

# PARENT FORUM MEETING MINUTES FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019

<u>Present</u>: Julie Puxley Sharon Bear

Peta Torrance Kate Horrey
Deb Pawson Mandy Weetch
Madi Wilkie Amy Kennedy
Catherine Kelly Hayley Cordall
Rachel Gill Sarah Steer

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Emma Baker, Vanessa Hansen and Jenny Dear.

### 2. School Dinners

Julie asked for feedback on the parent meals last term. Feedback was very positive.

Julie explained that we will be offering parent meals for the next three weeks in November.

Catherine asked if this had helped financially last term, Julie said it had.

Sharon explained how this system worked (how to order/pay etc) for any parent reps who were new.

Julie asked Hayley if she had any idea why dinner orders in year 3 might be low. Hayley said that it is a bit special for year 3 children to order a packed lunch as it's a new thing for them, cost was also thought to be a contributing factor.

Kate said she knows that in another local school they have a dip in dinner orders in year 3 but it does improve so we hope this will be the case at Katherine Semar too.

#### 3. School Development Plan

Julie did a powerpoint presentation on this for the coming year. She explained that Ofsted are now beginning to inspect schools that are outstanding. Currently there are 7% of schools who have an outstanding rating, 85% have recently gone down from their outstanding position. There appears to be pressure groups around the country hoping to get rid of the outstanding grade.

Things that Julie talked briefly about for the year ahead school development plan were:

- Behaviour and Attitude This is now a key area Ofsted look at. The school will be implementing Zones of regulation. This was discussed and explained in brief.
   Catherine asked if we still used the traffic light system and if this linked to the zones of regulation. Julie said that we do still use the traffic light system and explained that it did link. She said that the school will work carefully on this helping children split their behaviour and making sure there is no confusion with these two systems.
   Mandy gave positive feedback that she was already noticing the positive effects of the Zones of Regulation at home.
  - Amy explained that Zones of regulation does continue at high school. In year 7 at SWCHS they discuss this in PSHE but more on a psychological level. Zones of Regulation is continued throughout the high school but is mostly used by the SENCO team.
- Leadership and Management This will focus on staff well being and training for staff

• Quality of Education – Julie explained that whilst Maths and English results are still considered very important by Ofsted, they are also looking at other areas in more depth now (music, arts, sports etc). Julie explained things that will be looked at in Maths and English and other subjects, including P4C, Science and art developments.

#### 4 Transition into Year 3

Julie asked Hayley how this had felt from her perspective and from comments she may have had from other year 3 parents. Hayley said she had felt the transition was very smooth and had not had any negative comments from other year 3 parents.

Julie asked if she felt the meeting in year 2 was necessary.

General feeling was that it was useful to see new faces and meet the year 3 teachers but it was discussed that it might feel less necessary when the office becomes one as it will feel more like one school.

Julie said she would do the year 2 to 3 transition meeting for one more year and will re-evaluate next year.

#### 5. Transition into Early Years

Very positive comments from all parents.

It was felt that our school goes beyond many other schools in the amount of visits and information we provide to help with transition into Early Years and that this had a very positive impact on the children.

It was discussed that some parents find the staggered half day intake difficult mainly due to work commitments. The alternative is to start all children on full days.

It was felt that the staggered half day intake and the induction did make the children feel more comfortable and less anxious.

Well being of the child against convenience of the family would need to be considered carefully. Currently Early Years do a staggered half day intake over 3 weeks. Julie is considering trying a 2 week staggered half day intake next academic year. Julie is also considering doing a survey to find out parental preference.

## 6. **Fund Raising Activities**

Madi and Kate said they had received offers of help from a few more parents this year. This was greatly appreciated.

Xmas fair organisation is well underway with letters asking for help going out today (8/11/19) It was suggested that the choir should sing again and that Dave and Mandy could also do some Christmas carols outside the Junior school hall between 4.15 and 4.45pm

In January they will be meeting again to discuss fund raising ideas going forward. Talk of a literary festival and story teller were mentioned and will be discussed further at the next PTA meeting.

The 50/50 club – Madi and Kate said they had 62 people signed up. They are not allowed to advertise anymore or send home any more information as this is a private society lottery but have asked if parent reps can spread the word verbally that there are still 38 places available.

## 7. **Any Other Business**

Catherine mentioned that a parent had asked for more vegetarian options on the menu. Julie and Sharon explained that this was not possible as everyday we have two options, one vegetarian and one meat option and that Mrs Krastina looked carefully at the vegetarian options to make sure there is a variety of meals over the three week menus.

Vanessa Hansen has now withdrawn from being a parent rep. Madi Wilkie and Kate Horrey have kindly offered to fill this place.