes

Traffic in front of the school

- Children are being dropped off at the far parking lot and then crossing the parking lot by themselves. As we get bigger this could be a problem
- Suggestions for having crosswalk painted on the road to show where children can cross. Also having a parking bay for short-term stops
- Staff on duty need to be aware of children and help them cross
- Parents dropping children off are also advised to park at near spaces or adjacent to school

Concerns/complaints/issues

- Any issues can be emailed or discussed with Michael our PTA coordinator
- If he is aware of the issue he can chase it down and report back on progress
- Parents don't have complaints - just letting us know

Art smocks

- Parents concerned about children coming home with dirty uniforms
- Parents are happy to provide an old shirt for students for art activities or anything messy
- School is also looking into a waterproof, poncho type smock that children could use
- Issues with keeping school supplied clothing clean
- Parent supplied shirts could be kept at the school or in the artroom

Sickness

- Parents were concerned about sickness but also aware that it can happen
- The school said that it takes sickness seriously, children need to stay home if they are sick to prevent the spread of sickness
- The school also said that sickness and absenteeism is a performance issue for staff that it monitors and takes action on

Miscellaneous

- Concern about mosquitos within the classrooms
 - We can use mosquito killing machines at night to help clear
 - The school doesn't want to use insect spray to protect children from harmful effects
 - Concern of K1 child being bitten by mosquitos within the classroom
- Reporting of incidents at school about students, injuries etc
 - Bruising in PE class from ball striking face. Parents want to know what happened
 - The school has incident form and communications procedures for cuts/scrapes etc
- Thai lessons
 - Concern that not enough skill development is going on in Thai lessons
 - Too much culture or art/craft activities
 - The parents want to ensure that their kids are up to speed with Thai as that is a concern for them academically
- ESL
 - Likewise, parents are also concerned about ESL and the support of children where English is not strong
- ESL and TSL ECA's
 - Parents are interested in both ESL and TSL ECA's for their children
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Action items

- Find out about reserving golf carts for the group
- Discuss about outdoor policies and sunscreen (Mike)
- Duty staff on gate aware of children crossing
 - Use of whistles to control traffic or to alert a child to danger

- Mosquito machines in classrooms at night to help clear
- K1 lunch sessions in the class need to be cleaned up thoroughly after lunch to prevent ants
- Reporting of injuries/incidents from PE to parents
- Concerns of children coming home dirty
 - Can request old clothes/painting shirt from parents
- Sickness and keeping kids home to prevent spread of sickness (Mike)
- Thai lessons - parents want their kids to learn skills
- TSL/ESL ECA for term 3

Next meeting

- Report back on issues from first two meetings
- ESL/TSL discussion
- Language policy and English/Thai use outside of class