



**PARENT FORUM MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2016  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Rachel Callaghan Catherine Kelly  
Debbie Pawson Nikki Nash  
Julie Puxley Kate Horrey  
Sharon Bear Ian Arnold  
Alison Barker Karen Whiter  
Claire Haddock Katie Millar  
Pam Lochhead Maddie Wilkie

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| 1. | <b><u>Apologies</u></b><br>Apologies were received from Emily Mander and Lesli Goddard.   |
| 2. | <b><u>Year 2 to Year 3 Transition</u></b><br>Everyone felt that this continues to work well across both schools.  |
| 3. | <b><u>Class Changes</u></b><br>It was voiced by parents that they felt mixing the classes up between Year 2 and Year 3, at the same time as changes in schedules and routines when moving from Infants to Juniors was a lot for the children and would be better if the classes were not changed at that point so they could rely on the support of their friendship groups when making the adjustment. Julie Puxley said this was one of the main points they had considered when looking at when it was best to mix up the classes.<br><br>Ideally a change between Early Years and Year 1 would be the best transition because the Early Years children spent more class/play time as a whole year group so wouldn't be aware of any changes as they moved to separate Year 1 classes. Also the school, after the first year, has a much better idea of what mix of children would be beneficial as a class, retaining positive friendships. So this may be the structure that would be implemented in future years.<br><br>However, this year we would still need to have a change of class from Year 2 to 3, as these children had already spent three years together and would benefit from being able to mix in different social groups. Also as Year 1 did not have the benefit of the change last year, and we would not want to change them next year, they may also be moved around this year. |
| 4. | <b><u>Summer Fete</u></b><br>All feedback regarding this year's summer fete was extremely positive and we made a record profit. The coloured hampers, outside café and the Bake Off were all given special mention as being popular.  |

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| 5.  | <p><b><u>Forest School</u></b><br/> Parents and children alike love Forest School. The school will continue to offer this and take on board parents comments that even more Forest School opportunities for the children would be welcome.</p>  |
| 6.  | <p><b><u>School Trips</u></b><br/> Comments about our organised school trips were all positive, parents thought they were well organised, enjoyable and good value.</p> <p>The school still has some concerns over non payment of contributions from some parents which places an administrative and financial burden on the school, but will do the utmost to enable these trips to continue for those that are happy to contribute, perhaps with in school activities provided for children of parents that do not wish to contribute. Of course, low income families will continue to be supported by the school.</p>  |
| 7.  | <p><b><u>School Dinners</u></b><br/> School dinners are as popular as ever. It was asked how we gauge portion size for the children and Rachel explained that we have to follow government guidelines. The menu suggestions from parents were welcome and will be looked at by the Catering Team.</p>   |
| 8.  | <p><b><u>ACE Club</u></b><br/> ACE Club continues to provide an invaluable service for parents and this year it has been running a homework club and also reading one-to-one with the children. As well as helping out working parents the teaching staff have also noticed the benefits of this.</p> <p>It was felt that parents could be given more information on activities run both after school and in the holidays so we will look at improving electronic communication.</p> <p>It was noted that sometimes ACE Club tea is very similar to the menu that day for lunch. Rachel said ACE Club are continually adjusting the menu and will look into this.</p> |
| 9.  | <p><b><u>Early Years/Year 6 Buddies</u></b><br/> Some parents were worried that there was an age gap between these year groups and wondered if perhaps Year 2 or 3 buddies would work better. Julie explained the way the school would implement it, training the Year 6 children to help the new children with school routines and confidence building, that the Year 2/3 children would not have the maturity for this role. Another parent discussed how this model of using Year 6 buddies worked very successfully in other primary schools.</p>   |
| 10. | <p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b><br/> In the Autumn Term the school would arrange for a meeting date, and ask for volunteers from each class to act as Parent Representatives.</p>   |