

DREAMACRES COMMITTEE MEETING, 18th May 2004

ATTENDANCE

Karen Brock, Maggie Linton, Marius de Bruyn, Sharon O'Donnell, Virginia Mullin, Daniele Schaad, Mona Garde and Ruth Borst.

CONTRIBUTION COUNT

Meeting Hours: 2 x 7: 12.5 hours

Professional Meeting Hours: 2.5 hours

1st Dreamacres Festival, 6th May

The Dreamacres Festival was a resounding success and the weather, as always for Dreamacres, was beautiful. The Council Fire Dance Troupe of drummers and dancers, and the Birds of Prey demonstration from Mountsberg Conservation Area were highlights of the day. Outside, lots of woodchips were spread, the sunflower garden was prepared for planting, and trees were planted to replace those vandalised in the winter. Inside, the children made celebration sticks and dream catchers and composed chants. The art teacher, with the help of some Grade 6 students, painted 3 large murals (Karen to photograph). Unfortunately the murals cannot be mounted on the front exterior wall of the school as this would contravene the fire code. A place will be found for them inside.

Several points were noted:

- A letter needs to go to Home Depot for donation of materials
- A letter also should go to Bill Clarke (mural artist) who volunteered his time
- The smaller children were very tired in the afternoon
- For the planning of future Festivals, a number of committees should be put in place to take responsibility for certain areas, e.g. the paper work, as this was too much for just a few people to do
- The chants – each team's chant could be recorded in the music room
- The celebration sticks will be distributed by means of a draw or a contest
- There will be no Dig-In evening this year.

Fund Raising

Memory Stones

It is not cost effective to place orders for stones every year. If we are to continue using the memory stones as a fund raiser, the orders should be put in every 2 or 3 years, depending on the number of orders.

The memory stone for Ms. Winter is ready and just needs to be laid. The office will be asked to contact her relatives.

Dreamacres books

There are 151 orders to date, with just a few more likely to come in.

Planting and the Curriculum

- Grades 1-3 will plant the vegetable garden and the sunflower garden in the next few weeks
- Grade 4s could also help with potato planting – would fit into the curriculum for medieval times
- Possibility of planting herbs close to the sunflower garden, where logs already in place provide a natural delineation. Only a few yards of soil would be needed to create an herb garden.
- Yearly activities could be extended to fit into the Grade 4, 5 and 6 curriculums, e.g. inventory of plants in the school yard, estimating the height of trees.

Summer Weeding & Watering

Karen passed around a sign-up schedule for weeding and watering in July and August. This will also be posted in the school for parents to sign up.

Newsletter

Mona had prepared a lengthy insert about Dreamacres (the Festival, support of the curriculum etc.) for the May newsletter. Since Mona has taken on the task of writing an article about Dreamacres for each school newsletter, the profile of Dreamacres within Sunningdale has significantly increased.

Next meeting.

The next meeting (and last of the school year) will be on **Thursday 17th June** at 7:00 p.m. – venue still to be decided. Ideas anyone??