

PARENT FORUM MEETING MINUTES FRIDAY 2ND MARCH

<u>Present</u>: Julie Puxley Kayleigh Palmer

Sharon Bear Gemma Bauer
Deb Pawson Amy Kennedy
Peta Torrance Jenny Dear
Catherine Kelly Kate Horrey

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mandy Weetch, Claire Haddock, Trevor Cleeve, Pam Lochhead, Madi Wilkie, Lizzie Harvey and Mia Smith

2. School Menus

With more vegetarian options on the menu Julie asked for comments on the meals provided.

Everyone said that they appreciated how good our school meals were and the effort and hard work that went into preparing the fresh and nutritious menu, by our catering team. It was generally felt that parents did not see the variety for vegetables, salad and fruit that was prepared each for the children and it would be great idea for us to get some photos to put on the website.

Julie said that Gundega was making time in her busy day to start working with the children and would begin with Year 5, showing them how she makes her amazing pizzas. We should also get some photos of this on the website.

3. **ParentPay**

Sharon reported that the introduction of ParentPay has gone very smoothly and the school offices were gradually introducing that method of payment for different items. The feedback from parents that they were all very happy with the system.

The school will now be looking at setting up ParentPay as the method of signing up/paying for After School Clubs for the summer term and details would be sent to parents later in the term. Sharon asked for views on when would be a good time to make the signing up of clubs live and it was unanimously felt that this should be an evening time, as this would be fairer for working parents. It was decide that parents would only be allowed to sign up for one club until everyone had a chance and then they would have another opportunity to get a second or more clubs. The parent forum decided that no refunds would be given if a parent did not follow this advice and signed up for more club places than one.

4. Book Week

There was great feedback from parent for our School Book Week. The dressing up themes had been a success and the children had really enjoyed the author visits. Parents reported that they

were very appreciated of the time/effort school staff had put into this week (dressing up as pirates etc).

5. **School Trips**

Sharon reported that there were still parents that were not contributing to school trips and this was putting a strain on the school budgets. It was discussed whether it would help if we reported the cost of each of the trips (some are very expensive to run), so parents would understand how much the school was subsidising taking the children on these visits. Julie said we would look into doing this in the summer term when all trips were decided.

Early Years parents queried why they had paid £10 for the Autumn Term when in fact they did not have a trip. Julie reported that we give the new children the first term to settle into school and class routines and that the Owl visit into school for them had come out of 'trip money'. Normally Early Years would then get two trips in the Spring Term, but this year that had not been possible so two trips have been organised for the Summer Term.

6. **Fund Raising**

Kate reported that although the spring term had been quieter for events, there was an after school inflatables day scheduled for May and the Summer Fete would be mid July.

As always they Team would be grateful for any new members to join them, or ideas for any other events/fund raising initiatives.

7. Creative Arts Week

For the week commencing 25th June we will be having a Creative Arts Week and parents were asked to let us know if they have any contacts for people that could help with dance/music/art etc. It was also suggested that we should speak to SWCHS as we may be able to get some Year 11 children to help out.

8. **Any Other Business**

READING MORNING: Parents were finding that some classes were not opening their doors until after 8.40 for reading morning, reducing the time they had to read with their child. It was then reported that parents generally felt that doors were opened at varying times across the classes in both schools. Julie said she would have a discussion with the teaching staff to get this sorted.

PE KIT: Parents were finding that even when they had spent time naming PE kit, it was still going missing.

SCHOOL PHOTOS: It had been requested by some parents that the individual school photos were schedule before half term. Debbie and Sharon reported that this year's date had already been booked, but we would look at booking them early the following year.

12. Next Meeting

The date of the summer term meeting will be confirmed.