

PARENT FORUM MEETING MINUTES FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2020

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

Deb Pawson Kate Horrey
Jenny Dear Emma Baker
Madi Wilkie Sarah Steer
Catherine Kelly Hayley Cordall

Rachel Gill

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Amy Kennedy, Mandy Weetch and Peta Torrance.

2. Attendance Letter

Julie asked if there had been any feedback for the new style attendance letter and asked whether it was clear that although the majority of the letter was a generic explanation of attendance figures, the top section was pupil specific and gave a year by year attendance figure.

Everyone was happy with the new style letter and that it was clear that the figures were specific to each pupil.

3. **Christmas Production Tickets**

Julie explained that we would like to bring in an online system for parents to book their Christmas production tickets rather than either having to queue in school (Infants) or return slips (Juniors). This could be done easily via ParentPay, to which all our parents are already signed up, however we would have to put a cost against the tickets as the system does not accept a zero amount. Julie asked that if we asked for a small amount of 50p/ticket which we could then use for a Christmas charity donation (instead of having a silver collection at the end of each performance) would parent support this. Everyone thought that this would be a good move for this year.

4 RSE Policy

The school has revised its Relationships and Sex Education Policy and an initial copy was given out for consultation. When the consultation process is completed for this policy we will let parents know via the newsletter that it is on our website for them to access.

5. **Phonics Workshops**

Julie asked if it was generally felt that the phonics workshops were helpful to parents and worthwhile for them. It was agreed that they were and that it would be good to extend these to the Juniors to help parents with SPAG terminology. Julie thought it would be difficult to make SPAG workshops interactive and interesting but she would consider this.

6. **Bug Club**

Julie asked if it was thought that more information was needed for parents to help their children interact with Bug Club and it was agreed that this would be very helpful. The suggestion was made that perhaps it could be available in the classroom on Infant Friday reading morning so the teachers could demo the use of it. Julie will speak to the teaching staff regarding this.

7. Reading For Fluency

When learning to read it is good practice for children to read a book: once for decoding, twice for fluency; and a third time for comprehensive. Julie asked if parents generally understood this and the reps felt it would be good to make notes clearer in the home school diary that books were to be reread for fluency.

8. Fund Raising

Madi and Kate gave a quick report on Fund Raising Events.

- The Reading Challenge, although there were only 61 returned, raised over £1,000 so we are very grateful to those families that did take part.
- There has been a good response to the Quiz Night already and 6th March is the deadline for people to sign up.
- Outside Boots has been booked for a cake stall in March, so a request for cakes will be going out nearer that date.
- There will be an Easter 100 Square competition outside school this half term.
- The Summer Fair date is 19th June.
- A Gin Night will take place in July, this was very popular last time.
- The possibility of an outdoor cinema event it been investigated.

9. **Any Other Business**

- Year 5 asked if the choice of photographer was being considered as not all parents were happy with this year's photos. Deb Pawson said that we would look into it.
- It was raised that across the schools some parents that had volunteered on trips had been using their phones to photograph and video their children and had been posting messages online during the trip. For the safety of the children (parents helping on trips should be supervising their allocated group of children, rather than using phones) and safeguarding reasons phones should not be used by parent volunteers on trips. Julie will consider the school having a policy for trip/event volunteers maybe with an agreement to be signed by the volunteers.
- Some parents had voiced concerned about the World Book Day initiative of creating a
 book character from a potato, and the subsequent food wastage. Julie said she hoped
 our parents would be responsible and either use, or put for compost the potatoes at the
 end of the day.