

PARENT FORUM MEETING MINUTES Tuesday 29th June

<u>Present</u>: Julie Puxley Kate Brown

Deb Pawson Madi Wilkie
Emma Baker Sarah Steer
Hayley Cordall Clare Leys
Tom Game Lizzie Harvey

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mandy Weetch and Rachel Gill.

2. **Parent Survey**.

Julie Puxley presented the parent survey results. Overall the results were overwhelmingly positive with over 274 responses. Out of these responses she was sad to hear that 7 parents did not agree their child was happy at this school She was also concerned that 13 parents would not recommend the school to another parent as both these numbers were higher than previous years. The parent reps were very surprised and felt this could be due to Covid and that overall families were not as happy as they normally would be. It was also noted that if perhaps children were having friendship issues then that may impact the survey. We looked at whether we could send out another survey to gauge whether there are specific things parents are missing since the pandemic but also things that we could continue to do e.g. filming events for working parents.

3. **Vision for School**

Back in 2017 it was identified that the following improvement would be greatly welcomed by parents, governors, staff and children. We are pleased to say that all the improvements have been achieved.

Joint Office – The schools are now physically joined and we have a new main office.

Mental Health – Zones of Regulation have now been introduced in PHSE.

Better Library facilities – We now have our lovely new library.

Mini bus – We now have a mini-bus which is used for outings & sports.

Music Lessons – There are now an additional 2 sound-proofed dedicated music rooms

Places for interventions – There is a dedicated space for each year group

Same PE kits – This has been introduced however see next section for more detail

Art lessons/Kiln – Our art room has been renovated and we have a kiln.

Computing Space with hardwired computers – The ICT suite has been renovated.

School will shortly look at the development plan going forward and it was suggested that getting as many extra curricular activities restarted should be a priority. Julie advised that once this was safe this would happen. We looked at whether we could send out another survey to gauge

whether there are specific things parents are missing since the pandemic but also things that we could continue to do e.g. filming events for working parents.

It was collectively decided that the first target should be to return to "pre-covid" school life before any additional targets were set.

4 PE Kits

Everybody agreed that coming into school in PE kits is a good idea. There was a lot of discussion on the cost of the PE kit from Grey Palmer. Julie has said children can wear a plain navy blue polo shirt if parents do not want to buy the Gray Palmer option and this will be detailed in the newsletter. It was mentioned that although more expensive, they Grey Palmer items are very good quality and often last several years. Children should not wear any branded PE kit as this defeats the idea of a "uniform".

Infant children can wear "Skorts" and this will be added to the kit list. Children should not wear hoodies as they can grab them in competitive games and cause injury. This will be advised in the next newsletter.

5. **School Trip Payments**

Julie asked whether parents preferred to pay for school trips termly (£12 a term) or per trip. The parent reps will ask parents. It has been noted that at present it is per trip in case they have to be cancelled due to Covid. There were positive comments regarding the option of paying the subsided price OR the actual cost. Julie remarked that many parents do generously opt to pay the actual charge of the trip which does help with school funding. We will look again at this when all trips resume.

6. **Fundraising**

Madi mentioned that due to the pandemic we have had to scale down the number of events held. This has meant being more selective and choosing events carefully. A Make the Rules Day has been planned for the End of term. The movie night has been moved to September. We are now fundraising towards a multi-purpose sports pitch on the school field. This will allow extra sports to take place all year round and provide an additional space for playtimes. Any offers for help with fundraising next year will be greatly appreciated.

7. **Any other business**

It was mentioned that some parents are worried that they seem to be "missing" emails. It was asked if a text service was available however these are very costly and not all parents would like this. It was brought to our attention that some settings have recently changed on the Parentmail App and parents should go into "Settings" "Email Preferences" and select "always receive an email" to ensure any Parentmails also go into their email inbox.

It was mentioned that it would be nice to receive written feedback on homework as some children aren't motivated by house points.

There was a complaint regarding the bin men collecting at school time which causes congestion. We will speak to the council to see if they can assist with this